

Ecumenists Hear Cardinal

Philadelphia (NC)—The president of the Vatican Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity told ecumenical leaders meeting here that the road to Christian unity leads through a true and real service to the world.

Addressing Christian ecumenists at the National Workshop for Christian Unity (June 15-19), Jan Cardinal Willebrands, Dutchborn president of the unity secretariat, said that Christian unity will only be achieved by a church that is ready to serve rather than to rule.

"As long as the church does not forge instruments of reconciliation and reunification as effective or more effective than those produced by the secular society, that society will receive them—skeptically," Cardinal Willebrands said.

"As long as we fail to see our task of unifying mankind under the sign of the cross and to surrender our self-assertion through conversion to God and to self-denial, the unity and renewal for which the world hungers will remain an empty dream."

The ecumenical leader also warned: "If we do not regard the discontent of young people to be merely a negative rejection, we will see more clearly the problematic which stands behind their voices and in their conscience. To do otherwise is in fact to lose contact with reality."

Catholic Hospitals Becoming Involved in Area Planning

(NC News Service)

Minneapolis — Catholic hospitals may have to sacrifice their autonomy because of the need for greater involvement in community and area-wide planning, according to Msgr. Timothy E. O'Brien, outgoing president of the Catholic Hospital Association.

"The Evolving Health Care System," a major theme for CHA, was also discussed by the Conference of Catholic Schools of Nursing, the Conference of Bishops' Representatives, and the National Association of Catholic Chaplains which held separate and joint meetings with CHA here (June 9-13). Total attendance was 3,100.

Acknowledging the trend for Catholic hospitals to participate in area-wide planning and sharing of facilities with other health institutions in the community, speakers said they have a further contribution to make: that of their religious motivation.

"This is our whole emphasis," Archbishop William E. Cousins of Milwaukee said, referring to the dignity of individual human persons. "And it is the emphasis on moral values which a Catholic institution may bring to a community with which it shares its technical and professional facilities."

Racism in hospitals was discussed at a meeting of the bishops' repre-



RETREAT LEAGUE LEADERS — Leaders of Notre Dame Retreat League pictured at meeting last week at retreat house in Canandaigua. From left are: seated — Robert Casey, Rochester; Joseph Mercier, Rochester, new league president; Anthony DeSteffan, Newark; Anthony Valvo, Mt. Morris; standing, Al Mateikis, Rochester; Richard Rahill, Corning; Joseph Clemen, Canandaigua; Al Rescori, Seneca Falls; Ben Cool, Auburn; William Finn, Rochester.

Vatican Withdraws Cuernavaca Ban

Vatican City (NC)—The Holy See, withdrawing its ban on the training center for missionaries in Latin America founded in Cuernavaca, Mexico, by Msgr. Ivan Illich, has authorized priests to attend it.

The permission has been given on an experimental basis.

It was also given on condition that the bishops of Latin America and Bishop Sergio Mendez Arceo of Cuernavaca supervise the teaching at the Intercultural Center of Documentation (CIDOC) and that the center "be led back to the spirit and the purpose that presided at its foundation."

The Holy See also asked Msgr. Illich to leave the center and to put it under the direction of CELAM, the Latin American Bishops' Council.

This was ordered in a note Pope Paul gave to Bishop Mendez of Cuernavaca.

Bishop Mendez had asked the Holy See to re-examine its prohibition, which had been delivered to him and Msgr. Illich on Jan. 18. The note withdrawing the prohibition said the Holy See had taken into consideration not only Bishop Mendez's appeal but also a report from Bishop Guy Marie Riobe of Orleans, France, and Bishop Albert Sanschagrin of St. Hyacinthe, Que. The two bishops are in charge of training priests from their respective countries for work in Latin America.

The document reversing the ban insists on the correction of some of the conditions that prompted the ban.

sentatives, as Sister M. Ferdinand, R.S.M., administrator of Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh, related steps that hospital has taken since it became aware of the problem. "It takes a great deal of humility," in dealing with the problem of racism, she advised.

In a general session Dr. Milton I. Roemer, professor of health service organization in the School of Public Health, University of California, Los Angeles, discussed "A National Health System."

Dr. Roemer named the pressures for universal accessibility of health care, for quality promotion, and to stem the tide of rising costs. All, he said, have the same ultimate goal: "Good health care for everyone at acceptable cost."

Paris Councils Ordered

Manchester, N.H.—Bishop Ernest J. Primeau of Manchester announced here that all parishes in the statewide diocese must have permanent parish councils by Mar. 31, 1970.

The parish council will be authorized to initiate and coordinate apostolic endeavors through which the community fulfills its common responsibility of making the Gospel known, the bishop said.

66 P.C. Did Less Lenten Penance

New Orleans (NC)—In a survey on Lenten penance conducted by the Clarion Herald, New Orleans archdiocese newspaper, 66 per cent of the 1,015 respondents acknowledged that they practiced less Lenten penance in 1969 than when fast and abstinence were mandatory.

Results were tabulated and analyzed on the basis of three categories: single, married, male/female, and over/under 21.

The poorest Lenten performance was in the under 21 category, where 74 per cent admitted to doing less penance than in previous years.

On the question of voluntary penance, there was an almost even three-way split. Slightly

less than one-third planned and carried out a program of voluntary penance, another third admitted to planning but poor follow-through, and the final third made no attempt at penitential observances during Lent.

The respondents voted almost two to one against return to the former Lenten discipline binding under pain of serious sin. Highest vote against the strict Lenten observance came in the under 21 category where 68 per cent were in opposition.

Fifty-five per cent of the respondents admitted to keeping no Lenten fast at all, while 31 per cent attempted to observe the fast and 14 per cent successfully did so.

Biafra Flights To Continue

New York (RNS) — Relief flights into Biafra will continue so long as pilots and crews are willing to take the risks, the president of Joint Church Aid, USA, said here.

Catholic Bishop Edward E. Swanstrom commented on the destruction of a Swedish Red Cross plane by the Nigerian air force on June 5. The incident was the first air-attack on a humanitarian relief flight.

Bishop Swanstrom said that contrary to some press reports, no church planes were involved in the military action on June 5. Joint Church Aid crafts, he said, made nightly trips on June 6 and 7.

The Swedish plane was the third relief carrier destroyed since the emergency efforts began a year ago. The others were on the ground.

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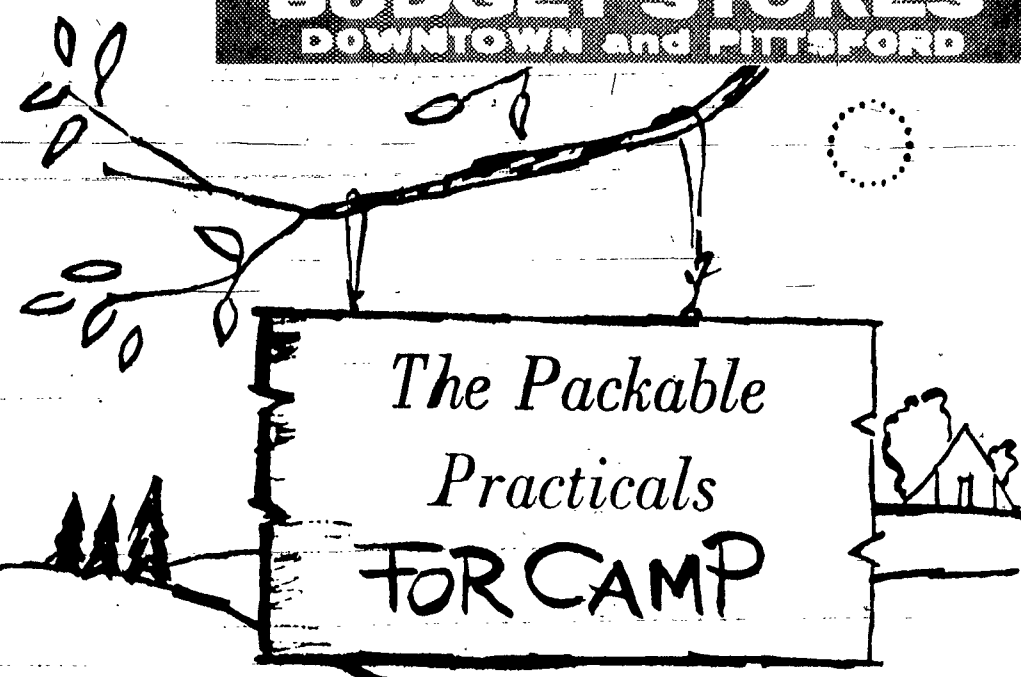
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