

THE WEEK'S NEWS IN REVIEW

Black Pastor Leaves Parish

Father Harold A. Salmon, one of the two black pastors in the Archdiocese of New York, has taken a leave of absence, for what he described as "personal and complicated reasons."

He was installed as pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church, Harlem, in 1968 and subsequently was named Vicar Delegate of Harlem by Terence Cardinal Cooke.

A letter to his parish said that Father Salmon was sure Cardinal Cooke would take care of the needs of the congregation.

The only other black pastor in the archdiocese is Father Lawrence Lucas, recently assigned to Resurrection Church in Upper Manhattan.

School Segregation Decried

The Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi has gone on record in support of a "unified public school system," opposing private schools based on racial segregation. A resolution urged that no congregation allow its property or buildings to be used for racially segregated private schools.

"Education is totally essential to the development of human beings," the resolution declared.

Non-public schools have mushroomed in the state since the U.S. Supreme Court ordered that segregation be ended immediately. Many of the new segregated schools reportedly have been housed in church buildings.

New Zealanders Study Racism

Representatives of religion, labor, welfare groups and the academic community of New Zealand have established a National Council on Race Relations.

Conference leaders noted that they want to get "an objective appraisal" of the racial climate in New Zealand.

There is growing awareness among New Zealanders that discrimination is common and is producing "increasingly grave social problems," although New Zealanders have prided themselves on being multi-racial.

Priest Entering Ohio Primary

Father Joseph R. Lucas, a philosophy professor at Youngstown State University, seeks to be the first Roman Catholic priest seated in Congress since 1822.

The priest, who holds 11 college degrees, announced he will seek the Democratic nomination for Congress from

Ohio's 19th District in the May primary. He will have five opponents—all Catholics.

Father Lucas said his efforts in Congress would be directed toward a speedy but orderly end to the Vietnam war.

While Protestant ministers have been elected to Congress on many occasions, the only Catholic priest to serve was Father Gabriel Richard, a friend of Henry Clay. Father Richard was elected in 1822 as a non-voting delegate from Michigan, then a territory.

No 'God' in Arkansas Charter

Delegates to the Arkansas Constitutional Convention eliminated the name "God" from a freedom to worship amendment and adopted this language: "All men have a natural right to worship according to the dictates of their consciences."

An amendment that failed to win sufficient support would have limited freedom to worship under the state constitution to the worship of "God."

Delegate Norman Warnock of Camden warned the delegates that they would have to answer this question from constituents: "Where were you when they took God out of the Constitution?"

Divorce Bill Still Alive

A bill that would authorize divorce in Italy cleared another obstacle when a Senate committee decided it did not run counter to the Italian constitution.

The way is now clear for the bill to be presented to the full session of the Italian upper house.

The controversial measure would permit divorce in Italy in limited cases—such as the imprisonment of a marriage partner for more than 12 years, attempted murder of one's spouse, insanity.

Catholic organizations, supported by the clergy, are planning a nationwide campaign against the bill, despite this latest setback.

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Milwaukee Priest Group Backs Welfare Riot

Milwaukee — (NC) — Support of welfare parents in their dramatic protests against cuts in clothing and other allowances was voiced by the Milwaukee Inner-City (District 13) Priests' Conference.

After being refused money to purchase clothing, some 500 welfare demonstrators swept through a downtown department store, causing damage estimated at \$3,000.

The inner-city priests' group issued a statement expressing the belief that the injustice done was not the march downtown by welfare recipients but by the Wisconsin Legislature.

"We believe that the worst price inflation in 25 years coupled with the welfare cuts together caused this desperate action on the part of the welfare recipients," the statement said. "We see the system as criminal, not these victimized by it."

Don't Testify, Cardinal Tells

2 Spanish Priests

Madrid — (RNS) — On instructions of Jose Cardinal Bueno y Monreal, Archbishop of Seville, two subpoenaed Catholic priests refused to appear as witnesses in a Public Order Court trial here.

The priests, from Villa Franco del Guadalquivir in Seville, were called to testify in a case involving three young men and a girl from Seville, who were charged with writing and distributing illegal pamphlets during February 1969. The pamphlets allegedly dealt with observations about the two-month state of emergency then in force, and about European socialism.

The court wanted the priests to testify that the leaflets were printed in the parish buildings at Villa Nueva del Guadalquivir.

However, Cardinal Bueno y Monreal told the priests not to appear in court and wrote to court officials to say he based his action on the 1953 Concordat between Spain and the Vatican. Under its terms, priests are not obliged to testify in matters connected with their pastoral ministry.

'FIRST' FOR WOMAN

Cologne, Germany — (NC) — A woman has been named a professor of Catholic theology at the teacher training college at Neuss near here, an action said to set a precedent in Germany. She is Dr. Ute Ranke Heinemann, a convert to Catholicism and the daughter of West German President Gustav Heinemann.

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March for Martyrs: Pro and Con

Anglican supporters (top) and fundamentalist Protestant demonstrators (below) stand along the route of a "silent march" by 300 Roman Catholics in an "act of reparation" for Protestants executed for their beliefs during the reign of Mary Tudor. The march started at St. Ethelreda's church, London, and ended at Smithfield near a site where 46 Protestants were burned to death. The march encountered the demonstrators, followers of Northern Ireland's controversial minister, the Rev. Ian Paisley, in Smithfield. (Religious News Service)

Anti-Celibacy Stand Described as Fallacious

Chicago — (RNS) — Dr. Francis E. McMahon, professor of philosophy at Roosevelt University here, declared that critics of the rule of priestly celibacy "should desist from their demands." He also characterized an anti-celibacy argument as "fallacious" and as revealing "a grave philosophical error."

Dr. McMahon, a former president of the American Catholic Philosophical Association, said in his statement that his words were addressed to two men in particular: "the Rev. Dr. John A. O'Brien of the department of theology at the University of Notre Dame, and the Rev. Francis X. Murphy, who reportedly authored, under the pseudonym of Xavier Rhyne, the articles on the Vatican Council which appeared originally in the New Yorker magazine and later in book form."

Dr. McMahon, then charged that both Father O'Brien and Father Murphy argued that the right to marry was "an inalienable, natural right, implying that it can be abrogated by nobody."

Their argument, the professor said, is "fallacious, and reveals a grave philosophical error. They overlook the fact that it is one thing to possess

a natural right, and quite another thing to exercise it. As regards certain natural rights, it is perfectly permissible to suspend voluntarily their exercise."

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