

Court Ends Fordham Sit-in

Fordham students ended their 44-hour occupancy of the administration building after university officials had obtained a court order to oust them.

About 350 students left the building vowing that they would call a strike to press their demands that the university grant tenure to a popular English professor, that students be given a greater voice in academic affairs, and a tuition increase set for next September be cancelled. The collegians used vacuum cleaners, dust cloths and brooms to clean up all signs of their presence in the building.

Catholics Win Bus Service

Catholic school pupils must be furnished bus service on the same basis as public schools students, West Virginia's Supreme Court has ruled.

In a landmark decision, by a vote of 3 to 2, the high court ordered two counties in the state to provide transportation. To exclude students "merely because they attend a Catholic parochial school," the court ruling maintained, "violates the equal protection guarantee of the United States Constitution," and also the religious freedom guarantees of both the federal and state constitutions.

5 St. Paul Schools to Close

Five parochial schools in the St. Paul area are scheduled to close, seven others will consolidate and two other closings are under review, the archdiocesan superintendent of schools announced.

Six inner city schools in St. Paul will join Project Discovery and three other schools will drop seventh and eighth grades, according to Father John Gilbert. It was announced also that a school in Northfield would reopen its eighth grade, having reopened its seventh grade last year because of the growth of the town.

Abortion Controversy Heated

Nineteen priests who teach at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore bought advertising space in the Baltimore Evening Sun to attack the abortion bill passed by the legislature.

They urged Gov. Marvin Mandel not to sign the measure, which they described as "legally inadequate and socially dangerous." The legislation would replace the liberalized law of 1968 and permit any abortion performed by a licensed physician in an accredited hospital.

The executive board of the Maryland Council of Churches has urged the governor to sign the bill, while strong opposition has been voiced by the Catholic prelates of the area, Cardinals Lawrence Sheehan of Baltimore and Patrick O'Boyle of Washington, and Bishop Thomas J. Mardaga of Wilmington, Del. The governor has promised a decision by May 1.

Boy Shot in Church Break-in

An alleged burglary attempt at the Ambassador Baptist church in Washington resulted in critical injury to a 17-year-old. Also wounded by gunshot was a second young man. The two were in a group of about six which the Rev. Roy Settles said he discovered entering the church about 11 p.m. on April 8.

He said he fired a pistol and they fled. He directed the young men to halt and when they did not he fired five more times. Police found the critically injured youth a few blocks from the church with a bullet wound in the abdomen. Father Robert Flegler of St. Theresa's Catholic Church, awakened by the shots, found the second wounded youth limping on the street.



Anti-Drug Rally

The Rev. Oberia Dempsey, pastor of the Upper Park Avenue Baptist church in Washington, addresses an anti-drug rally on the Capitol Mall, designed to call attention to the law enforcement aspects of the narcotics problem and to seek an end to illegal importation of drugs from foreign countries. Mr. Dempsey's church operates an anti-narcotics program aimed at informing police of known pushers. (RNS)

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