

THE WEEK'S NEWS IN REVIEW

Apartheid Has Its UN 'Day'

A register will be available again this year at United Nations headquarters for receipt of contributions from the public for "the victims of the policies of apartheid and racism in South Africa."

As part of the observance of International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the register will be open today, March 20.

Contributions will be accepted for two U.N. funds which have been providing humanitarian and educational assistance to prisoners and their families and to other victims of apartheid.

Vatican 'Meddling' Seen

Some 400 students and five faculty members of the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome came out in full support of three Jesuit professors who recently scored the Vatican's opposition to the pending divorce bill in Italy. A

signed statement expressed "joy" at the fact that the professors had given voice to their opinions "in a spirit of academic freedom," Italian Radio said.

The March 8 edition of the Roman newspaper, *Il Messaggero*, featured an interview with an Italian, a Frenchman, and a Spaniard—all Jesuit members of the social sciences faculty of the Gregorian University. The three charged the Vatican with "meddling in Italian politics" by "forceful opposition" to the divorce legislation, arguing that such opposition violated the "principle of religious liberty" enunciated by Vatican II.

Oldest Salesian Dies at 101

Don Fausto Belotti, the oldest member of the Salesians, died in Brazil March 7. He was 101 years old.

The priest entered the Society of St. Francis de Sales at Turin, Italy in 1888, shortly after the death of the order's founder, St. John Bosco. He went to Latin America as a missionary in 1889.

'Red' Cry Raised Again

A routine transfer of parish pastors in Recife, Brazil, became a national issue between supporters and foes of Archbishop Heider Camara of Olinda and Recife, a champion of Latin America social reform.

Leaflets protesting appointment of a social-minded pastor warned Recife residents against "the anarchist-Marxist beachhead of the so-called New Church" and appealed to the Brazilian armed forces "to help our crusade which intends above all to stop the invasion by pink and red banners of our sacred churches."

Biafra' Now a Bad Word

In Rome, Msgr. Andrew Landi, assistant executive director of U.S. Catholic Relief Services, asked agencies raise the word "Biafra." He called such tactics "an unnecessary irritant" by agencies whose interest is supposed to be "humanitarian rather than political."

Right to Organize Defended By Prelate

Baltimore—(RNS)—Lawrence Cardinal Shehan of Baltimore reminded the administration of St. Joseph Hospital here of its "moral obligation" in connection with its continued rebuffs to attempts at union organization of service personnel.

In a statement, the cardinal declared "it is my duty to state that Catholic social teaching recognizes the right of workers to organize and form a union if they so desire," adding that this right belongs to the workers of St. Joseph Hospital.

For the past several months a local of the National Union of Hospital and Nursing Home Employees has been attempting to organize at St. Joseph Hospital, but its efforts have been resisted by the administration.

Cardinal Shehan also warned the workers and union organizers who are making the request for a vote "to refrain from needless provocation and unwarranted escalation of emotions."

WEE PALS



Bishop Su...

London—(NC)—A Catholic bishop has suggested that in a united Catholic-Anglican Church under the primacy of the Pope, the Pope would become patriarch of the Western, or Latin, rite and the Anglican archbishop of Canterbury patriarch of the English rite.

The suggestion was made by Auxiliary Bishop Christopher Butler, O.S.B., of Westminster in an article in the *Tablet*, a Catholic weekly review here.

Bishop Butler was a participant in the first meeting of the Joint Anglican-Catholic Permanent Theological Commission, which met in January at Windsor.

In his article, Bishop Butler cited the Second Vatican Council's Decree on Ecumenism, stressing its recognition of the Anglican communion



Springtime Silhouette

Taking advantage of some nice Spring weather, Richard Gray, sexton at Zion Lutheran church, in Wilmington, makes an interesting silhouette as he washes winter's dirt from the church windows. (Religious News Service)

Iowa Enacts 'No Fault' Divorce

Des Moines, Iowa—(NC)—A new "no fault" law has been passed by Iopsided majorities in both the Senate and the House here, scrapping the five grounds for divorce—adultery, desertion, felony conviction, alcoholism and cruel or inhuman treatment.

The new law provides the dissolution of a marriage can be granted when there is "a breakdown of the marriage relationship to the extent that the legitimate objects of matrimony have been destroyed and no reasonable likelihood that the marriage can be preserved."

The legislation failed to include a recommendation by religious leaders and social organizations for a family court system throughout the state—a special court in each judicial district to deal exclusively with domestic relations problems, staffed by judges with expertise for handling such matters. The law does empower district court judges to establish a domestic relations division.

The new law also provides a mandatory attempt at reconciliation of the parties, specifying the final dissolution cannot be ordered by a court for at least 90 days. The new law also provides that neither party can remarry without court consent for one year.

Father Thomas Rhombert, director of the Dubuque archdiocese's Catholic Charities, speculated that the courts can make the new law work better than the old procedure, "especially if they will be careful to enforce the conciliation provisions."

Catholic Press Features

New York—If the new frankness in motion pictures has parents up in the air, consider the plight of the airlines.

The problem was spotlighted by TWA's announcement that it would begin offering passengers a choice of two different films on each flight where movies are shown: a movie for "general" audiences and one for "mature" audiences.

TWA's ticket-buyers will henceforth purchase their seats according to what kind of film they would rather

have flickering in their part of the plane.

TWA's two-film plan, which is expected to be followed by other airlines, is an outgrowth of the increasing sexual explicitness in today's films, many of which have been creating booking problems for the airlines, whose flights rarely take off without children aboard.

The in-flight entertainment manager for United Airlines has admitted that his airline has been forced to reduce the number of films shown from 52 a year to 36 because of the scarcity of acceptable films for everyone.

NFPC Urges Vatican Review For Disciplined D.C. Priests

By GERALD E. SHERRY
NC News Service

San Diego, Calif.—The National Federation of Priests' Councils (NFPC) concluded its annual meeting here by electing new officers and setting a deadline for an answer on its request that Pope Paul VI review the case of 19 disciplined Washington priests.

Father Frank Bonnike, pastor of St. Mary's Church in De Kalb, Ill., was chosen president of the federation.

Father Bonnike succeeds Father Patrick O'Malley of Chicago, founding president of the two-year-old national priests' group.

In their final plenary session March 12, the NFPC delegates set April 20 as the deadline for a response to their plea that the Vatican review the case of the Washington priests disciplined by Patrick Cardinal O'Boyle in 1968 for disagreeing with the Pope's birth control encyclical.

The NFPC reached a new plateau of mutual communi-

ating with the country's bishops, welcoming an archbishop to address their own convention and agreeing almost unanimously to send NFPC observers to the hierarchy's April meeting.

The NFPC's 250-member House of Delegates asked Archbishop Thomas R. McDonough of Louisville—an official observer representing the U.S. bishops—to address the gathering.

Archbishop McDonough responded by urging that priests, bishops, Religious and lay close ranks.

Shortly before the archbishop's talk, the federation took another significant action when it determined to send observers to the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB) semiannual meeting scheduled next month in San Francisco.

Last fall, the bishops allowed Father Patrick O'Malley of Chicago, the federation's president, to address their gathering in Washington, but the hierarchy in the past has not invited outside guests.

The 250-man House of Delegates also urged the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB) to support their petitions for a judicial review, preferably in the United States, of the Washington priests' case.

The April 20 deadline for response is the opening date of the U.S. bishops meeting in San Francisco.

The NFPC is cooperating with the NCCB in a study of celibacy in the U.S.

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