

Envoy Tells of Help From Pontiff's Office

Boston (RNS — President Nixon's personal envoy to the Vatican said here that Pope Paul is using the influence of his papal office to promote efforts to help American prisoners in North Vietnam and to combat the worldwide movement of illicit drugs.

Henry Cabot Lodge discussed Pope Paul's concern about the international issues in an exclusive interview with the Record American-Herald Traveler.

The former U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam said Pope Paul wants to do everything he can to help the prisoners of war and "has been helpful in certain specific ways that will be eventually revealed."

Commenting on the possibility of peace in Southeast Asia, Mr. Lodge said he thought the

chances were better now than three or four years ago.

He stated: "I think the President's actions and policies have increased the chances for peace. I support his foreign policy and I support what he is doing in Vietnam.

"I believe there is a great deal of confidence in the work Mr. Nixon has done in making the world turn away from war. Not only has he opened up a new relationship with Moscow and Peking, but we've seen a ceasefire in the Middle East and a new agreement against harassment of access to Berlin. He has shrunk American involvement in Vietnam very much. Our casualties are very, very much reduced. These are all impressive achievements and I believe people will respond to them."

The President's special envoy said he visits Vatican City about three times a year and always has an audience with Pope Paul as well as meetings with high ranking officials of the Vatican Secretariat of State.

"There's a great deal of value in having an envoy at the Vatican," Mr. Lodge said. "They have been of real help on matters affecting our prisoners and on international efforts to curb the drug traffic."

Nun Honored By Chippewas

Onamia, Minn. — (RNS) — Sister Laura Hesch, OSB, 90, a Benedictine nun was buried in an Indian cemetery here — at the request of Chippewa Indians with whom she had worked for more than 30 years.

Earlier, busloads of Indians from Onamia and Red Lake attended a funeral Mass for her in the chapel of St. Benedict's Convent at St. Joseph, Minn. Indian drums and chanting were heard during the service.

Normally, Sister Laura would have been buried in the convent cemetery, but the Indians petitioned the order's mother superior and the bishop of the diocese to have her buried in the cemetery of the Little Flower Chapel at Onamia.



The Goat Man of Georgia

In this age of conformity and fads, there are a few individuals whose way of life is so different that they achieve a modicum of fame. Chess McCartney, the Goat Man of Georgia, is such a person

Near the sleepy little town of Jeffersonville, Ga., Mr. McCartney lives in semi-retirement in a home for him and his flock of four goats, as well as a chapel.

At 84, he is taking it easy now,

after 43 years of traveling over 100,000 miles in 49 of the 50 states.

The Goat Man is an evangelist of sorts. Throughout his extensive travels, he preached every day at 4 p.m., regardless of where he was. Although he is often ridiculed for his hard-core and unpolished beliefs, he still maintains the practice of "what the Good Lord puts in my mouth I say." (RNS)

BOB CONSIDINE

On the Line



"Nobody here believes the scenario that a quick change is going to take place in the Irish troubles," the authority said. (It would be unfriendly to mention his name, but his credentials are impeccable.)

"It's Catholic Ireland that will have to make the most concessions if there's ever to be union," he said. "That won't be easy."

Recovering from what was later diagnosed as a deeply biased faint, I asked the authority, "Why?"

"The South can never appeal to the million Protestants in the North until it recognizes the American conception of separation of Church and State," he said. "Ireland will never be one until Ulster's people — who have their own ideas about life — are assured that they will not be bugged if they believe in contraception, divorce, coeducation, no compulsion to study Gaelic — which is about as useful in the Western world as Urdu."

He went on:

"The Catholic bishops in the South are getting to be a bit more liberal. But they still frown on what are called 'mixed marriages.' That's not a marriage between a Jew and a Christian or a black and a white. It's a marriage between two Christians, one a Catholic, the other a Protestant.

"God knows," he went on, "the Catholics have been discriminated against in the matter of jobs and political stature in the North. They have been the second and even third class citizens in job opportunities, like your blacks and Puerto Ricans and Mexican Americans.

"So there's a lot to be said on that score, too. Don't expect a change overnight."

President Nixon, relentlessly searching for an Irish relative who up till now has made himself invisible, is said to be going to Dublin with Mrs. Nixon for a

short stay in September as guests of their Irish-American friends, the Jack Mulcahys. The President spoke to Mulcahy by phone as Air Force One (The Spirit of '76) thundered over Waterville, County Kerry, on its way back to Washington from Warsaw.

Mr. Nixon may have a problem in Ireland, not as overpowering as he had with the Chinese and the Russians perhaps, but important to Irish-American relations.

Seems that the Nixon administration, through its Department of Transportation, has told the Irish that if they don't permit TWA, Pan Am and whatever U.S. airlines which fly to Ireland to soar directly into Dublin, rather than stop at Shannon, Irish International Airlines will no longer be allowed to land (and pick up passengers) in New York, Boston and Chicago.

From the emotionalism here, you'd think the U.S. Supreme Court had ruled that Pat O'Brien be hanged at dawn. For U.S. carriers to be able to over-fly Shannon, it seems, would mean disaster to the economy of the West of Ireland, lovely Clare, Limerick, Kerry, Killarney — on whose development as tourist attractions the Republic has invested a relatively huge fortune in recent years.

Brendan O'Regan, chief executive officer of the greatest combined supermarket and department store on earth, the Shannon Free Airport, recently told our crusty Civil Aeronautics Board.

"If travelers to Ireland are routed to Dublin it is almost certain that tourism in the rest of the country will be depressed... There is no doubt that the slackening of Shannon business which would follow the grant of Dublin rights would be a grievous blow to the whole concept of Shannon as the heart of a Western growth center."

P.S. — Anybody over-flies Shannon must be a nut.

Wanderer Forum Asks: Prune USCC Staff

Minneapolis (RNS) — A gathering of conservative Roman Catholics here urged American bishops to "prune" the staff of the U.S. Catholic Conference (USCC) of "revolutionary elements" and to restaff it with "faithful and disciplined servants of the Church."

The resolution was one of 14 adopted by the eighth annual session of The National Wanderer Forum sponsored by The Wanderer, a national Catholic weekly published in St. Paul.

Another motion asked the bishops to require applicants for the priesthood to make an oath of fidelity to Pope Paul's encyclical on birth control, "Humanae Vitae," before their ordination. Dissent from the encyclical on the part of priests and teachers of the theology "has undermined the prophetic teaching of the Church on marriage and has led to an erosion of faith," the forum said.

The resolution on the USCC accused it of taking initiatives in liturgy, family life, world justice and peace and Catholic education that "have been subversive of Catholic doctrine and the cause of conflict in the Catholic household."

Another resolution commended the bishops for their condemnation of the "abortion-on-demand" proposal of the President's Commission on Population Growth and the American Future, and asked them to reject "in equally forceful terms" other recommendations dealing with government distribution of contraceptives, birth control counseling for minors and sterilization.

More frequent visits to parishes and seminaries to help "uproot the errors of Teilhard-

ism" was also urged upon the bishops, in a reference to the late French Jesuit paleontologist and philosopher, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, whose controversial writings on evolution have been criticized by conservative Catholics.

Other forum actions included opposition to first Communion for children before they make first confession and opposition to the practice of receiving Communion in the hand instead of on the tongue.

The bishops were also asked to compile a new national catechism, to provide a "Better" English translation of the Mass than those now in use, and to help restore such traditional devotions as Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 40 Hours, Nocturnal Adoration, and the Rosary in parishes.

In a resolution urging the Catholic Church not to affiliate with the National Council of Churches, the Forum declared that "the political and sociolog-

ical policies and practices of the National Council of Churches have been and are irreconcilable with the teachings of the Catholic Church on basic dogmatic and moral issues."

In contrast with most religious gatherings recently, there were no resolutions on the war in Southeast Asia.

Three priests and three laymen were given the 1972 Wanderer Forum Awards. They were: Father Jerome Docherty, O.S.B., Wapeton, N.D., an Australian-born theologian and linguist; Father John M. Dougherty, S.S., Baltimore, author and educator; Msgr. Alphonse S. Popek, a Milwaukee pastor; Prof. Reginald A. Gallop, head of the Food Science Department at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg; Mrs. Raymond Kuffel, Brookfield, Wis., a leader in the "pro-life movement,"

and James Likoudis, Buffalo, N.Y., administrative assistant to Catholics United for the Faith (CUF), another traditionalist group.

Nixon Gains With Catholics

PRINCETON, (RNS) — President Nixon's popularity with Catholic voters increased markedly this Spring, according to surveys by the Gallup Poll.

Surveys taken at the end of May found Nixon leading both Sens. Hubert Humphrey and George McGovern, whereas in April he had trailed Humphrey by 7 points and McGovern by 11 points.

In the May survey, the Gallup organization asked a sample of 1180 registered Catholic voters in over 300 localities their preference if Nixon ran against Humphrey or McGovern, with Gov.

Wallace on a third-party ticket.

Those surveyed indicated that if Humphrey were the Democratic nominee, 44 per cent would vote for Nixon, 35 per cent for Humphrey and 21 per cent for Wallace. If McGovern were the Democratic nominee, the vote would be 41 per cent for Nixon, 38 per cent for McGovern and again 21 per cent for Wallace.

In his 1960 race against former President John F. Kennedy, the nation's first Catholic president, Mr. Nixon received only 22 per cent of the Catholic vote. In 1968, running against Senator Humphrey, he received 33 per cent.