



### Painting Causes Stir

This official portrait of Anglican Archbishop Arthur Michael Ramsey of Canterbury by Guy Roddon has caused a stir in London art circles. The oil painting was on public display at a national gallery until it was moved to Lambeth Palace, official residence of the Archbishop. "There," said The Daily Telegraph's art critic Terence Mullaly, "it will serve as a painful reminder of our age, for as a work of art it is negligible." Despite criticism, the archbishop is described as "extremely pleased with the portrait." (RNS)

## 'Sellout,' Says Theologian Of Mixed Marriage Rule

Kansas City, Mo. — (NC) — Theologian Father Hans Kung called Pope Paul VI's statement on mixed marriages a "sellout."

The Swiss-born priest who teaches at the University of Tuebingen, Germany, said that the Pope's decree was "a move surprising only to those who were still expecting serious steps toward ecclesiastical renewal and ecumenical understanding."

The 2,400-word motu proprio, or letter issued on the Pope's own initiative, released April 30, removed the requirement that the non-Catholic partner promise not to interfere with the Catholic's obligation to raise children born of the marriage as Catholics.

The document also permits a mixed marriage in a place other than a Catholic church and before a minister or official other than a Catholic priest, as long as some kind of public ceremony or record is involved.

Conceding "the Pope's good intentions" and "the continual small improvements of the Roman system," Father Kung in an article in the May 29 issue



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of the "National Catholic Reporter" maintained: "Nevertheless, Rome has once again committed itself to positions which, theologically and practically, are largely out of date even within the Catholic Church and which cannot be held in the long run."

"All this," he wrote "is at the expense of the Church's credibility and authority, since it is at the expense of the human beings concerned: not only the partners to a marriage, but also the priests, who in this case too in everyday confrontation have to ladle out what a distant ecclesiastical bureaucracy imposes on them."

The document, he contended, had postponed a fundamental solution of the mixed marriage question. "Such a solution," he said, "would have had to include three things:

"1. The recognition of the validity of all mixed marriages, including those that are not contracted in the canonical form . . .

"2. An ecumenical marriage rite which—whatever its concrete form—takes the other church seriously as an equal partner . . .

"3. The decision about baptism and education of the children, which must be left to the conscience of the marriage partners."

To determine what had to be done in the future, the theological and the practical had to be considered, Father Kung said.

Considering the theological aspect, he said the fundamental question centers around the source from which church leaders derive the right to validate and invalidate marriages. He said, "In the light of modern theology, such a right seems impossible to substantiate."

Man has a natural right to marry, Father Kung said, "And it must be presumed that no bishop or Pope can prevent two people from making use of this right."

He said this right was not justified by the sacramentality of marriage, because whether or not marriage is a sacrament is disputable, sacraments do not abolish human rights, and the partners to a marriage, in the traditional Church view, administer the sacrament.

# Aid a Must, Warn Chicago Schools

Chicago — (RNS)—Catholic school officials, angered by the defeat of a legislative measure designed to aid their financially hard-pressed institutions, have warned public school educators that they will sharply curtail the program in its 422 elementary schools unless some form of state aid is forthcoming.

Such an action, according to one Chicago newspaper, would cause a severe overcrowding problem in the public school system. These are 138,000 children in Chicago parochial elementary schools and the public schools currently could provide space for only 10,000.

The State Senate education committee's defeat of a measure which would have provided \$29 million for non-public schools spurred the latest controversy. It rejected by a vote of 10 to 6, a bill sponsored by Sen. Robert Cherry (D-Chicago).

Those voting against the measure claimed that its passage would have been unconstitutional and could cripple the public school system. The Senate bill was a companion measure to a Republican-sponsored legislation passed in the House.

At a special meeting of the Archdiocesan School Board, members voted to take the curtailment action. Their resolution concluded:

"The board wishes to serve notice on all public school boards that if the Senate fails to provide state aid for non-public schools, these public school boards will have to be prepared for greatly increased expenditures of tax funds during the coming school year."

In its resolution, the Catholic school board said that it would not permit their institutions to be closed one by one.

"This board will initiate plans for the curtailment of the Catholic school program in every elementary school," declared Dr. Martin Lowery, Catholic school board chairman, who is dean of De Paul University.

He said the board's action has the full backing of John Cardinal Cody.

The plan contemplated by the Catholic board presents three alternatives:

—Elimination of some grade levels in all elementary schools.

— Closing of all 422 elementary schools in the archdiocese (Cook and Lake Counties) for the months of September and October.

— Expansion of "dual enrollment," whereby students at Catholic schools would attend public schools part-time.

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