

COURIER-JOURNAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

Vol. 81 No. 1

16 Pages

Rochester, New York

Price: 15¢

Friday, Oct. 3, 1969

Archdiocese Sponsors Housing Plan

New York — (RNS) — The Catholic Archdiocese of New York announced here that a 526-unit housing development will be built in the Bronx under local community sponsorship and coordinated by the archdiocese.

Rentals are expected to be the lowest in non-public housing available in the Bronx borough for new construction, an archdiocesan spokesman said.

The project will be financed by a group of New York City savings banks which will provide nearly \$14.6 million in construction loans under the statewide Urban Affairs Program of the Savings Banks Association of New York State.

The archdiocesan committee on housing and urban renewal assisted the West Farms Neighborhood Association in sponsoring the program. The association is composed of members from St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Parish and a local community organization known as the West Farm Villagers.

"We have tried to plan beyond physical shelter alone," Msgr. Byrne said, "and have included space for a public kindergarten-second grade elementary school, a child day care center and other facilities to provide for the social needs of the community."

The housing complex will include two 21-story buildings, three six-story buildings, all with elevators, and a three-story community building which will house the school and other social services.

The buildings will contain 131 one-bedroom units, 156 two-bedroom units, and 28 four-bedroom units as well as two apartments for superintendents. Construction is to begin next Spring, the spokesman said.

Things Really Sprouting at Fisher College

Now you can go to college to learn the latest techniques in the care of home plants.

Green thumbs that have lost their luster will be professionally rejuvenated this fall at St. John Fisher College.

Starting Oct. 9, for a period of 10 Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m., the college will offer a special course, "Care of House Plants," to be taught by Dr. Melvin Wendland, Penfield, a member of the biology department.

Noting that the course has been scheduled as a result of requests from area residents, the college announcement states:

"It will deal with the practical as well as the theoretical aspects of the growth of house plants. Lectures will be augmented by practical use of the college's newly-opened science greenhouse, and will include the areas of potting, watering, lighting, fertilizing and reproduction."

CARDINAL IN CANADA

Montreal — (RNS) — Paul-Emile Cardinal Leger, former Archbishop of Montreal who resigned two years ago to work among lepers in Africa, has begun a 3½ month tour of Eastern Canada to raise funds for his missionary activity. The cardinal's first public appearance on the tour will be in Montreal on Oct. 15.

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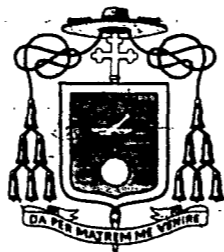
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For Six Cents

A dispute over six cents per day in increased wages for Peruvian miners was the basis for demonstrations which escalated into a confrontation between workers and a special force of 500 policemen. The miners, currently receiving from \$2.40 to \$7 per day, staged a 1,000-mile march with their wives and children to Lima from the copper mines at La Oroya. They were stopped at Chicla after covering more than 50 miles in two days. (Religious News Service)

Diocesan Appointments



Father Joseph T. Gaynor, to be pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church, Elmira Heights, from St. Catherine's, Addison.

Father William M. Thomas, to be pastor of St. Catherine's Church, Addison, from St. Patrick's Church, Elmira.

Father Robert Kanka, to be assistant pastor of St. Peter and Paul's Church, Elmira, from St. Michael's Church, Rochester.

Father Foster Rogers, to be assistant pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Elmira, from St. Christopher's Church, Chili.

Appointments will be effective, Wednesday, Oct. 8, at 6 p.m.

Priest on Biafra

Airlift Heroic but Not Enough

Minneapolis — (RNS) — a church-sponsored airlift is flying in about 200 tons of protein food nightly to starving Biafrans despite extremely hazardous conditions, an Irish missionary priest who helped spearhead the airlift said here.

However, the minimum daily need is 500 tons of food, said Father Dermot Doran, and the plight of the Biafrans has deteriorated since June when the Red Cross quit flying in supplies after one of its planes was shot down.

The death rate was under 1,000 a day during a period early this year when both airlifts — Red Cross and Joint Church Aid — were operating.

the priest said. Since then, it has gone up again.

Joint Church Aid now operates 14 flights a night into Biafra from the Portuguese island of Sao Tome about 300 miles south of Biafra.

Father Doran said it costs Joint Church Aid about \$75,000 a night to operate its airlift. This does not include cost of medicines and food flown in — much of it donated by the United States government.

Nigerian air crews have not yet shot any of the church airlift planes out of the sky, but they have damaged eight on the ground, Father Doran reported. In addition, he said, seven of the Joint Church Aid planes have been lost in crashes.

honor and dishonor," said NCOMP of some modern films. "In each case, we must question how they contribute to the film's overall purpose of exploring meaningful situations."

"The moral issue regarding the use of sex, nudity, or violence in films is not simply a matter of arbitrary personal taste nor of absolute abstract rules."

"The moral issue — whether one reprehends or permits the inclusion of such items in a film — is based directly on the artistic and humanistic handling of these items."

The film office said that viewers must recognize that the movie industry is aware of the contemporary drive to establish new frontiers, new horizons. "Local" theatres are the locales where massive barriers are being shattered. Technically and thematically, film producers have

Keep Off 'Grass', 2 Youths Learn From Trappists

Dubuque, Iowa — (NC) — The two young men arrived at the Trappists' New Mellary abbey near here and said they wanted to make a retreat. They were welcomed.

Later some of the monks thought it strange when they spotted the two harvesting "weeds" on the monastery grounds. Things became stranger when the two were observed drying something over a light bulb.

The monks called Sheriff John Murphy. He arrived with four deputies. A search disclosed six plastic bags filled with the dried out weeds, which examination disclosed was marijuana.

The two retreatants were booked on charges of possession of marijuana.

The usual placid atmosphere at the Trappist abbey has returned — but the monks are determined to keep a closer watch on harvesters, especially grass harvesters.

Division of Ireland, Denial of Rights Seen Interrelated

United Nations — (RNS) — Ireland's Foreign Minister Patrick J. Hillery told the U.N. General Assembly that the division of Ireland and the denial of human rights to the Catholic minority in Ulster are intimately interrelated.

He said that until both issues are "honorably resolved, there can be no true and lasting peace."

At the same time, however, Dr. Hillery assured the 126-member Assembly that the Republic of Ireland had no expectations of union through "a verdict on the part of the world community."

Issues Dramatic

'Historic' Synod Begins Next Week

Robert Holton discusses synod, Page 3

By PATRICK RILEY (NC News Service)

If the words "historic" and "dramatic" have not been drained of their meaning through abuse or overuse, try applying them to the second Synod of Bishops due to open debate in the Vatican next week.

The actors are of first importance: The Pope and the presidents of 70 national bishops' conferences and leaders of the Church's central administrative complex, the Roman Curia.

They are deeply divided. The issue is the Church's authority, the authority of the Pope and bishops. The time is one of high crisis in that very authority. The outcome is very much in doubt.

Some measure of the synod's urgency can be taken from the impassioned language that has gone into the argument preceding it. A Canadian Catholic editor, Douglas Roche, writes:

"Unless the synod gives us a clear message that reform will not be thwarted by those in powerful positions in the Vatican, people will stop believing that reform can come from within the institution."

The secretary general of the synod, while far from discounting the urgency of the Church's present crisis, has a pragmatic explanation of who will take part. Bishop Ladislav Rubin points out the members of an extraordinary session are ex-officio the presidents of the national bishops' conferences. They are thus the very persons best qualified by experience to tackle the designated subject of this synod: Relations between the Holy See and the conferences, and among the conferences themselves.

The synod's subject has drawn at least as much fire as its membership. First, there is criticism of the unilateral way it was decided upon: Pope Paul chose it, apparently without consulting the rest of the Church. This unilateral behavior, his critics charge,

is contrary to the new spirit of co-responsibility within the Church.

On the other hand, most persons consider it the most fundamental problem in the Church's observable life today. And all agree that in itself it comes to grips with the very problem of implementing the co-responsibility which the Second Vatican Council saw all Christians sharing for the good of the Church.

The irony is that Pope Paul, acting alone, chose to discuss how he and the bishops could act together.

Even before the synod was announced to the world, the Holy See notified the prospective participants of the subject to be dealt with. The curial letter asked for comments.

About 50 of the world's bishops' conferences replied. Bishop Rubin's office summarized the comments and proposals of the conferences in a concise, schematic resume, and on the basis of the proposals drew up a draft document three times the length of the resume. This later was designed as a basis for debate in the synod.

Among the other suggestions cited in the schema was wider and fuller application of the principle of subsidiarity. This principle is at the heart of the problem of co-responsibility and authority.

The principle of subsidiarity has already been accepted — at the first synod's prompting — as a guiding rule for the reform of Church law. To judge from an informal sampling, this principle is accepted without question at the Curia — at least in principle.

Despite such apparently universal agreement over the principle of subsidiarity, the principle (or more precisely its exercise) lies at the root of a tremendous debate now raging within the Catholic Church. This debate will almost certainly be carried into the synod, and may well even dominate the synod.

It is, in the opinion of many in Rome, a debate of greater moment (Continued on Page 3)



What Do We Do Now?

What do you do when you're a bunch of young-hotshot football players and someone like Marie Louise swoops through your secondary to intercept a pass? Tackle her? Are you kidding? Action took place in New Zealand. (Religious News Service)

Isolated Scenes Not Criteria for Judging Whole Film

New York — (OPF) — Catholics confused by apparent toleration of sex, nudity and violence in movies rated with some approval by the U.S. Bishops' National Office for Motion Pictures were told by the film office this week that brief scenes did not establish the morality of a whole picture.

A "position paper" by the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures on the topic of "adult pictures" stressed the need for viewers to consider films in their entirety rather than allowing short and unseemly sections to be the basis for a moral judgment.

Carried on the front page of the NCOMP monthly "Catholic Film Newsletter", the statement is the office's first attempt to explain at length its attitude toward such films.

"We are sometimes brought up short by graphic portrayals of men's

made impressive breakthroughs," the NCOMP said.

"Despite the justifiable outcry against the explicit treatment found in many films, movies have come to a new level of seriousness and maturity."

"It is frequently too simple to dismiss a film because of isolated parts. In justice we must take into account the entire film which may sometimes offer tremendously rewarding visions of ourselves and our world."

NCOMP admitted that as far as current movie-making is concerned, "there are no closed gates, no taboos in subject matter. Our common humanity, no matter how heroic or how deprived, is considered fit subject matter for the (film) artist."

It is wrong, NCOMP believes, for church agencies and viewers to continue regarding films as primarily "entertainment," a point of view that

is at the bottom of many complaints registered against today's "adult" film fare.

"In addition to providing entertainment for the family," the NCOMP statement observed, "movies have also taken on various other significant roles, among them:

- the explorer into dark shadows of the human heart ('Rachel, Rachel' and 'Last Summer');
- examiner of bourgeois materialism ('Easy Rider,' 'Putney Swope,' 'The Graduate');
- illustrator of the violent tendencies in our society ('The Wild Bunch,' 'Bonnie and Clyde');
- critical spectator of the loneliness and alienation of our times ('Midnight Cowboy,' 'Winning,' 'Staircase').

However, while calling upon view-

ers to take a new look at today's films, the Catholic film office criticized movie producers who try to take unfair advantage of the screen's new freedom:

"It is not only a possibility but a fact that film makers as a whole have not used sufficient responsibility or restraint in treating various topics such as nudity and violence. Exploitation is not an art."

"If new frontiers are to be established in the film," NCOMP concluded its statement, "it would certainly be desirable that this be in the area of developing a greater understanding of and sensitivity for the human spirit. This is the truly awesome potential for films."

"Breaking other barriers to achieve temporary financial success is not only morally offensive but also seriously threatens the development of this potential."