

Priest Defends Blacks' Demands for Reparation

Washington — (NC) — Father Harold A. Salmon, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo church and vicar general delegate for the seven Catholic parishes in Harlem, N.Y., defended James Forman and the National Black Economic Development Conference (NBEDC) with a suggestion that all churches take up a second collection for the support of this group.



FATHER SALMON

The black priest spoke to members of the National Advisory Board of the U.S. Catholic Conference Task Force on Urban Problems and diocesan Urban Task Force coordinators at the University of Maryland in suburban College Park, Md.

Forman, representing NBEDC, had read a series of demands which included a "black manifesto" calling on American churches to pay \$500 million in "reparation for injustices suffered by blacks during and since the slavery period."

Father Salmon was asked whether this group, NBEDC, has the sole right to insist that reparation money is due them.

Father Salmon answered NBEDC has the right to claim this money as much as any other organization working for the betterment of black people. However, NBEDC was the first to make this claim and most likely others will start demanding the same, he said.

In any case, Father Salmon emphasized, the principle stands. The amount of money due and the organization to which it is given are only minor details. The important thing is that congregations recognize their obligation to aid black people.

He suggested that since "second collections" are taken up for many other causes, this would be a good way for Catholic dioceses to "present a good image," even knowing the idea would not be well accepted by some of the faithful.

In a separate talk to the Priests' Advisory Council in

Shiremanstown, Pa., Father Salmon said the Church should encourage a diversity of participation at Mass since many black Catholics who once belonged to other churches are accustomed to worship in other forms.

"The Church, for so long, has forbidden black converts to bring their customs into the Church, that we find in many instances it is difficult to encourage black people to participate actively at Mass," he said.

Father Salmon said he is not very optimistic about an immediate increase in the number of black men and women to the priesthood or religious life because of the many pressures placed on black persons in seminaries or convents — if they can find one to admit them.

"There is no particular reason why separate black parishes should be established unless it comes about natur-

ally. That is, if all the black Catholics happen to live in one particular area, then quite naturally the parish is going to be made up of mostly black people.

Seminary to Aid Black Projects

New York — (RNS) — The board of directors of Union Theological Seminary have voted to invest \$500,000 of its endowment in black enterprises in neighboring Harlem and to attempt to raise \$1 million to involve the seminary in community projects.

A special meeting of the directors of the interdenominational seminary was called in response to student demands that the school and the board members contribute to the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization (IFCO).

One hundred thousand dollars from the seminary and \$1 million from directors was asked as white "reparations" demanded by the "black manifesto" of the National Black Economic Development Conference (NBEDC).

About 50 students, including a black caucus, seized Union's administration building on May 12 to spur action. The takeover was not supported by the entire student body of nearly 700.

The directors, who include many prominent businessmen, adopted a resolution affirming "the imperative at this moment in history of black economic development under black control."

PARIS PASTORS' TERMS LIMITED

Paris — (NC) — From now on pastors in the Paris archdiocese will be appointed for a six-year term renewable only once, Francois Cardinal Marty of Paris announced.

Pope Paul VI has "removed by indult the canonical obstacles," he said.

CARDINAL REINSTATES DUTCH CHAPLAINS

Utrecht, The Netherlands — (NC) — The suspension of three chaplains at the University of Utrecht student parish for allowing Protestant ministers to lead Eucharistic services has been lifted by Bernard Cardinal Alfrink of Utrecht.

ROTC DEMONSTRATION

San Antonio, Tex. — (NC) — About 200 students and several faculty members of St. Mary's University held a peaceful demonstration here to protest the administration's refusal to make the Reserve Officers Training Program voluntary in all four years.

Other Reactions to 'Black Manifesto'

Dr. Kenneth G. Neigh, general secretary of the United Presbyterian Board of National Missions rejects the "rhetoric" and disruptive tactics called for in the Black Manifesto.

Dr. Neigh said the board "does not endorse either the rhetoric of the manifesto... nor the calls for disruption of worship or the work of church agencies and related organizations."

He said that his board "has

not nor will not give any money to the Forman-controlled conference. It will only act as a channel for the churches to do so if they wish."

The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church deferred its decision on demands made by the National Black Economic Development Conference (NBEDC) until it could examine more carefully its present and past

involvements in racial and cultural concerns.

Bishop Roger Blanchard, an Episcopal bishop and civil rights activist, refused to "legitimize" the Black Manifesto.

"We will not capitulate to any form of militancy espousing violence, anti-semitism, destruction of the democratic political forces," he said.

The Ministerial Interfaith

Association of Harlem, composed of 200 Catholic, Protestant and Jewish clergymen, has supported "in principle" the demands of the NBEDC.

But the association says it does not support "the political philosophy, ideology and methodology" of the NBEDC.

Educaid Victory Seen Eventually in Michigan

Lansing, Mich. — (NC) — State aid for non-public schools will continue to be one of the major issues in the Michigan legislature until it is passed, although it has met defeat, 58-50, in its initial appearance before the lawmakers, its supporters predict.

"This is a problem you cannot sweep under the rug," House Speaker William A. Ryan said after the House of Representatives defeated the amendment. "If Educaid is not passed during this session, he added, "it will be the biggest issue in the special session in October."

The bill embraced a "purchases of services" concept, loosely related to that now operative in Pennsylvania. It would pay up to 75 per cent of the salaries of state-certified teachers who taught those subjects taught in the public schools.

At first the bill would have provided for "token" payments to parochial and other private school teachers. A "nominal" amount of \$100,000 would have been appropriated for the next fiscal year and the legislature suggested a maximum payment of \$44 million in Michigan's fiscal 1970-71.

Upwards of 200,000 non-public school students will transfer to public schools by 1971 unless the legislature provides state aid for non-public schools.



Discussion groups at the National Meeting of Religious Women in Chicago. Among the participants were, upper left, Sister Susanne Nofke, O.P., coordinator of programs for the Siena Ecumenical Religious Education Center at Racine, Wis.; upper center, Sister Martin de Porres, R.S.M., of Pittsburgh, president of the National Black Sisters Conference; upper right, Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Breitenbeck of Detroit, chairman of the Liaison Committee between Major Superiors and the Bishops' Conference; lower left, Sister Mary Benet, O.S.B., director of the Chicago Urban Apostolate of Sisters; and Sister Mary Sparks, O.S.F., director, Sisters Urban Education; right; lower right, Sister Cel Brocken, S.J., president, Chicago Sisters Advisory Council, and Sister Joan O'Shea, treasurer of the Chicago Council, right. (RNS)

Bishops Seek Nonpublic School Fund

Hartford, Conn. — (NC) — The bishops of Connecticut have asked for "substantial" state aid to nonpublic schools of the state and urged supporters of such aid to make their conviction known to legislators.

The bishops expressed their position on financial aid to non-public schools in a pastoral letter which was read at all Sunday Masses in the 360 Catholic churches throughout the state.

The letter followed completion by the education committee of the state General Assembly of a draft of the Nonpublic School Secular Education Act, which calls for a measure of state aid to the nonpublic sector.

"State aid given to non-public schools would help those schools to educate future citizens in secular subjects," the bishops said. "This would be the 'switch in time to save nine' because otherwise the overburdened public school system would have to do the identical service for the state at several times the cost."

The bishops also said: "The future of nonpublic education in this state calls for active interest on the part of all citizens of Connecticut."

RELIGION BANNED

Vienna — (RNS) — Bishop Ernest Coba, Apostolic Administrator of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Shkoder in Albania, is earning his living in secular employment, according to Albanian refugees who arrived here. The refugees confirmed reports that all religious activity has been banned in Albania and that most churches have been destroyed.

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COMMUNITY OWNED

ROCHESTER RED WINGS

THE

Black militant activist Church problems highlight the past week:

Aid for Black 1

In Chicago, a police i hundreds of thousand of tant Negro groups thru for Community Organiza

Sgt. Robert Thomas ment said Black Panther funds and declared "the donations should go to gro

Birth Control B

Puerto Rican Catho measures favoring birth massive neo-Malthusian l island."

Archbishop Luis Apor for the Puerto Rican hier bills in the Puerto Rican

The proposals would to transfer funds to gove profit associations for bis

'The Wrong Tr

In Bangalore, Valeria a national seminar on the Second Vatican Council t "on the wrong track" for t its theology and its ed policy."

Cardinal Gracias, pre ference which sponsored not to close their mind; to accept uncritically eve

Ecumenical Fir

An ecumenical Sunda Catholics attending will Mass, has been scheduled 15 Protestant and Cathol

The service in the Litory of the Word," wi

\$1 Million for 1

Gulf and Western In 1 million to the Universi believed to be one of t higher education history.

Charles G. Bludhorn, fier-of-Gulf & Western, strate the firm's belief financial support of Ame

He said that Notre D tional universities whose comparable to the impact trial firms on our nation

Action on Sain

Mistake, Says

Byzantine Pri

(NC News Service)

Washington — A Byzar rite priest-historian here the dropping of several p lar Eastern saints from Church's festival calendar "great ecumenical mistake."

Commenting on recent l gical changes made by 1 Paul VI, Father Armando Jacopin, executive director the St. Paul Center Byzant Melkite Information Bu here, said:

"The removal of such po Eastern saints as St. Ge 'the Great Martyr and Nicholas of Myra from the tal calendar of the Roman cannot serve the cause of mearism between Catholic Eastern Orthodox, and is a ecumenical mistake."

"St. Nicholas (Dec. 6) addition to being the patro Russia, is universally rega as the wonderworker, protector of sailors and dren. Thousands of Ea Christian churches are cated to their honor thro the world."

"It is interesting to note St. Cecilia of Rome whos tual historical status has doubted by historians for is included in the new c dar because of 'the popul of devotion to her.' What the popularity of St. George St. Nicholas in the East as as throughout the We Church?"

"Would it not have be magnificent gesture to r these saints as an ecum token toward the nearly million Eastern Christians thus fulfill the stated goa the calendar reform to the calendar expressive o kinds of Christian lives?" declared.

the miracle

made possible in a life which would othe- wise be almost impos-

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