

# The Week's News In Review

## Parents Balk at School Sale

A committee of Roman Catholic parents have petitioned Massachusetts' attorney general to investigate secret negotiations between Richard Cardinal Cushing and Gloucester officials on the proposed sale of St. Peter's High School.

The school, constructed at a cost of some \$7 million in 1964, was offered to the City of Gloucester for \$4 million last October after Cardinal Cushing and city officials held unannounced negotiations. A bill pending the state legislature would authorize the city to allot the necessary funds for purchase and renovation.

Cardinal Cushing said the school was put up for sale because of a deficit in current operating expenses and insufficient enrollment.

The St. Peter's Parents Committee, which protested the sale, has raised some \$180,000 in pledges to meet an annual deficit.

## Father Groppi Criticized

The Wisconsin Senate passed a resolution condemning Father James E. Groppi, militant Milwaukee civil rights priest, and his followers for "their undemocratic actions" last Sept. 29.

## 2 Prexies Trade Charges of Bias

Provo, Utah — (RNS) — President Ernest L. Wilkinson of Brigham Young University charged here that Stanford University, in its desire to prevent racial discrimination, had adopted a policy of "flagrant religious discrimination" against his school.

He said Stanford's decision to terminate relations with Brigham Young was made without any attempt to discuss the matter thoroughly with the school's officials or with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon), which operates the university.

In November, Stanford's President Kenneth S. Pitzer released a statement barring further intercollegiate commitments with BYU because of the latter's alleged policies of racial discrimination.

Dr. Pitzer's statement had explained that the Mormon doctrine barring Negroes from the priesthood appeared to be discriminatory "within the meanings of the guidelines established by the Stanford Human Relations Commission."

"Brigham Young University has no policy which discriminates in any way whatsoever against any race, and those who state otherwise are either uninformed or unfair,"

Dr. Wilkinson replied.

He asked, "Will Stanford refuse to play any institutions which have Black Muslims on their teams because Black Muslims not only refuse to admit white members, but many avow that all whites are devils?"

According to Brigham Young officials, the first contact Dr. Pitzer had with BYU came a month after he released his original statement severing relations. He asked for a meeting with President Wilkinson to "discuss the way the entire matter had been handled."

However, the Stanford Examiner, in carrying a statement from Dr. Pitzer, held that the meeting was designed to "apologize for the manner in which the decision was made," but that his decision was apparently not open for discussion.

However, Brigham Young University itself has been found to comply with the Civil Rights Act according to the requirements by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Stanford University is not a member of the Western Athletic Conference and has had no regularly scheduled athletic events with BYU.

Father Groppi, who became nationally famous for his Milwaukee housing demonstrations in behalf of blacks, led a march of welfare recipients to the state capitol to protest legislative cuts in welfare assistance.

The demonstrators, augmented by a group of University of Wisconsin students, occupied Assembly chambers for 11 hours and thwarted attempts by Gov. Warren P. Knowles to deliver a welfare message at the opening of the special legislative session.

After the initial sit-in, the Assembly cited Father Groppi for contempt of the legislature, which carries a 6-month prison sentence. The conviction is under appeal.

## Vatican Aide to Visit U.S.

Archbishop Giovanni Benelli, representing the Vatican Secretary of State, will visit the United States and Canada, Jan. 12-22, at the invitation of the Bishops' Conferences of both countries.

Besides visiting the respective headquarters of the Conferences in Washington and Ottawa, the archbishop will also pay courtesy calls on President Nixon and Prime Minister Trudeau.

Vatican Radio noted that the archbishop had never visited North America and said that the projected trip was to enable him "to get to know better the Church and the peoples of the U.S. and Canada."

## Demand Exhausts Relief Goods

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul on Long Island has reported that because of abnormal increases in demand, it is unable to fill all requests for welfare assistance in Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

Social service departments from both counties have been referring welfare cases to the Catholic society since the 1969 New York State Legislature cut back more than \$2 million in welfare funds, an official of the society said in Bethpage.

The society has approximately 800 volunteer members serving 65 communities. A salvage manager said more than \$25,000 worth of second-hand clothing and furniture were distributed the last few months of 1969 to 450 families; that the St. Vincent de Paul warehouses are now stripped and that the entire operation is in "financial jeopardy."

## 'Impostor' Now In Church Role

Friday Harbor, Wash. — Ferdinand W. DeMara, "The Great Impostor" who assumed more than 50 identities during his career, has taken what he hopes will be a final role.

At San Juan Baptist church, a 30-member Conservative Baptist congregation, he is the Rev. Dr. Fred W. DeMara.

After his identity was revealed by a Seattle newspaper, the 47-year-old impostor was asked if he would remain as pastor of San Juan.

"Why certainly. Why not?" he answered indignantly. "I have been serving small churches like this one since 1958."

A spokesman for the San Juan congregation referred to the new pastor as a "tremendous man." He said "the

only story there is about him belongs to the past. What counts is what he is doing now."

Although he has never got beyond the second year of high school, over the years Mr. DeMara has posed in such guises as a Trappist monk, a psychology teacher, a zoologist, a surgeon and a prison warden's aide.

His notorious career was the subject of several books and of a 1961 movie, "The Great Impostor," starring Tony Curtis.

The new pastor of San Juan wrote of himself in the Friday Harbor Journal:

"Rev. DeMara received the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Savior in 1958 and has been in full time, Christian service ever since."

## Archdiocese Names Nun to Major Post

Detroit — (NC) — Sister Mary Corinne Bart, R.S.M., will be the Delegate for Religious in the Archdiocese of Detroit thereby giving her responsibility toward more than 4,000 nuns and Brothers, John Cardinal Dearden announced this week.

Sister Corinne, an educator and sociologist as well as a teacher of theology, had served until now as an assistant in the Office of Religious here.

Sister Corinne will have direct access to the cardinal to discuss matters relating to those serving the Church in religious orders. Additionally, she will meet regularly with him as a member of a board composed of the other delegates, the vicar general, and the directors of three major archdiocesan offices and three service departments.

Sister Corinne said she believes the difficulties of Religious arising out of adjustments resulting from the Second Vatican Council are nearing solution.

"The older Sisters trained in the traditional discipline, and the younger Sisters trained since the Vatican council are becoming more able to share a life of faith together in which each absorbs values from the other," she told an interviewer. "Perhaps Sisters and Brothers are showing the general community the way out of its generation-gap troubles."

Helping to involve nuns and Brothers in the apostolic work of the archdiocese is high on her priority list, as is arranging for them conferences in theology and the essentials of religious life.

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ASSETS	
Cash on Hand and in Banks . . . . .	\$ 957,931.49
Bonds and Investments . . . . .	2,595,788.31
First Mortgage on Real Estate . . . . .	40,984,131.09
Collateral Loans . . . . .	275,740.54
Student Loans . . . . .	499,080.06
Home Improvement Loans . . . . .	1,053,987.89
Accrued Collectible Interest . . . . .	175,570.25
Banking House and Furniture and Fixtures . . . . .	409,782.88
Other Assets . . . . .	160,308.79
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$47,112,321.30</b>

  

LIABILITIES	
Deposits . . . . .	\$42,865,477.35
Escrow Accounts . . . . .	366,251.96
Other Liabilities . . . . .	162,120.96
Funds Borrowed . . . . .	300,000.00
Ungained Discount . . . . .	260,874.27
Surplus, Undivided Profits and reserves . . . . .	3,157,596.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$47,112,321.30</b>

  

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## WEE PALS

## Wisconsin Education On Abortions

Superior, Wis.—(NC)—Five Catholic Sees of Wisconsin participated Jan. 11 in the largest educational program on abortion ever attempted in the state. The feast of Baptism of Christ was dedicated "Right to Life" Sunday.

Bishop George A. Hamm of Superior, in a letter to the clergy, stated, "The right to life is being denied in a modern re-enactment of the slaughter of innocents. We cannot afford to react with too little late, as has been the case in other parts of the country."

Bishop Hammes referred to bills liberalizing abortion laws introduced in the Wisconsin legislature and that they have been endorsed by powerful groups financially capable of mounting intensive campaigns in support.

"If we do not join Christian and Judaic mill who accept the sanctity of life in embryo, we can lose default to a materialistic morality," the bishop said.

At all Sunday Masses in state, 500,000 brochures were distributed. The brochure entitled "Questions and Answers on Abortion" were prepared by the National Right to Life committee in Washington and printed by Wisconsin Citizens Concerned for the Unborn, a committee with headquarters in Milwaukee.

In Wisconsin, the state allows for a therapeutic abortion only to save the life of the mother. Previous attempts to liberalize the laws have failed. The bishop hopes this mass educational program will mobilize pr

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