

# THE WEEK'S NEWS IN REVIEW

## It's Nice to Be Asked

The New World, Chicago archdiocesan newspaper, after conducting an informal survey among Catholics who were polled on the feasibility of extending the Sunday Mass obligation to Saturday evening concluded that many Catholics thought the fact of their having been consulted by the hierarchy was just as important as the issues they were polled on.

The New World survey, conducted among Catholic men and women in Chicago and its suburbs, showed:

• Nearly unanimous surprise and approval of the decision by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB) to consult with the laity on a matter of Church policy.

• Strong support for allowing the extension of Sunday Mass obligation to Saturday evening.

## Sterilize Rapists, Clergyman Asks

Compulsory sterilization for convicted rapists is the sort of "drastic action" that should be taken to stop the rising crime rate in the national capital, according to a leading Washington rector, the Rev. Frank Blackwelder, of the district's fourth largest Episcopal church, All Soul's Memorial.

"Drastic action should be taken. A nightly curfew, National Guard patrolling the streets, new laws passed, such as compulsory sterilization for convicted rapists, and special protection in areas where cultural, athletic and religious affairs are programmed."

"Our city is on the verge of chaos," he wrote. "Those in responsible positions should act quickly and wisely."

Latest FBI crime statistics, meanwhile, showed that rape attacks increased by 50 per cent in Washington during the first six months of 1969 as compared with the same period last year—from 100 to 150. Murders went from 88 in the first half of 1968 to 125 during the same six-month period this year.

## 3 Nuns Dismissed

Three nuns were ordered back to their motherhouse

for reassignment after they refused to resume wearing religious habits at a parochial school here.

The controversy developed when Msgr. Arthur G. Considine, pastor of St. Mary's Catholic church, demanded that the three Sisters of Mercy cease wearing secular clothing in his school.

When they refused, the pastor forbade the nuns from teaching Christian Doctrine classes and his decision was supported by the head of Fall River diocese, Bishop James L. Connolly.

Under new rules of the religious order, the Sisters of Mercy are no longer required to wear religious habits.

## Ecumenical TV Venture

Minnesota Catholic and Protestant religious educators have joined together to produce a leadership education television series that some believe to be the first of its kind in the U.S.

The six half-hour television programs will be directed toward adult leaders, teachers and parents of children for religious education in the church and in the home.

They will be shown early in 1970 over KTCATV, the Twin Cities educational channel, and other educational stations in Duluth, Appleton and Fargo-Moorhead.

A \$9,000 grant from the Butler Family Foundation, St. Paul, will finance the project.

## Bishop Defregger Hospitalized

Auxiliary Bishop Matthias Defregger of Munich, recently a center of controversy here and in Italy because of his involvement in a 1944 "war crime" incident, was reported hospitalized in Munich.

A spokesman for the Munich archdiocese would not discuss the exact nature of the bishop's illness but unofficial sources indicated that it might be related to the pressures which he has experienced since the 1944 incident was made public in July.

"I can tell you only that his condition is not serious," the archdiocesan spokesman said.

The bishop's attorney, Dr. Marianne Thora, said that he

was "in an extremely run-down condition" and cited the severe pressures he had recently undergone.

## Church Schools Upheld in India

Kerala's high court has ruled that the Christian churches and other religious minorities in India enjoy an absolute right to conduct educational institutions.

The state court said the right to establish and administer schools extended to minorities by the constitution was unconditional and not subject to any limitations.

Its ruling was given in a judgment rejecting an appeal of the state government against an earlier verdict allowing the Roman Catholic dioceses of Trivandrum, Quilon and Changanacherry and the Church of South India's diocese of central Kerala to conduct schools.

The church petitions challenged a government decree which held that 80 per cent of seats in church-sponsored and other private teacher training colleges be filled by candidates selected by the government.

## Boycott at Catholic U.

Students of the school of theology at Catholic University in Washington held a 24-hour boycott of classes in support of Father Roland Murphy, O. Carm., who has charged the university trustees with refusing to appoint him dean of the school because he signed a statement of dissent from Pope Paul's birth control encyclical, Humanae Vitae.

Becket Theis, a theology student representing the Student Committee for Crisis, said the boycott was 95 per cent effective.

Father Murphy, a Scripture scholar, was the overwhelming choice of his fellow faculty members last spring in an advisory vote on a new dean. The trustees have failed to appoint him as dean, however, reportedly because some of them objected to his signing of the dissent statement.

Father Charles Curran, a moral theologian who was the central figure in a successful four-day university-wide boycott two years ago, is one of Father Murphy's principal supporters in the present episode. As a result of the 1967 boycott, the university trustees reversed an earlier decision to drop Father Curran's teaching contract.

# Polish Cardinal Has Confidence in Future

Detroit — (RNS) — Confidence in the future of the Catholic Church in Communist-ruled Poland was voiced here by the first Polish cardinal ever to visit the United States.

Karol Cardinal Wojtyla, Archbishop of Cracow, is making a series of visits to U.S. cities having large Polish-American communities.

The head of one of Poland's most ancient and famous Sees was outspokenly in favor of the growing Marxist-Christian dialogue. "It is necessary for dialogue. Dialogue is necessary. There is too much monologue in the world. The modern Church supports it, as does the papal encyclical, Ecclesiam Suam. Dialogue interprets different situations of the modern world."

Cardinal Wyszyński had been scheduled to come to the U.S. in September 1966, but Warsaw authorities refused him a visa. Cardinal Dearden and other American prelates were to go to Poland that year for observances of the country's millennium as a nation, but they were denied entry permits.

Cardinal Wojtyla came to the U.S. after a two-week stay in Canada. Before arriving in Detroit, he had also visited Buffalo, N.Y.



## Action

Washington — (NC) — Sentatives subcommittee duct hearings, beginning law to provide an annual attending public and no

The measure, proposed Rep. James J. Delon New York, is designed the student directly an him to attend the sch his choice.

The bill has been call "G.I. Bill for Junior," b of its similarity to th giving educational bene veterans since World V

The bill provides th parents of each child ing a nonpublic school, siring to attend such a shall report this intent forms to be furnished U.S. Commissioner of tion.

The allotment gran an eligible pupil will be by a check drawn on th Treasury, to be honor- payment only when en by the payee to be goir public school. The pr stated. The allotment t pupils will be paid b Commissioner of Edu to the local education where they live, it ad

All school pupils w not record their desire tend a nonpublic scho be presumed to be goir public school. The pr stated. The allotment t pupils will be paid b Commissioner of Edu to the local education where they live, it ad

Rep. Delaney term bill, which he first intr in January, 1962, "a c sense approach to res one of the fundamen lens confronting ou and students today" H "the parental right to the education of his off is a natural, civil an tutional right, protect the first, fifth and amendments to the U.S. situation."

Rep. Delaney said h "will provide equa tional opportunities for American child, regard race, color or religio. It guarantees a pare right to have his chil cated in a school of hi

## Arch

By JUDY EDINGE

Seattle — (NC) — A paign by citizens of Kir Thurston counties in ington State to protest music festivals is bei by Archbishop Thom Connolly of Seattle, an archdiocesan newspape tor, Father James H. drau.

The occurrence of tw festivals, one in each c has aroused anger a sense of responsibility something about the "i narities and breakd common decency" th portedly went on at th tivals, specifically th over Labor Day weeken 300-acre ranch near T small town 35 miles of Olympia, the state c

The festival pro Archbishop Connolly t chase a "double spread facing pages)—ad in Se two Sunday (Sept. 14) papers (with a combin

# ECUMENICAL EVENTS

## Catholic-Protestant Federation?

Indianapolis — (RNS) — The possible creation of a joint Catholic-Protestant national federation of churches is progressing on a new front, it was learned here.

Father David Bowman, S.J., the first Catholic priest to be named a full-time staff member of the National Council of Churches, revealed in an interview that he has been assigned as a personal deputy of Dr. R.H. Edwin Espy, NCC general secretary, to advise and encourage joint Catholic-Protestant membership in local and state councils of churches.

Father Bowman, who had been an associate in the Faith and Order (or unity) Depart-

ment of the NCC, said: "I will, for the next year, help facilitate Roman Catholic membership in local councils of churches."

The only state that has created a new Catholic-Protestant Council is Texas. There the Texas Council of Churches and the Texas Catholic Conference joined last February to form the Texas Conference of Churches.

Three other states, said Father Bowman, New Mexico, Nevada, and Arizona — have Catholic dioceses which belong to councils of churches in their areas, but there is no combined or shared organization in those states.

Father Bowman's transfer

## Priest Runs for Alderman

Quebec City, Que. — (RNS) — Father Raymond Lavoie, 52, had to campaign for authorization from Maurice Cardinal Roy before he could begin campaigning in the city election for alderman.

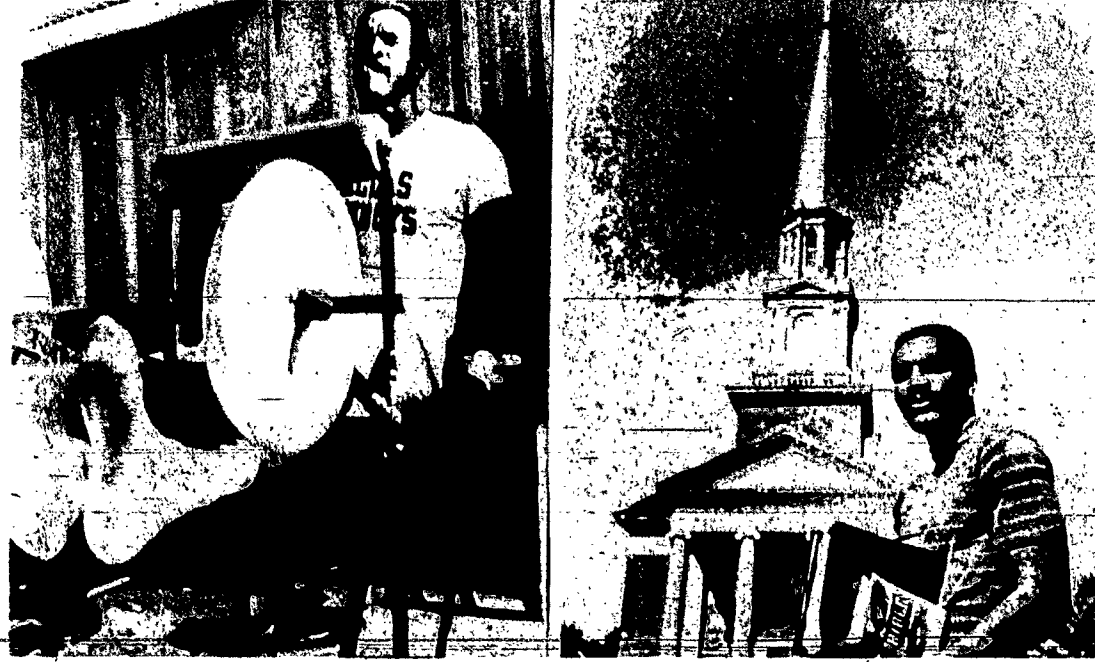
The cardinal finally gave his permission for the priest to run and remain a parish priest during the campaign. Father Lavoie's two vicars will handle the parish, centered in one of the city's poorest sections, and if he wins an aldermanic seat he will have to resign as pastor.

While his chances of victory do not seem too good against veteran municipal

politicians, Father Lavoie's candidacy was seen by observers as a new kind of religious-political-social action in Quebec.

"I'm a missionary," he said. "It's just as if I were going to Africa, because the 'third world' is here in this city. That's what I told my parishioners when they warned me I would only dirty myself in dirty politics."

A pastor who has established a dozen parish movements on social issues, Father Lavoie has helped community workers occupy riverside land for low-cost housing.



Majors in Football And Theology

A possibility for Rookie of the Year honors in the National Football League this season is running back Calvin Hill of Yale who is now playing for the Dallas Cowboys. Hill, who apparently mixes his sports and religious life well, is also studying at Perkins Theology School on the Southern Methodist campus. The All-American is shown at left using weights to build up leg muscles during a Cowboys' training session and at right pausing before Perkins Chapel en route to classes. (Religious News Service)

# Effect of TV Violence Cited by Commission

Washington, D.C. — (RNS) — Television violence "causes and does have adverse effects on audiences — particularly child audiences," the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence said here.

In a statement on the effect of media-portrayed violence, the commission, established by President Johnson after the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, said: "Each year advertisers spend \$2.5 billion in the belief that television can influence human behavior. The television industry enthusiastically agrees with them, but nonetheless contends that its programs of violence do not have any such influence."

While admitting a diversity of opinion among scientists on the causal relationship between viewed violence and aggression in the viewer, the commission said that "the vast majority of experimental studies on this question have found that observed violence stimulates aggressive behavior."

"deeply troubled by television's constant portrayal of violence" and accused the networks of "pandering to a public preoccupation with violence that television itself has helped to generate."

TV violence, it said, presents a world in which "good guys and bad guys alike use violence to solve problems and achieve goals."

The violence, it said, "is rarely presented as illegal or often it is portrayed as a legitimate means for attaining desired ends."

In a study made of programs in 1967 and 1968, the commission held, cartoon programs for children averaged "more than 20" violent incidents an hour as compared with "about nine episodes an hour" on adult programs of crime, western and action adventure.

"One reason that children are inclined to learn from

television is that it provides the most accessible back door to the grown-up world," the report said. "It is never too busy to talk to them and it never has to brush them aside while it does household chores."

The commission is headed by Dr. Milton Eisenhower, president emeritus of Johns Hopkins University and brother of the late President Eisenhower.

## Mrs. Burton Dies, Catholic Columnist

Harrison, N.Y. — (RNS) — Mrs. Katherine Kurz Burton, who for 36 years without interruption wrote a monthly column, "Woman to Woman" for the national Catholic magazine, The Sign, died here Sept. 22. She was 85.

Mrs. Burton, who wrote extensively on religious life in America, was widely known for a book she wrote in 1939 called "Sorrow Built a Bridge." It was the story of Nathaniel Hawthorne's daughter Rose who became a Dominican nun and established Rosary Hill Home in Hawthorne, N.Y., for poor people suffering from cancer.

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