

Priest Seeks Vermont Election

Burlington, Vt.—(RNS)—Another Roman Catholic priest has decided to throw his biretta into the political ring.

Father Raymond E. Lovett, 34-year-old director of Vermont Catholic Charities, who has had eight years' experience as a trained social worker, announced his candidacy for a seat in the Vermont Senate. He said his campaign would stress priority spending of tax money, particularly a channeling of more social service to the poor in place of money grants.

Editor Is New Vatican P.R.O.

Vatican City—(NC)—Pope Paul VI has named a layman to replace Msgr. Fausto Vallainc as press spokesman for the Holy See.

He is Federico Alessandrini, 64, assistant editor of the Vatican City newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano, for the past decade, and columnist for the Vatican City weekly picture magazine, L'Osservatore della Domenica.

Msgr. Vallainc is moving to Sienna as auxiliary bishop.

**My Brother a Hostage,
Says Fr. Dan Berrigan**

New York — (RNS) — The fugitive Jesuit priest, Father Daniel Berrigan, has charged on two separate occasions that "punitive measures" are being taken against his brother, Father Philip Berrigan, to force his surrender to federal authorities.

Interviewed in the July 22 issue of The New Yorker magazine and through the medium of a press statement issued "from the underground," Father Berrigan said "it has been made clear to my brother Philip (a Josephite priest from Baltimore), who is in maximum security at Lewisburg prison that he will remain in an isolated cell until I have given myself up."

He said he considered this measure "strictly illegal," adding that "I don't consider my brother a political prisoner anymore — I look upon him as a hostage."

The priest said his brother's prison status would not pressure him into surrendering.

"... I have confidence in Phil's incredible toughness and dedication, and I know that he wants me to stay underground

as long as I can," he said. "This is a decision that we made together..."

The two priests, along with seven lay persons, were convicted on charges of destruction. On April 9, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to review the conviction. Both priests refused to surrender, but Father Philip was apprehended in New York two weeks later.

Explaining his ability to escape capture by the FBI thus far, the priest said it is "because the FBI are overtechnologized and dehumanized. It's like the U.S. Army, with all its materiel, can't win over a North Vietnamese people who have a passion for their land and community."

Father Berrigan said one of the reasons he is evading the FBI is to "break down the myth of omnipotence of the people in power — to prove the power of powerlessness." But he added: "I must say that the FBI are the politest bloodhounds I've ever had on my trail," he said, adding that a large number of them are Catholics and "they never lose their Catholic manners" with respect to priests.

**Twin Circle
Editor Sticks
To Criticism**

Culver City, Calif.—(RNS)—Father Daniel Lyons, SJ, editor of the Twin Circle — The National Catholic Press, has reiterated his stand that the committee of bishops named by the U.S. Bishops' Conference to mediate in the California table grape strike has exceeded its scope of authority.

He repeated his charge made in an editorial in the July 12 issue of Twin Circle, that the committee "intends to dedicate its efforts to organizing all of the farm workers in America. There is no indication the rest of the bishops had this in mind when they supported the committee on table grapes."

Five Catholic bishops, members of the mediating committee, charged on July 15, that the conservative weekly newspaper had perpetrated a "gross fraud" on the Catholic community in its interpretation of the bishops' work. Father Lyons was specifically charged with "bungling interference" during a period of crucial negotiations.

The Jesuit editor had also charged that the bishops' committee was engaged in fostering "compulsory unionism" while mediating between the Cesar Chavez union and the California table grape growers.

**Agency Funds
Jesuit Center**

Baltimore — (NC) — The Model Cities Agency has approved a \$299,830 grant to the Jesuits to operate two community-oriented learning centers in the inner city here.

Father Andrew J. O'Brien, S.J., 33, project director, said taking on the secular project may indicate new directions for the Jesuits.

The thrust of the program, he explained, will be to motivate students still in school to remain there, plus counseling services and courses for drop-outs. Father O'Brien for the last two years has worked at a Model Cities school in Washington.



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