

THE WEEK'S NEWS IN REVIEW

Courier-Journal — Friday, June 27, 1969 5A

Who Wrote 'Revelation'?

The last book of the Christian Bible, Apocalypse or Revelation, was not written by the Apostle John as many people believe, an Anglican bishop said here.

Bishop John A. T. Robinson, Suffragan Bishop of Woolwich, England, and a noted biblical scholar who wrote the best seller, *Honest to God*, was a speaker at the Chicago Summer Biblical Institute.

The Apostle John who wrote the fourth Gospel and three New Testament epistles, he said, is not the same person who wrote the book of Revelation. Someone else named John or someone who used the Apostle's name as a pseudonym is the actual author, he told more than 500 participants in the institute, most of them Roman Catholics.

The language used by the "unknown" author was described by Bishop Robinson as "barbaric Greek" or "pigeon Greek," and quite different from the polished style used by Apostle John in the Gospel and epistles.

Rabbis Abolish Chaplaincy Rule

The central Conference of American Rabbis, which represents Reform Judaism, announced that it is discontinuing its policy of requiring newly-ordained rabbis to serve two years as military chaplains.

The conference, meeting in Houston, approved 123-108, a new program of voluntary chaplaincies. Under this program, graduates of Reform rabbinical schools are asked to donate two years of service to Judaism in a variety of possible ways, including that of military chaplain.

Many observers here pointed out that the opposition of many Jewish leaders to the Vietnam war and the rabbinic students who have protested the continued involvement of American troops in Southeast Asia constituted a major factor in the vote against the draft chaplain system.

Diocese Starts Blood Drive

The Providence (R.I.) diocese has begun a state-wide blood donor program to alleviate blood shortages in the two Rhode Island Catholic hospitals.

The program involves a weekly campaign conducted by either a large parish or combination of smaller parishes. Its goal is to obtain 50 pints per week, which is the amount needed at St. Joseph's and Our Lady of Fatima hospitals in Providence.

John H. Albanese, diocesan blood bank chairman, said more than half the 157 pastors in the diocese have appointed parish chairmen to direct blood campaigns.

They'll Fight Cleveland Woes

The Cleveland Diocese has announced formation of a 65-member commission which is to be "an instrument of major social changes" in the areas of race, poverty, peace and human relations.

The permanent, widely representative Diocesan Commission on Catholic Community Action includes priests, religious and laymen.

Co-chairmen of the Diocesan Commission on Catholic Community Action are George A. Moore, an urban affairs specialist, and Auxiliary Bishop William M. Cosgrove. Moore, a black, was a founder of the Catholic Interracial Council here.

Bishop Cosgrove said the commission, which has been in the planning stage since last November, will establish task forces, involving other persons, to work in the various problem areas. He said an executive director is being sought.

People

Father Charles Curran of the Catholic University of America, who led the dissent of a group of American Catholic theologians to the papal encyclical banning birth control, was elected president of the Catholic Theological Society of America (CTSA) at its annual meeting in San Francisco.

While the CTSA was meeting, the board of trustees at the university in Washington, D.C., decided that the 20 faculty members who publicly disagreed with the encyclical did not violate norms of academic propriety. The trustees' decision was based on the report of the five-man inquiry unit.

Father Albert R. Jensen, S.J., the first Catholic to receive a Yale doctorate in religious studies, has been named president of the University of San Francisco. The 38-year-old assistant professor of theology and philosophy at the university succeeds Father Charles W. Dullea, S.J., who held the post six years.

Pope Paul has named a seasoned Vatican administrator pro-president of the Pontifical Commission for Vatican City State, and filled out commission membership with five cardinals, including John Cardinal Wright, former bishop of Pittsburgh. Sergio Cardinal Guerri, as pro-president, will take the burden of administration from Amleto Cardinal Cioffi, president, who at 88 retired this spring as Papal Secretary of State.

Clergy Ask Nixon To Help Settle Hospital Strike

Charleston, S.C. — (NC) — Forty Charleston clergymen, including 11 priests, have asked President Nixon to arrange for federal mediation in the three-month-long hospital strike here.

The clergymen, representing all major Christian denominations, said "without mediation, our city may well become a summer battleground, a possibility all the more sad since it is so unnecessary."

In a letter to the President, the members of the Concerned Clergy Committee expressed alarm over imposition of a curfew and the calling out of the National Guard.

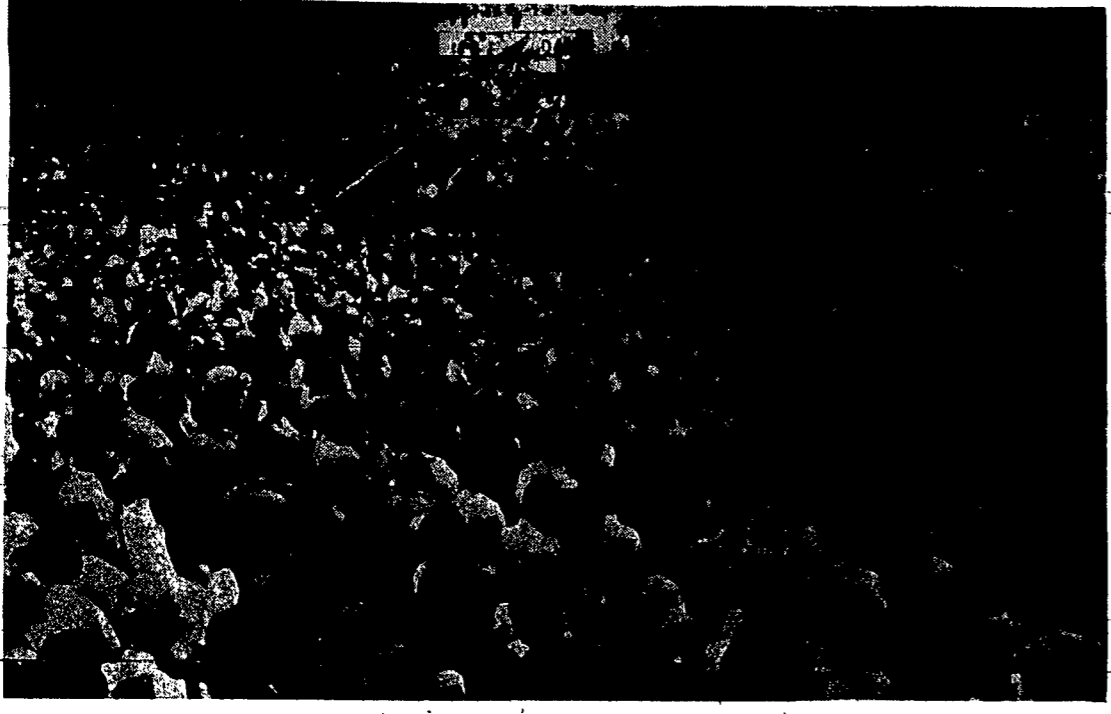
Basic issues in the strike by Negro hospital workers, which began March 20, are union recognition and higher pay. Involved are more than 600 nurses, aides, orderlies and food workers.

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Decisions For Christ

Evangelist Billy Graham, right on podium, watches as large numbers come forward to make personal "decisions for Christ" during his New York Crusade at the new Madison Square Garden. Mr. Graham said, following the first evening service, that he was "overwhelmed by the response." Some 2,825 made decisions during the first three nights of the crusade. (RNS)

Coffee House for Christ

NEW YORK — (RNS) — talked with visitors about the need for following the Christian way, but the musical groups have been the focus of attention. The coffee house has followed the Crusade evangelism meetings in Madison Square Garden. The services, led by Mr. Graham, have drawn in six days, more than 131,500, and resulted in 5,634 personal decisions for Christ.

The largest attendance was on the sixth night of the Crusade — a Wednesday — as 20,000 filled the Garden arena and 4,500 were directed to the Garden's Felt Forum, where they watched the services on a huge, closed circuit color TV screen.

Cremation Popular In England, Wales

London — (RNS) — Cremation, permitted by the Catholic Church in England and Wales since 1963, is on the rise, delegates to the International Cremation Federation were told here.

years. The bodies of 5,090 Catholics were cremated last year as compared with 3,609 in 1967.

As a result of the change in Church law—in 1967, the Vatican authorized priests at services attending cremation—the number of cremation ceremonies for Catholics has increased markedly in recent

In 1963 the hierarchy approved cremation provided it was not chosen as an expression of hostility for religion. However, priests were not allowed to attend the cremation until 1967 when the Vatican approved the bishops' request for this permission and authorized a special rite for the ceremony.

'Project Equality' Inaugurated by New Jersey Bishop

Newark, N.J. — (RNS) — Project Equality will function in New Jersey, Catholic Archbishop Thomas A. Boland of Newark announced here, noting that the New Jersey interreligious project will become the 18th state unit in the nation.

which includes officials of all participating religious bodies.

In addition to the Newark archdiocese participants in the program, which will promote equal opportunity in employment, will be the three other Catholic dioceses in the state—Trenton, Camden and Paterson—the Episcopal Dioceses of Newark and New Jersey, the Northern and Southern New Jersey Annual Conferences of the United Methodist Church and the New Jersey Baptist Convention.

The project will gather information on the hiring practices of various firms and will compile a "buyer's guide" of those firms that cooperate in promoting equal employment opportunity.

The denominations will use their buying power to encourage businesses to employ minority workers. The project covers goods and services purchased by religious groups.

In the announcement it was stated the New Jersey program will be an "educative, affirmative action program" to use the economic power of religious institutions to end discrimination in employment in the institutions, as well as in firms that supply goods and services.

Archbishop Boland is head of the Project Equality board.

Institutions will survey their own employment practices first; and then will urge firms with which they trade to provide opportunities at all levels for minority workers. The firms also will be asked to convey their policies to employers and recruitment agencies and to take "specific but reasonable affirmative steps to hire minority persons in their company."

Promotion, Tenure Granted Dr. Daly

Boston — (NC) — Boston College announced it has reversed its decision to drop a controversial liberal teacher of theology and will give her a promotion and tenure instead.

Dr. Mary Daly was denied the promotion to associate professor last March and given a one-year non-renewable contract which amounted to a dismissal. Some 2,500 students signed petitions asking for a review of the dismissal, which was also protested by the university's academic senate.

Father Francis X. Shea, S.J., executive vice president, said the university changed its mind about Dr. Daly after a "wide and detailed" investigation.

Whites Indirectly Biased, Says Methodist Aide

Greencastle, Ind. — (RNS) — "Racism is the foundation of white identity in America," the top black woman executive in the United Methodist Church said here.

Miss Theresa Hoover, associate general secretary of the Women's Division, Board of Missions, told an almost all-white audience of missionaries and mission executives: "While it is reasonably safe to assert that as an individual you do not discriminate against blacks and other racial minorities, the fact is that you do not need to discriminate directly. The institutions in American society discriminate for you."

"Social structures controlled by whites employ what could be called 'dirty workers' to discriminate for them," she explained. "These include the ghetto policeman, the social and welfare worker, the slum landlord, the politician, the missionary (home and foreign), the worker in specialized ministries to minority racial groups, the real estate agent, the city and county courts."

"These workers are hired to keep black people quiet and out of the way," she charged. Therefore, Miss Hoover declared, "black power" must be seen within the context of "institutional racism, as viewed by black people who have been suppressed by it."

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