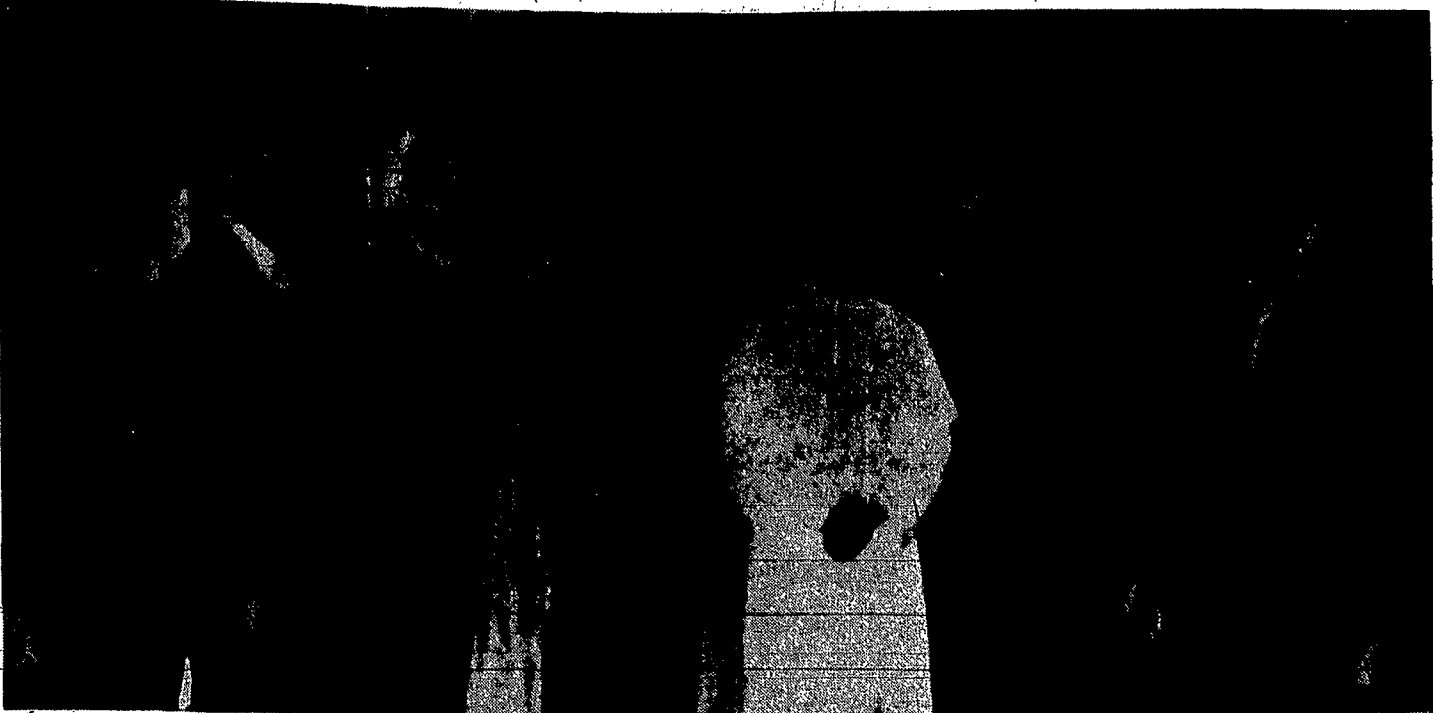




Six top U.S. Protestant leaders are photographed with Pope Paul VI and other Vatican officials before their audience with the Pontiff. Shown, from left to right, are Presiding Bishop John E. Hines of the Episcopal Church; the Rev. John W. Williams, vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance; Dr. Robert J. Marshall, president of the Lutheran Church in America; Cardinal-designate Bishop Jan Willembrands, secretary of the Vatican Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity; Pope Paul; Dr. Robert Dodds, director of Ecumenical Affairs of the National Council of Churches; United Methodist Bishop James K. Mathews of Boston; Dr. R. H. Edwin Espy, general secretary of the NCC; unidentified man in background. (RNS)

Vatican, NCC... What Next?

By FR. R. A. GRAHAM, S.J.
Special Correspondent

Vatican City — (RNS) — "Simple consultations with no implementation" is the description by one participant of the two-day meeting with Vatican spokesmen and with the Pope by a delegation representing the National Council of Churches in the United States.

It is true that the discussions remained in the sphere of pure dialogue without any agreed consensus. Yet the framework of the exchange marks it as more than just an episode in the history of Protestant-Catholic relations in the United States.

It was the Vatican's first formal introduction to the ecumenical problem as it exists in America. It also set the stage for other ecumenical moves both in the United States and on the international scene.

In the carefully drafted address to Pope Paul, Dr. Robert J. Marshall, president of the Lutheran Church in America, reviewed the religious history of the country and the relation of the Churches to the national life. After alluding to past tensions between Catholics and Protestants, he pointed to the working group founded three years ago by the National Council and the U.S. Catholic Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs.

Expressing his "pleasure and joy to welcome you in our home," the Pope praised the "Christian cooperation" which exists between the National Council of Churches and the Catholic Church in the U.S.

The Protestant visitors were Dr. R. H. Edwin Espy, general secretary of the National Council of Churches; United Methodist Bishop James K. Mathews of Boston; Dr. Robert J. Marshall, president of the Lutheran Church in America; Presiding Bishop John E. Hines of the Episcopal Church; the Rev. John W. Williams, vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance and Dr. Robert Dodds, director of Ecumenical Affairs of the NCC.

Accompanying the group were Catholic Bishop Ernest L. Untermyer of Charleston, S.C., and Msgr. Bernard Law, director of the U.S. Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs.

Their opposites included representatives of the Vatican's Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity and also representatives of other Vatican organs. These included members of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Secretariat of State and other Vatican agencies dealing with such ecumenically related questions as education, missionary activity, development and peace.

The discussions followed an agenda prepared in advance by the National Council delegation. They included the following questions: problems of authority and the "underground church," the development of church councils at state and local levels, mixed marriages, the impact of ecumenism in America at the international level, common seminary education, Jewish-Christian relations and diplomatic relations with the Vatican.

According to participants the discussions were pertinent and frank but everyone regretted that shortage of time did not permit fuller discussion.

One particularly absorbing topic, it appears, dealt with the challenge of the so-called underground churches, defined as practices often ecumenical in nature carried on outside the knowledge and without the sanction of the "official Church."

The problem of church leadership in face of these manifestations that are on the one hand faddish and on the other so widespread as to be symptomatic of something significant in the religious field affects both Catholic and Protestant institutional structures.

Linked with the stirrings in the new generation is the question of the possible need to modify church life in America in its traditional relationship to society around it. This issue was cited by Dr. Marshall in the papal audience.

Those with an eye to the experiments of small Christian groups today speculate that these have a revolutionary plan perhaps destined to reform church life as has happened through similar movements in the past. What should be the attitude of the official church leaders in the face of such a challenge, asked the participants of each other—naturally without an conclusion.

The worldwide, church-sponsored aid and development programs originating in the United States also came under consideration.

Detroit: No More 'Bric-a Brac'

Detroit — (RNS)—The traditional "chancery" and other centuries-old management structures have been ruled out of existence in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit.

Cardinal-designate John F. Dearden officially promulgated legislation recommended by an Archdiocesan Synod which:

- Permits the celebration of Mass at any hour of the day or night "to serve a pastoral need."

- Orders church building to be simple in design and modest in appointments so that they are not museums for art or places for the display of "devotional bric-a-brac."

- Allows a child to receive his First Communion when he is mature enough in the opinion of the pastor and parents and not at any particular age.

- Urges that "Confession before First Holy Communion ought not be insisted upon" but instead children should be prepared for confession "at an appropriate age."

An estimated 12,000 persons attended the Mass in Cobo Hall here at which the Archbishop of Detroit put into effect laws and guidelines which will modernize the life style of nearly 1.5 million Catholics in Southeastern Michigan.

The changes resulted from a synod which heard more than 80,000 adult participants in 7,200 "speak-up" group meetings in 335 parishes. This generated more than 65,000 proposals for Church renewal. In addition, many thousands of high school students were given an opportunity to voice their recommendations. A computer was used to reduce all these to manageable proportions.

The new administrative setup will be centered on 25 regional vicars drawn from the parish clergy who are now delegated with powers once reserved for the archbishop alone.

The archdiocesan spokesman said that one objective of this move is "to free the archbishop for pastoral duties."

Central departments have been approved which will handle the management of the archdiocese. These units will cover Christian Formation (all forms of education), Christian Service (all forms of charity and social work), Christian Worship, and Research and Planning.

3 Catholic Seminaries Join Interfaith Plan

San Francisco — (NC) — Three Catholic seminaries have joined with six Protestant schools of religion in this area in a new design for theological education to make the local church an integral part of training for the ministry.

The project inaugurated by the San Francisco Theological Seminary, a United Presbyterian institution, is scheduled to become operative next fall.

The Catholic institutions involved are Alma College, a Jesuit institution; the Franciscan School of Theology, and St. Albert's College, conducted by the Dominicans.

This commission also advocated that "all members of the parish community" are to share in decision-making. A complete parish financial report must be submitted to parishioners annually and a budget, approved by the parish council, must be prepared each year.

In the report of the worship commission, the use of other instruments than the organ was urged "in accordance with the culture of the particular assembly and the circumstances of the celebration."

The commission also asked that all pictures and statues in churches be portable and changed for the different liturgical seasons.

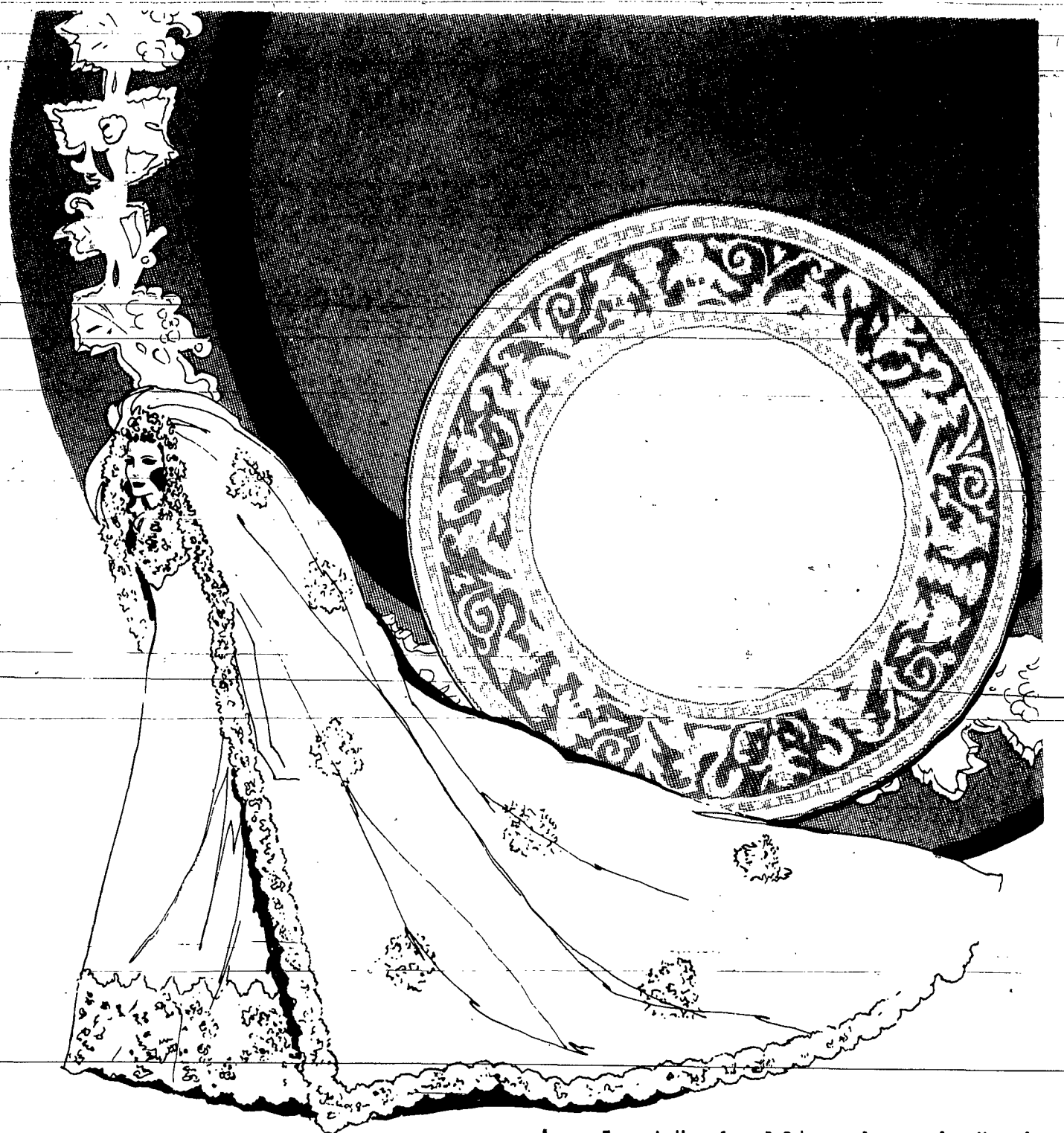
The other institutions participating are the American Baptist Seminary of the West, Church Divinity School of the Pacific (Protestant Episcopal); Pacific Lutheran-Theological Seminary; Pacific School of Religion, inter-denominational, and Starr King School for the Ministry, Unitarian Universalist.

The design hinges on an unusual two-campus system in which students will receive their basic theological education in Berkeley in the nine cooperating schools making up the Graduate Theological Union, and will then return to the SFTS campus for their professional training in church ministries.

"It is not only wasteful management but had education as well for a number of neighboring seminaries to duplicate the basic theological courses that are common to all Christian communions," according to Dr. Arnold Come, SFTS president. "How much more stimulating and informative it is for a beginning student to cut his theological teeth in the company of Lutherans, Episcopalians, Unitarians, Dominicans, Jesuits, Baptists, Franciscans, than to be limited to his own denominational insight."

Under this plan students will devote two-thirds of their time to supervised practice of ministry in the field under the guidance of a field supervisor. Students will be placed in such situations as pastoral ministries in the inner city and in suburbia, in institutional chaplaincies, in community organization involvements, in clinical programs, in counseling and in any new patterns of ministry that develop in the future.

The student will spend the remaining one-third of his time in elective seminars that will cover the biblical, theological, behavioral and social fields.



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Sibley's salutes
Wedgwood,
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in table appointments

Especially for Brides-to-be and all who appreciate the finest in table appointments, Sibley's this week celebrates Wedgwood China, Waterford Crystal and Wallace Silver. Do come in and join us for our special events and drawing through the week.

REGISTERED BRIDES CAN WIN four five-piece place settings of their favorite pattern of Wedgwood china, four three-piece place settings of Waterford Crystal, two four-piece place settings of Wallace Silver (to three winners). Come in and fill out your entry, blank.

SEE EXHIBITIONS BY WATERFORD AND WEDGWOOD... Waterford's display of original and special masterpieces including the Eisenhower Trophy presented to the late President by the President of Ireland in 1959 and other Wedgwood exhibits of fine jewelry and antiques.

SEE TABLES SET with Wedgwood, Waterford and Wallace, as designed and created by Ruth I. Macleod of Bride's Magazine especially for this event. See these and other displays in our fourth floor China Department and street floor Silver Department, in the Arcade and Main Street windows.

MEET Grace Wainright of Bride's Magazine, Jane Andres at Wedgwood, Bert King of Waterford and William Taylor of Wallace Silver. Sibley's Silver, Street Floor and Sibley's China and Glass, Fourth Floor, Downtown only.

SIBLEY'S



SIBLEY'S DOWNTOWN OPEN TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 'TIL 9 P.M. ALL SIBLEY SUBURBAN STORES OPEN MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 'TIL 9:30 P.M.

PEOPLE AND EVENTS

U.S. Olympic star Wilma Rudolph received a gold medal of his pontificate from Pope Paul at a Vatican audience. Miss Rudolph was in Rome to refute claims of Communist newspapers that she was living in poverty in the U.S. . . . Dr. Arthur Michael Ramsey, archbishop of Canterbury, ended his 31-day tour of the Caribbean at Georgetown, Guyana, with a plea for Christian unity.

Billy Graham announced he would attend "conferences" in Southeast Asia to seek a formula for peace but refused to give any further details. . . . The Rabbinical Assembly has elected Rabbi Ralph Simon of Chicago to a second 1-year term as its president. . . . Dr. G. Kenneth Anderson will be the first clergyman to head Wittenberg University, a Lutheran Church in America institution.

An Orthodox scholar and statesman, Dr. Charles Malik, has been named a fellow of the Institute of Advanced Religious Studies, at Notre Dame. . . . Pope Paul has named Dino Cardinal Staffa prefect of the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signature.