



"Grass" Burning In Mexico

Mexican Army troops stoke a bonfire consisting of several tons of marijuana as Mexico's Winter campaign against narcotics gets underway at Culiacan, capital of the Pacific coastal state of Sinaloa. Richard Kleindienst, U.S. deputy attorney general, accompanied Mexican officials to the "grass" burning, a highlight of his visit to Mexico to confer with authorities on the drug traffic problem. (RNS)

Bishop Brunini Declares

'No Refuge for Segregationists'

Jackson, Miss. — (RNS) — The bishop of Mississippi has declared that the state's Catholic schools will not offer "a refuge from integration." "Hasty schemes" to create a new private school system "will do nothing but defraud" the youth of the state, Bishop Joseph B. Brunini said in a pastoral letter to all Catholics in the state.

He said the Church is "deeply concerned" with the continuance of a strong public education system, and added:

"There should be no mistake con-

cerning the Catholic Church's attitude towards school integration. Every Catholic school in Mississippi is obliged to admit Catholic applicants without regard to race.

"In our policy and in our teaching, including our school curricula, we proclaim that racial segregation is an affront to the informed conscience."

Noting that this stand should be obvious to those acquainted with Catholic teaching, the bishop said, "We repeat it now in order to make it perfectly clear that the Catholic

school system does not offer a refuge from integration."

The bishop's pastoral, read at all Masses Jan. 4, the day before implementation of the U.S. Supreme Court's order to integrate all Mississippi schools, echoed a statement made recently on public education by a group of the state's religious leaders. That statement called on Mississippi's citizens to become pace-setters in public education.

Bishop Brunini said that Catholics "should realize that our future... depends upon a public system of education committed to excellence."

The pastoral continued: "All Mississippians should respond positively and creatively to the present opportunity to make stronger our public school system. The task of education is the most important task facing any people..."

"Make-shift schools, hasty schemes designed to avoid court orders, and emotional appeals to the social patterns of a dead past will do nothing but defraud young Mississippians of their rightful place in tomorrow's world."

Appealing to public school students and their parents to realize "our common responsibility" for Mississippi public schools, the prelate said "we can either choose to live for the future or be buried in the past."

Louisiana Diocese Acts To Thwart Segregation

Lafayette, La. — (NC) — The Lafayette diocesan school board adopted a two-point program designed to prevent supporters of private segregated schools from moving in on Catholic schools.

The board approved an admission policy which will restrict admitting new students into grades 2 through 8, and 10 through 12, and also approved guidelines for establishment of local committees which will "study, evaluate and recommend local action to assure greater racial justice in Catholic schools of each civil parish (county) in the diocese."

The board acted as tensions mounted over Louisiana public school integration. A week earlier, its plans for private segregated schools throughout the state were discussed, the Catholic bishops of Louisiana issued a statement calling for continued support of the public school system.

In the guidelines, the school board emphasized concern for "greater racial balance in Catholic schools of the diocese, thus upholding the

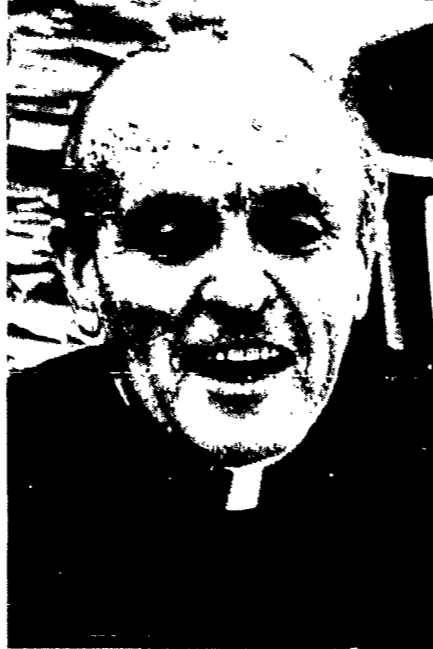
Christian principles of brotherhood and charity."

Msr. Richard Mouton, diocesan schools superintendent, said the schools of the Lafayette diocese have been integrated racially for several years, although not in great numbers.

"The diocesan school board has pledged itself to follow both a reasonable and honest course of action," he said. "The policy on admissions will limit transfers into Catholic schools. Unless a child previously has attended a Catholic school, he will not be admitted into grades 2 through 8 or 10 through 12."

"Children will still be admitted into kindergarten, first grade and high school freshmen classes on the basis of admissions established by the local Catholic school boards," he continued.

"Classes, however, will be limited to 35. Construction of, or acquisition of, additional classrooms will require approval of a committee of the school board appointed by the diocesan superintendent," he said.



May Run for Congress

Father Robert F. Drinan, S.J., a vice president of Boston College, tells newsmen that he is considering running for a seat in Congress in the Massachusetts primary this Fall. He is being urged to run against incumbent Democratic Rep. Phillip J. Philbin in Massachusetts' 3rd Congressional District. (RNS)

CELAM Bishops To Attend Meeting

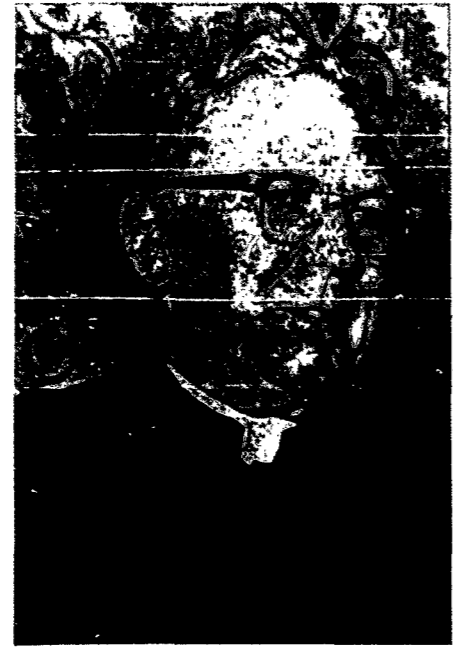
Washington, D.C. — (RNS) — Officials of the Latin American Bishops' Council (CELAM) report they will attend the seventh annual Catholic Inter-American Cooperation Program (CICOP) conference here Feb. 5-8.

CELAM officers who will attend include Archbishop Avelar Brandao Vilela of Teresina, Brazil, president; Archbishop Marco Gregorio McGrath of Santiago de Veraguas, Panama, first vice president; Auxiliary Bishop Luis Eduardo Henriquez Jimenez of Caracas, Venezuela second vice president; and Auxiliary Bishop Eduardo Pironio de La Plata, Argentina, general secretary.

The conference here will have as its theme, "New Dimensions in Hemispheric Realities."



ARCHBISHOP MANNING



CARDINAL MCINTYRE

New L. A. Archbishop Irish-Born Canon Lawyer

Los Angeles — (RNS) — Archbishop Timothy Manning, the new leader of the more than 1,700,000 Roman Catholics in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, regards his new assignment as "an expression of the will of our heavenly Father."

The 60-year-old prelate succeeded automatically to the post on Jan. 21 when James Francis Cardinal McIntyre, 83, announced his retirement.

Archbishop Manning, who was named coadjutor archbishop with the right of succession last June, was a former auxiliary bishop in Los Angeles for 11 years.

In a message to Cardinal McIntyre notifying him that he had accepted the resignation, Pope Paul VI said:

"Amidst pastoral cares with which you have been burdened, there has shown forth the integrity of doctrine which you have always striven to preserve and steadfastly defended, as well as your loyalty to the teaching authority of the Church and the successor of Blessed Peter."

"You have adhered, and are adhering, to these with a constant will, even now observing the norms regarding episcopal tenure. In a word,

you have completely understood the office of the Supreme Pastor and Father, with whom it is right to be most closely united as with the center of the Church itself."

Cardinal McIntyre announced that he would live, during his retirement, at the rectory of St. Basil's church. This new structure was the target of demonstrations at Christmas by Mexican-Americans who claimed the money spent on its construction could have been better used in aiding ghetto area groups.

Archbishop Manning was born in Ballingearry, County Cork, Ireland, on Nov. 15, 1909. Educated at Mungret College in Limerick, Ireland, and at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, Calif., he was ordained on June 13, 1934, in Los Angeles.

He studied at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome and was secretary to Archbishop John J. Cantwell in August 1946 when he was named Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles.

Archbishop Manning was named the first head of the Diocese of Fresno and was installed in Dec. 15, 1967.

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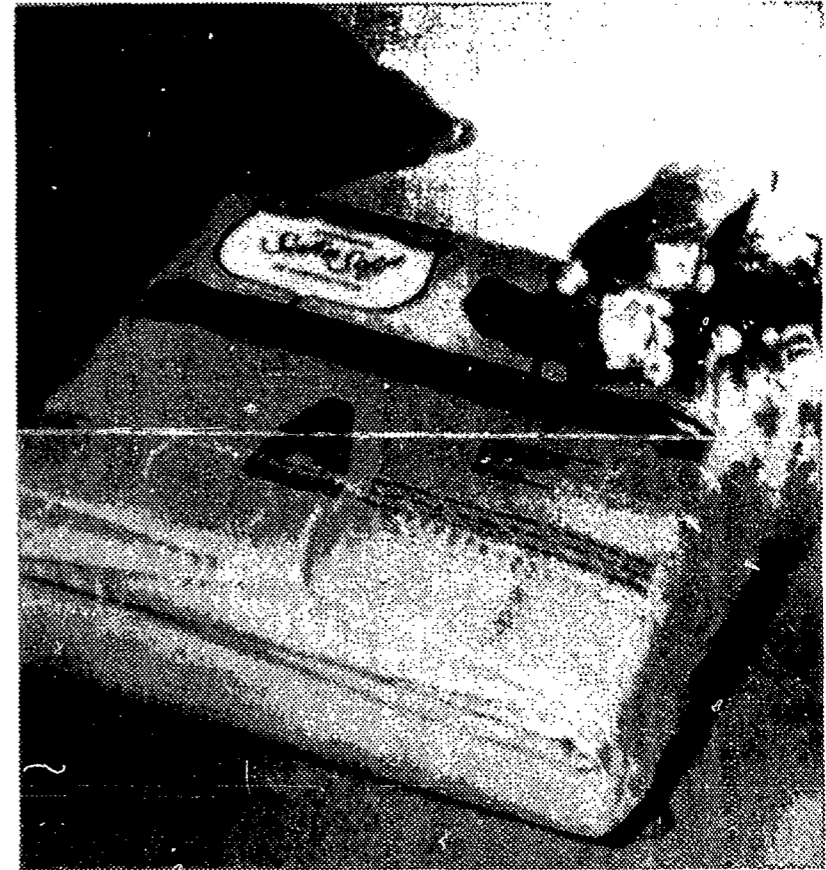
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