

# Unit Named to Set Up Self-Help Program

Washington — A 40-member National Committee on Human Development has been named by the Catholic Bishops of the United States to establish criteria and to make recommendations on disbursements of self-help funds to the poor derived through the Campaign for Human Development Nov. 22.

The committee, which will hold its first meeting in January, was chosen on the basis of demonstrated experience in the problems of poverty in the United States or their direct association within the communities of the poor.

Every attempt was made to make the committee representative of the poor from every segment of the United States. Fifteen of its members come from east of the Mississippi, with the balance coming from elsewhere in the United States. In all, 24 states are represented.

Four members are bishops. Eleven are priests or religious. The remaining 25 are laymen. There are 26 white persons, 5 Blacks, 1 Indian and 8 Spanish-speaking (Mexican-American, Puerto Rican and Cuban). Eight members are women.

In establishing its criteria, the committee is expected to follow the general guidelines for the Campaign for Human Development as outlined by the Bishops at their November 1969 meeting. Projects to be considered include voter registration, community organizations, non-profit housing corporations, community-run schools, minority-owned cooperatives, credit unions, rural cooperatives, industrial development, job training and placement centers, day-care centers and care for the aged, and rehabilitation from drug addiction.

Emphasis is expected to be given to programs which involve self-help for those who lack opportunity, which alter the root causes of poverty, and which are directed at changing the societal structures that cause deprivation.

In addition to formulating policy for the Campaign for Human Development, the committee will establish procedures for the processing of applications. Applications may be made at any time prior to March 31, 1971, for participation in the first year's program.

## Interfaith Group to Honor Prelate

Birmingham, Eng. — (RNS) — Leo Cardinal Suenens of Belgium will be guest of honor at a major international ecumenical conference to be held in Kent next April, according to an official statement issued here.

The International Conference of the Ecumenical Society of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be attended by Anglicans, Methodists, and Catholics from around the world.

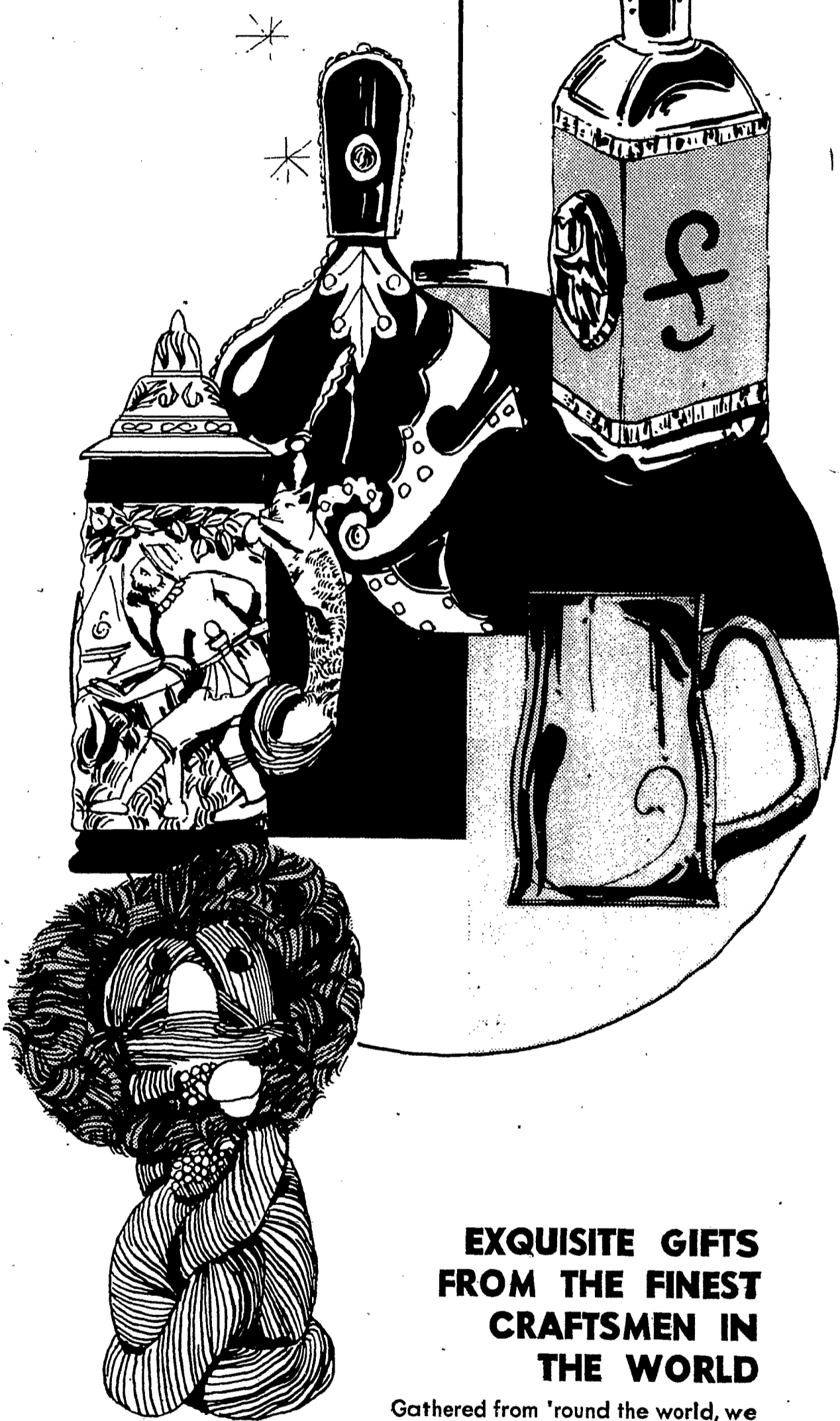
## COMMUNION FOR SHUT-INS

La Pocatiere, Que. — (RNS) — Bishop H. C. Levesque of the Ste.-Anne diocese, announced here that nuns, Brothers and laymen will be authorized to distribute Communion to persons who are too ill to go to Mass. The individual parish will decide whether it needs such assistance.

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## COURIER / WORLD

### Canterbury-Vorster Talk 'Icy'

Pretoria, South Africa — (RNS) — The world's top Anglican leader spent 40 minutes with Premier John Vorster here and emerged visibly upset, according to observers, because the premier could not be persuaded to yield on his policy of apartheid (racial separation).

Archbishop Michael Ramséy of Canterbury made no public statement on the meeting, nor did Premier Vorster. Friends of both men described the session as "icy."

The English primate answered a challenge made by the apartheid press before he arrived by conducting an open air service in the Soweto district near Johannesburg on Nov. 29. Some papers had said he would not have the courage to go into the all-black area.

Six thousand worshippers came to hear Dr. Ramsey preach on the theme, "Jesus, the Light of the World." The tall, white-haired churchman walked into the stadium with an escort of 100 black clergy and bishops, a bugle band and a contingent of black majorettes. The Gospel was read in Tswana, the creed and sanctus in Xhosa and the agnus dei in Zulu.

### Churches Seek Uniform Baptism

Birmingham, Eng. — (RNS) — A mutual recognition of the validity of baptism among all Christian Churches in England is being sought by the Roman Catholic National Ecumenical Commission of England and Wales.

An official statement issued here said that the commission hoped eventually to provide detailed proposals to all 19 Roman Catholic diocesan bishops. The British Council of Churches, in which Roman Catholics are observer-consultants, clarified baptismal practices of the Anglican and Protestant member Churches. Essential agreement was reached among most British Christians on the rite, the council said.

The National Ecumenical Commission said in its discussion of baptism: "The great difficulty is that though this rite is officially laid down in the service books of most denominations, individual clergy may not recognize this as having the same binding authority as Catholic clergy do."

The Commission cited the difficulty of "investigating" cases where it is necessary to know that a non-Catholic has been baptized. The practice seems "embarrassing and unbrotherly" the report stated, and could be avoided if Churches maintained a uniform practice.

### Church Union Plan Not Dead

London — (RNS) — The deadlocked plan for union of the Church of England and the Methodist Church is "very much alive," according to the Rev. Rupert E. Davies, president of Britain's Methodist Conference.

He issued a statement before leaving to attend the inauguration of the new Church of North India. The British-related Methodist Church is one of six participants in the new church.

Mr. Davies said "The inauguration of the Church of North India is an immensely significant event. It makes the second union of an episcopal Church with non-Episcopal Churches, the first being the Church of South India. News has come through that the Methodist Church of Ceylon has voted by a large majority for the union scheme for that country. This will need a confirming vote but it makes another great step forward."

"Those who pray for the union of Christ's church can take hope and courage from these events, specially if they have been disturbed by unsubstantiated rumors that the Anglican-Methodist scheme in Britain is dead. In fact, it is very much alive."

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