

'Religious Tolerance' Key to Schools Issue, Bishop Tells Newsmen

Hopes for future legislation allotting public money for the continuation of parochial schools lies in "this nation's improvement in religious tolerance," Bishop Sheen told a Rochester news conference this week as he presented a 10-point statement on the future of the diocesan school system. (See statement on Page 1.)

"Times have changed," he told a reporter who asked what grounds there were for believing the N.Y. Legislature would help the Catholic school systems. "The mood of bigotry and the forms of hate against the Church have radically changed," he said.

Representatives of the newspapers and the city's radio and television stations questioned the Bishop about the possibility of closing more diocesan schools next June and the financial problems which must be met if they are to remain open.

He would offer no figures on "How much does the Diocese really need?" stating that if the legislature allotted only \$240, the approximate annual cost for one parochial pupil, that would save the state \$760 because it costs about \$1,000 to educate a pupil in the public school system.

Pressed to "guess" how many schools might have to close next June because costs exceeded the parish's ability to pay its way, the Bishop said firmly: "We are not going to close any school unless it is absolutely necessary. We are resolved not to make any guesses when we have to tell the state we find it necessary to close a school."

He emphasized that democratic discussion between parishioners and their pastor on their school's inability

CARDINAL TO VISIT U.S.

Buffalo — (RNS) — The first Polish cardinal ever to visit the United States is expected to arrive here from Canada on Sept. 16 and will visit Polish American communities in 14 American cities.

Karol Cardinal Wojtyla (pronounced Voh-tye-lah) of Cracow was elevated to the rank of cardinal earlier in the year by Pope Paul at a special Vatican consistory.

Cardinal Wojtyla will visit Polish communities in Buffalo; Hartford, Cleveland; Pittsburgh; Detroit; Orchard Lake, Mich.; Boston; Washington; Baltimore; St. Louis; Chicago; Doylestown, Pa.; Brooklyn and New York. He will leave from New York for Rome on Sept. 30.

to survive would precede any action by the Superintendent or Bishop to close the school.

How the Church will receive the state money, the Bishop said, will be entirely up to the Legislature. He presumed that it might be granted in the per-pupils allotments or through the reduction of income taxes for pupils' parents.

The Bishop also noted that some parochial schools have been educating children of many faiths and the churchless for some time without state assistance. He said one Rochester parish school last semester had a 58 percent non-Catholic registration and another a 99 percent black and non-Catholic enrollment.

Catholic School Heads Raise 3 Major Issues

(Continued from Page 1)

teaching), increasing tuition costs, reduction of class sizes and mobility of population.

Catholic parents, the Superintendents believe, in general want Catholic schools to continue. But because they are not aware of "the critically increasing problem of financial and personnel resources" their financial support through parish collections has not grown to keep pace with rising costs.

The report states firmly: "Continued operation of the parochial schools will prove economically impossible for parents and laity within one or two years without government financial aid."

"The discontinuance of the Catholic schools on any major scale will compound public school financial problems by greatly increased costs."

The general public, however, according to the superintendents, are not aware of the cost savings which the non-public school systems provide for the taxpayers.

The man in the street is willing to have religious schools exist along with public schools but he doesn't realize what gigantic cost would fall on the public school if it had to assume responsibility for thousands of the parochial schoolers suddenly.

Pope Creates New Diocese In Arizona

Washington — (NC) — Pope Paul VI this week created the new Diocese of Phoenix, Ariz., in territory taken from the diocese of Tucson and Gallup. Auxiliary Bishop Edward A. McCarthy, 51, of Cincinnati was appointed first bishop of the new see.

The Gallup, New Mexico, Diocese also received a new Bishop, Auxiliary Bishop Jerome J. Hastrich, 54, from Madison, Wis., to succeed Bishop Bernard T. Espelage, O.F.M., 77, who has resigned.

The new Diocese of Phoenix has a Catholic population of 182,750 out of a total population of 750,000. There are 51 parishes, 61 missions and 182 priests in the area of the new diocese.

Bishop Francis J. Green of the Tucson Diocese is a native of Corning in the Diocese of Rochester.

A Bishop Tackles Storm Wreckage

By JO-ANN PRICE

Gulfport, Miss. — (NC) — A familiar figure these days in Gulf Coast towns that were struck by Hurricane Camille is a man of medium build, aged 60, who is frequently seen in shirt sleeves talking to Catholic priests in the rubble of their churches and schools.

He is Bishop James B. Brunini, head of the diocese of Natchez-Jackson which covers the state of Mississippi. He has made trip after trip to the coast, assessing the losses left by Camille as she roared inland (Aug. 17), ripping up about 25% of his diocese and leaving a third of his people homeless or jobless or both.

The bishop, obviously a priest's priest and a doer rather than a talker, is a Mississippian not given to making exaggerated statements. He has a wide reputation as an ecumenist.

One of the first things he did amidst the shock and confusion left by Camille was to get to the scene, survey Catholic losses — and immediately offer the use of remaining Catholic properties to congregations of other faiths.

About 45% of the 81,811 Catholics in the diocese of which he was named head on Dec. 2, 1967, live in the stricken area. Even in the best of times they could hardly be called rich. Some have come from French or Yugoslavian backgrounds. They are the fishermen, the laborers and the gardeners who tended the stately shoreline summer homes of the wealthy.

Bishop Brunini is thankful that only one priest, Father Gilbert O'Neill, an elderly Benedictine, was among those who perished in the hurricane. His body was found the next morning in the yard at Ocean Springs, where he served as a chaplain to the Mother Cabrini nuns.

Of 107 Catholic buildings in the affected area, only 31 survived undamaged. Completely destroyed were seven churches, five rectories, three convents, three schools and three

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parish halls. Major damage was sustained by 10 churches, six rectories, four convents and two schools.

An estimate of \$12 million "to replace what we had" was termed "a conservative figure" by Bishop Brunini during an interview at Our Lady of the Gulf rectory in demolished Bay St. Louis.

Bishop Brunini estimated it will take "at least a year" to determine what kind of parishes will arise from the ruins left by Camille.

"The most detrimental thing is the question of schools," he stated. "What will happen to many of our 5,000 school children in this area?"

At present, the diocese is not optimistic about receiving any federal disaster funds specifically for the reconstruction of private or parish

schools. Diocesan officials are therefore exploring the question of taking low interest loans through the Small Business Administration to help rebuild parish churches and schools.

"And we were already involved in housing for the poor and elderly," Bishop Brunini said. This was a reference to three rent-supplement, low-income housing projects and two proposed apartment buildings for elderly people of moderate means recently undertaken by the diocese with Federal Housing Administration insured loans.

"Our resources already were limited. I'm afraid I committed my successors for years to come. But I felt that if the Church wouldn't stick its neck out, who would?"

Brazilian Bishops 'Iffy' on Celibacy

Sao Paulo, Brazil — (NC) — The majority of Brazilian bishops favor changes in the Church's laws on priestly celibacy if the needs of the Christian community warrant it.

The various positions of the bishops on the celibacy issue were included in a statement approved at the 10th general assembly of the Brazilian Bishops' Conference (CBC) held here July 21-30. The statement, which normally would have been released at the close of the assembly, was delayed because the minutes of the discussions on celibacy were submitted to the Vatican.

Its comments on celibacy were worded very cautiously.

"We find it necessary in the present circumstances," it said, "to prepare for the plurality of the ministry that the Christian community needs, by giving to the laity greater responsibility, by assigning functions to the maximum extent to married deacons, and opening up the prospect of their being ordained priests."

"There is the question of married men leading a mature life of marriage, who could be ordained priests, as it is already done in the Eastern

rite Churches," it explained. "This would be a parallel ministry (to celibate priests) for areas in dire need of priestly attention."

"But it is one thing to keep the door open to the possibility of ordaining married priests when the laity and deacons do not suffice to meet the pastoral needs of our people, and another thing to introduce the priesthood of married men abruptly."

The statement said 114 of the 206 bishops attending the meeting approved of married priests.

Symbolic Happening Opens Liturgy Meet

Milwaukee — (RNS) — A crowd of about 3,000 sang "Let us break bread together" in the Arena here, to open the 1969 Liturgical Week sponsored by the National Liturgical Conference.

The opening service for the mostly Catholic organization was a psychedelic experience of strange sights and sounds, written by a Methodist. The official welcoming speech was by Episcopal Bishop Donald H. V. Hallock. The keynote address was by a Presbyterian.

To emphasize the conference's point that modern liturgy goes beyond the walls of

the church into everyday life, the sponsors took up a collection that raised nearly \$1,500 for Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee.

The service, "Celebration of Man's Hope," was produced by Roger Ortmyer, executive director of the National Council of Churches department of church and culture.

A 12-piece orchestra sat on a center platform under a four-sided screen on which pictures and words were flashed from elevated platforms. Part of the crowd occupied the Arena seats. Others sat on the floor.

There was a 75-voice chorus, some of whom were recruited from Protestant churches. Nine young women in leotards danced on the stage and through the audience.

Words flashed on the screens called on the audience to "shake," "vibrate," "jump," and "embrace."

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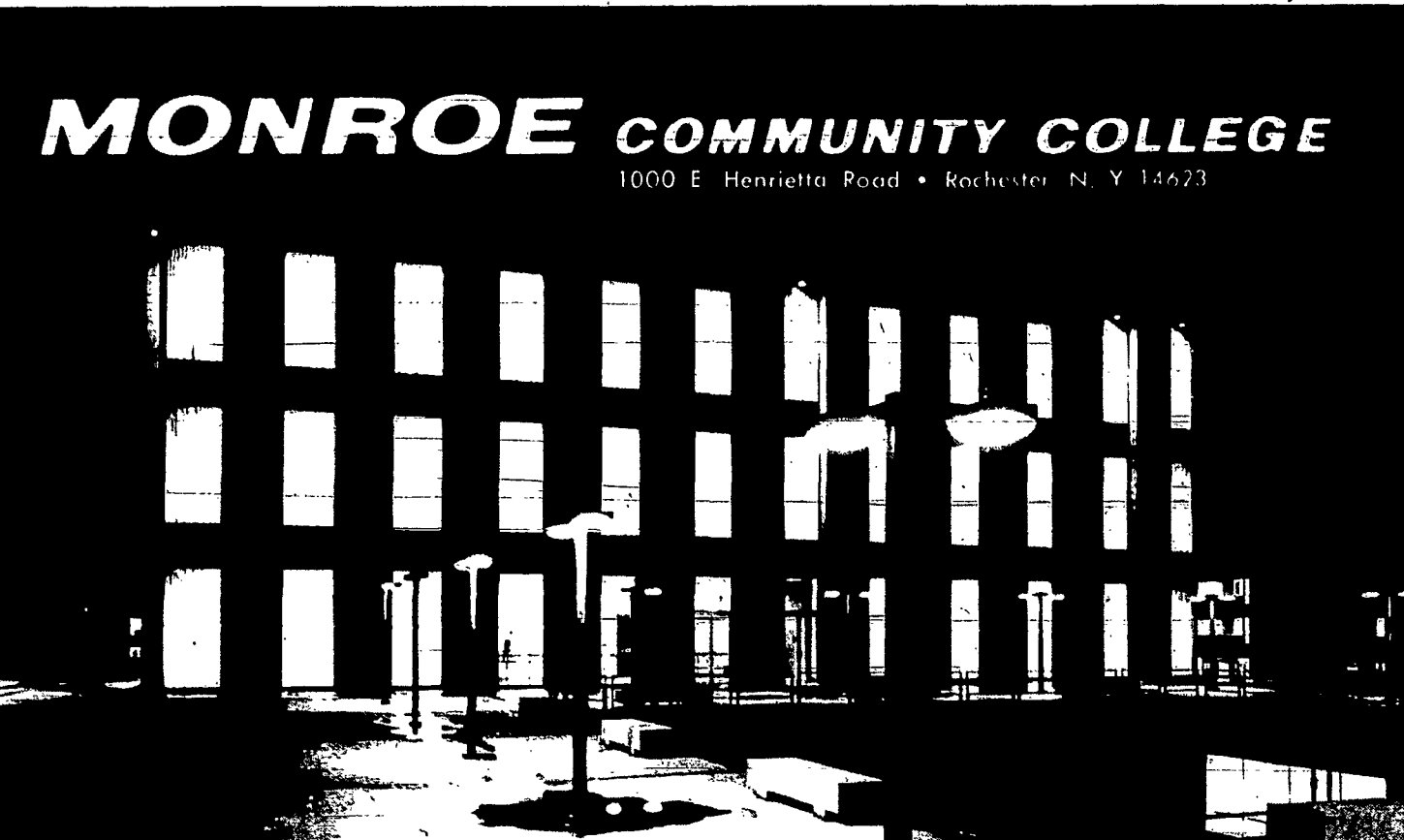
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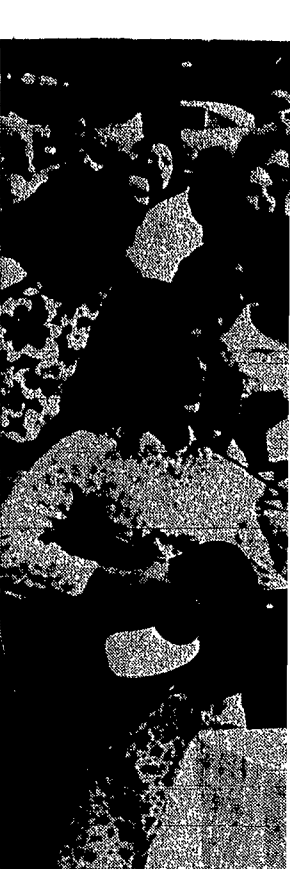
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Bernie

New York — (RNS) — Devlin, the young girl come the voice of Catholic Ireland, comes across country lass, and she h girl's apparent indifference ways-of-sophisticated ci

When the 22-year-old the British Parliament, man the barricades in quarter of Londonderry, see U.N. Secretary Gen she simply called him a and asked for an appoint

Ordinarily, members parliaments or congress such appointments thro mission of their govern

But the British miss didn't mind and anyw had invited her to come as she called him. She late because of the t casual attire, an orang mildness, rather than ventional formal cloth worn-on-such-occasions

The five-foot-two Mi interrupted her conventio psychology at the Univ fast this past year to l

Catholic Pap Urge Equality In N. Ireland

By JOHN GRE (NC News Ser

London — Britain's (papers have urged the ernment in no uncert enforce the same equali for Catholics in Northe exists everywhere else Kingdom.

The Tablet, a nation view, said the govern price for its rescue ar troops to restore orde Northern Ireland, "ce demand" of the local P ernment in Belfast a distribution of those sponsibility throughout land that previously h open to the Catholic r

It must demand the the "B Specials" — Protestant police reserv ror by many Catholics the repeal of the ex Powers Act allowing there to detain and without trial, the Table

Finally, the governr mand "a much more ra tion of the social pr ally distribution of ho fair redrawing of elect ies," the weekly said.

The Universe, mass- tional Catholic news much the same line. It ever, to mention the lations between Catho testants in Northern l ally over the past 10

"This new spirit . . . tered because it prov kind of acceptable-fut verse adds. "The past behind and the Rev. Ia as a survival from a age."

The Catholic Herald "Until extremists set o the gradual rapproche lic and Protestant (the ern Ireland) — was pro the first-example of r ecumenism in these isl would have united a 7 by more than religion.

"It is for the decen both sides that the sit saved and if to this e government is necess Catholics must face th and not refuse to join