

Health Workers Reminded Of 'Changeless' Values

Chicago (RNS) — Emphasizing "changeless" moral principles and spiritual values, Cardinal Terence Cooke of New York urged health care personnel to protect the right to life and the true dignity of death.

He denounced abortion and euthanasia in an address to the first American Health Congress.

The American Hospital Association, the Catholic Hospital Association, the Health Industries Association and the American Nursing Home Association were sponsors of the four-day meeting attended by more than 22,000 health care personnel Aug. 7-10.

Cardinal Cooke noted there has been considerable attention focused on improving the quality of life for all Americans in recent years.

"This has generated a new spirit of ecological concern, as

well as an effort in law and social policy to improve the total environment in which our lives are lived. At the same time there arises a real danger — and that is the serious threat of deciding that some lives are not of sufficient quality to merit society's concern and protection.

"Whatever might arise to modify or redefine values which are changeable, we must never lose sight of those values which are changeless. And paramount among those changeless values is the essential God-given dignity present in every human life at every stage and in every condition," he said.

"The philosophical principles behind the euthanasia movement are utilitarian and materialistic and they run contrary to the Judeo-Christian tradition which respects the sacredness and dignity of all human life." Cardinal Cooke added.



Children at Play

A long line of boys marches across a field near Londonderry, playing a very serious game with sticks in place of machine guns. Their game typifies one of the most tragic aspects of the Northern Ireland situation, the slow corruption of the children. While other children play "Cops and Robbers" or "Cowboys and Indians," the kids of Londonderry's "no-go" districts have devised a game called "Stickies and Provos." Dividing themselves into two camps, representing the Provisional wing of the Irish Republican Army (known as "provos") or the Official IRA ("stickies"), they man the "barricades" and fight for territory. A few imitate their heroes by wearing masks. Such games come naturally to the children of Ulster. They have grown up amid the sound of shooting and the crumbling of their communities. They have baited and attacked British troops with as much fervor as their elders. And they have found heroes in the masked gunmen of the militant Catholic and Protestant organizations. (RNS)

BOB CONSIDINE
On the Line



It's crazy, the whole bloody thing. Every time a bomb goes off in Belfast it hurts the drivers of jaunting carts around John McShane's Lakes of Killarney, hundreds of miles away in another country: the bartenders in my folks' old town, Ennis in Clare, and the room-crowd at Jack Mulcahy's foine new hotel at Waterville on the Ring of Kerry.

The terrible trouble in Belfast, Londonderry and Derry, in Ulster, the horrible bombings and whatnot, have nothing really to do with the generally thriving and wonderful Republic of Ireland. South Ireland, as we once said. The Republic has nothing in common with Ulster, really, except that it shares the greenest, dearest island on the planet. It differs in most other respects. Ulster's flag is still British and its Irish people fundamentally Protestant. The Republic's flag is its own, and proudly, though realistically its people — once decimated by the Crown and Famine — now send more of its working force to pernicious Albion (Britain) than to the Golden Door (America). Martin Luther King would have been an authority on the present civil war in the North of Ireland. It started out as a relatively simple-to-cure civil rights movement. Roman Catholics in Ulster were second or third class citizens. They couldn't get the good jobs or the better housing. They had trouble voting unless they could prove they owned real estate. They were victims of the same scourge that haunted the U.S. for so long, the poll tax.

But it has gone a horrid step beyond that. It has degenerated into an old-fashioned religious war, full of bile and pretensions about whose side God is on. Beautiful Irish children in Belfast

fast sing hate songs, instead of indulging in the traditional lilt of Irish laughter in which certain angler's songs have been heard by poets and others.

Why should there be bombings in what is as close to Paradise as this planet affords? What's more obscene than a bullet, even a rubber bullet, fired in a land that moved John Locke to sing:

O Ireland, isn't it grand you look —

Like a bride in her rich adornin'?

With all the pent-up love in my heart

I bid you top o' the mornin'!

The depressing part about the problems and bloodshed in Ulster is that it is difficult to explain to the traveling world and the would-be returned that there is no war in an overwhelming proportion of the Ould Sod. But Ireland, proper, has suffered considerable revenue losses in tourism because the headlines and broadcasts have inadvertently related all of Ireland to violence.

Just not true! The vast percentage of it is still that "little bit O' Heaven that fell from out the skies one day." There is a peace that 600 years of Irishmen fought for against the British, beautiful people, cheerfulness, greenery beyond description, fresh air, crystal clear water; gallant thoroughbreds, sheep you want to take home with you, the world's last great bacon and salmon, great theater and art, poetic barkeeps, tumbling old castles with good plumbing, and a picture postcard view around every turn in the road.

College Cited For Flood Aid

Chicago (RNS) — A Catholic college located just outside Wilkes Barre, Pa., was awarded the American Hospital Association's Citation for Meritorious Service for its help to flood victims in the aftermath of tropical storm Agnes last June.

The College of Misericordia, Dallas, Pa., turned its facilities over to medical personnel so the injured could be treated and hospitalized. The college delayed the start of its Summer session to accommodate the disaster victims.

Within hours after learning about overcrowding at nearby Nesbitt Hospital, the college converted an entire dormitory into a nearly fullscale operating hospital. It was soon equipped with a temporary operating room, delivery room, lab, emergency room, X-ray department, nursery, pharmacy and intensive care unit.

More than 60 patients and some 200 evacuees were transferred from Nesbitt Hospital to the college and 48 babies were born in the temporary facility. There were 4,000 out-patient visits and more than 300 in-patient admissions during the period the dormitory was used as a hospital.

Sister Miriam Theresa, R.S.M., president of the college conducted by the Religious Sisters of Mercy, received the citation during the first joint American Health Congress in Chicago Aug. 7-10.

She said many of the faculty had been trained as nurses, and they were "pleased with the honor and delighted to have played so important a part in the health of the community."

CLAMBAKE

Apalachin — The Holy Name Society of St. Margaret Mary Church here will hold a Clambake on Sept. 10 beginning at 1 p.m. on the parish grounds.



WHAT WE'RE DOING WORKS

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LOVE... THE MORE YOU GIVE THE MORE YOU HAVE

In Lebanon a deaf-mute boy becomes a tailor and learns to talk!
In Gaza a girl who is blind learns to 'see' the world and people through her fingers and Braille.
In Jordan a Sister from India cleans out a lady's mouth which is full of cancer.

Youngsters and old people have blankets and books, medicines and sewing-machines in Jerusalem and Bethlehem, because you care.

—And this month we're adding something new. In Bethlehem, after seven years of preparation, our Sisters of St. Dorothy will open a new school for the deaf and hard-of-hearing, called "Ephphatha" (the word Our Lord used).

Who are we?
We are the Pontifical Mission for Palestine, the Holy Father's aides for the 1.5 million refugees from Palestine, — in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Gaza. We do our work in Jesus' name, on the basis of need.

We like what we're doing, and it works. It works because you pray with us, write to us, and share with the refugees what you can do without.

The check-list makes it easy for you to help. Please help all you can. We're profoundly grateful.

- \$... For refugees, where it's needed most
- \$3525 Equips a clinic in a refugee camp
- \$2475 Buys equipment to train deaf-mutes at Ephphatha in Bethlehem
- \$1880 Expands facilities at the Pontifical Mission Center for the Blind in Gaza
- \$1125 Endows a hospital bed with full medical and nursing care at St. Joseph's Hospital in Jerusalem
- \$ 950 Builds four classrooms for refugees in Jordan and Syria
- \$ 525 Establishes a child-care center in Jerusalem
- \$ 300 Enables a refugee teen-ager to learn a trade in the Salesian school in Bethlehem (two years)
- \$ 240 Feeds two refugee families for a full year
- \$ 168 Provides one year's full-care for an orphan
- \$ 75 Gives a sewing machine and accessories to a sewing center for village girls
- \$ 45 Furnishes a bicycle for a visiting nurse
- \$ 25 Supplies one year's medical needs for a refugee family
- \$ 10 Buys Braille books for a blind child
- \$ 5 Gives an orphan girl two dresses
- \$ 4 Provides a cripple with a pair of crutches
- \$ 2 Buys a blanket for a baby

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