

# New Apartheid Study Scores Church

Johannesburg—(RNS) —A new study on "Apartheid and the Church" is even stronger in its criticism of white South African Churches for racial discrimination than initial reports indicated.

Printed in both English and Afrikaans, the 100-page document says English-speaking denominations claim to oppose apartheid (racial separation) but endorse it in practice.

Authorized three years ago by the South African Council of Churches and the Christian Institute of Southern Africa, the study has led spokesmen of some Churches to say they are trying to move against racism.

Reports that all Churches would be criticized circulated before the full text was released. The English-speaking Churches, that is, the non-Dutch Reformed groups, have almost all passed anti-apartheid resolutions over the past few years. The Afrikaans-speaking Reformed Churches generally back the policy of racial separation.

The document on "Apartheid and the Church" says the denominations have not lived up to their words, and calls for special efforts to "liberate Christians from racial prejudice."

Following its release, an official of the Methodist Church, largest of the non-Dutch denominations, said overcoming racism is a top priority in his Church.

A spokesman for Roman Catholic Bishop Hugh Boyle of Johannesburg said discussion of anti-racism activities was under way in all parishes as a result of directives from the hierarchy.

The report includes what both the Old and New Testaments say on race and prejudice and declares that national, racial apartheid must be rejected by Christians.

It says the Church is a divine institution, set up to achieve God's purpose which is described as conciliation between

God and man and, therefore, between man and man.

A list of recommended actions for all Churches is included, and several top churchmen signed their names to the proposals. Among the signatories were Anglican Bishop B. B. Burnett of Grahamstown, Dean J. L. Knutson of the Lutheran Church, Dr. J. W. DeGrunchy of the South African Council of Churches and the Rev. C. F. Beyers Naude, director of the Christian Institute.

In a preamble, Peter Randall, head of the Study Project for Christians in an Apartheid Society (Sprocas), which developed the report, said his group could not itself bring about the fundamental changes required in South African society.

He hoped the document would help to clarify and alleviate aspects of life "at variance with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and indicate the course that must be adopted if disaster is to be averted."

"Apartheid and the Church" does not deal with church-state confrontation over apartheid. The South African government is predominantly white, while a majority of the people are black, and state action against anti-apartheid clergy is common.

The recommendations deal with the elimination of both visible and tacit apartheid in the church.

"Our first recommendation is quite simply that the church recognize with the utmost clarity that what is at stake in South Africa today is nothing less than its own authority as the church of God."

Churches are asked to draft, and commit themselves to, confessions of faith or theological declarations on the racial issues.

"The sporadic and piecemeal efforts which have been made to

liberate Christians from racial prejudice must be intensified, coordinated and expanded," says the Sprocas report. "A substantial and, if possible, ecumenically coordinated or sponsored program of education in attitudes which reflect faith in the Gospel of reconciliation is an urgent necessity."

Churches are asked to seek more leaders from non-white races — blacks, Asians and Coloured (mixed) — to implement their resolutions against apartheid and to end denominational divisions which weaken the Christian stand.

Other action suggestions include the improvement of non-white clergy salaries, use of Family Day to stress Christian principles, notice boards welcoming all races to church services, re-examination of financial priorities and more ecumenical worship.

## NCEA Publishes School Statistics

Washington, D.C. (RNS) — For the first time in "several decades the number of lay teachers in U.S. Roman Catholic schools has failed to increase, according to a report by the National Catholic Educational Association here. At the same time, the number of teaching religious has been declining at an accelerated rate, the report said.

During the 1971-72 school year, there was an over-all decrease of 1.4 per cent in the number of lay teachers in Catholic elementary schools and a "leveling off" of the number of lay teachers in Catholic high schools — a 1.4 increase as compared with 13.7 the year before.

For the previous three years, there had been an average 9 per cent yearly increase in elementary lay teachers and a 12 per cent increase on the high school level, the report noted. Among other factors in the report:

Catholic elementary school enrollments dropped 8.3 per cent and secondary school enrollments decreased 5.4 per cent to produce an overall decline of 7.8 per cent.

The "one-a-day" closing rate for Catholic elementary schools continued, and 130 Catholic high schools either closed or consolidated after the 1970-71 school year.

The number of "male religious," including Brothers, scholastics, and both diocesan and order priests — 95 per cent of whom served on high school faculties — has continued to decrease at a rate of 10 per cent per year since 1970.

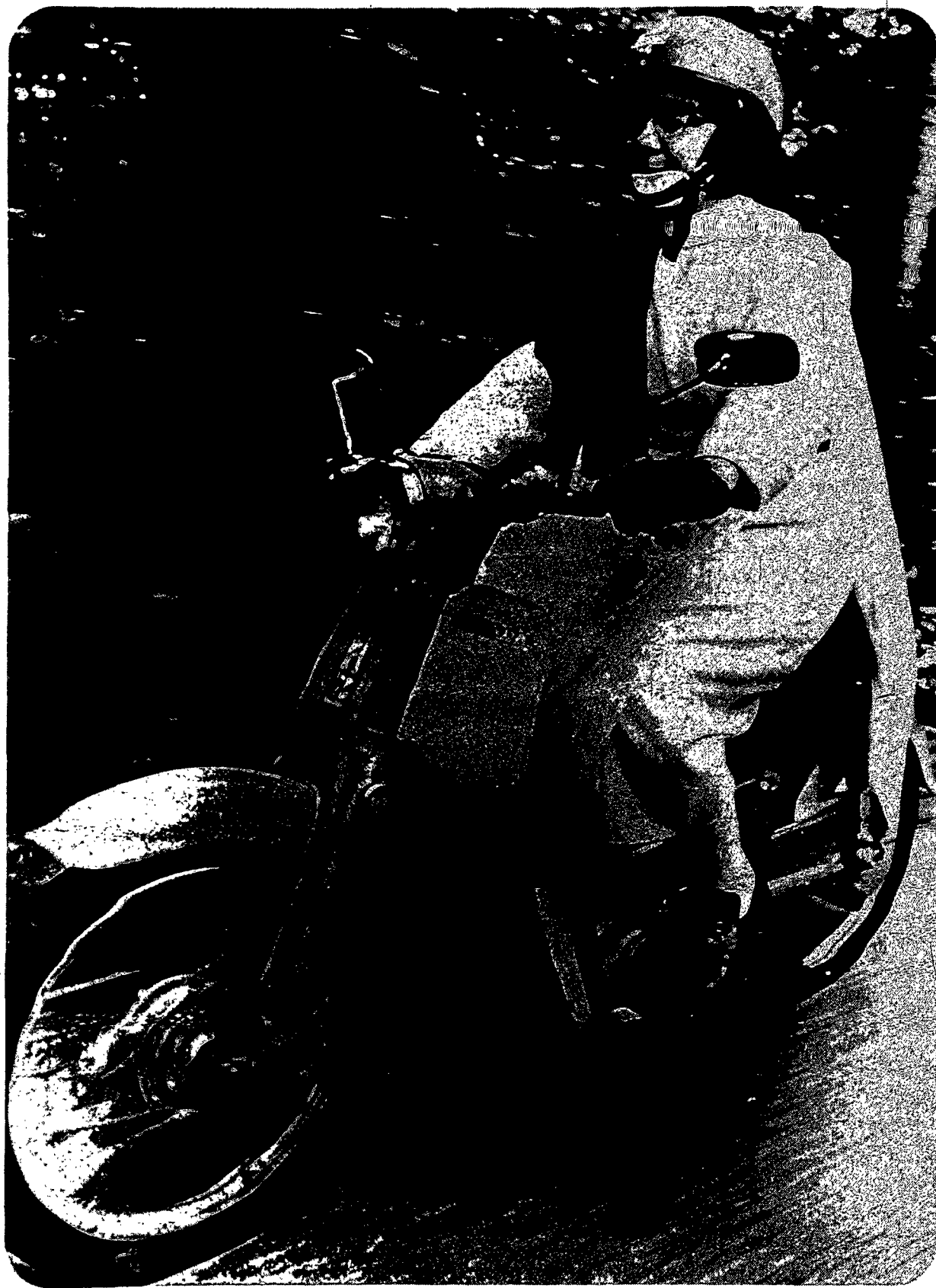


Full-time teaching nuns in Catholic elementary schools decreased by 11.1 per cent as of the 1971-72 school year, from 52,250 to 46,457. The previous year's decrease was 7.0 per cent. On the secondary level the decline went from 1.1 per cent in 1970-71 to 8.1 per cent in 1971-72 — from 19,090 to 17,540.

Statistics show that as of the 1971-72 school year, there were 3,073,215 pupils in 8,978 Catholic elementary schools and of the teachers 55.7 per cent were lay teachers. For the same year, there were 953,968 students in 1,851 Catholic high schools and 51.1 per cent of the teachers were laity.

The elementary enrollment decrease of 8.3 per cent is compared with a 7.0 per cent decrease for the previous year, and the 5.4 secondary school decline is compared with a 4.1 decrease in 1970-71.

Catholic schools, as of June, 1972, the report said, made up 65.8 per cent of the non-public school sector, and Catholic school enrollment was 80.6 per cent of all non-public students. The total Catholic school enrollment in 1971-72 was just over 4 million.



Sister Cycler

Sister Mary Magdalen McEvoy finds motorcycling the only way to travel. The Dominican nun, a resident of the Sisters of Bethany convent in Millis, Mass., used the cycle to zip around Providence while attending the Providence College Summer School of Religious and Biblical Studies. (RNS)

## Drug Awareness Program Slated

The Drug and Alcohol Council and the Xerox Jaycees will sponsor an eight-session Drug Use Awareness Program, beginning Thursday, Sept. 7 at 7 p.m. and continuing through Thursday, Nov. 9.

The series of half hour meetings will be held in the Xerox

Square auditorium. Cooperating in setting up the program are Rev. Leslie Joyner of the Xerox Jaycees and Enrique T. Rueda of the Drug and Alcohol Council.

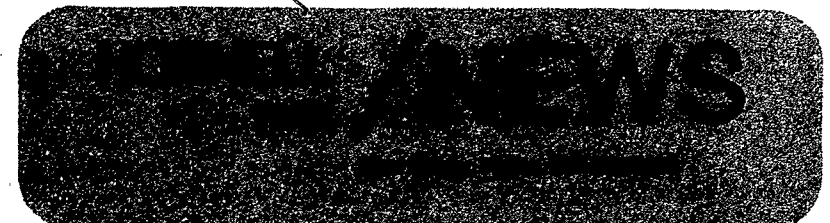
Objectives of the program are to identify the nature and scope of drug use as a personal and social problem, to increase community sensitivity to its own re-

sponsibility in relation to drug use, and to identify among participants those interested in involving themselves deeper in community activities.

The first program will feature Enrique T. Rueda speaking on "Patterns and Profile of Drug Use."

Wednesday, August 23, 1972

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1972



Hornell — St. Ann's Church is indebted to Raymond Benza and Raymond Rahmlow as they finish their terms of office as trustee and auditor of the parish corporation. New officers from the current parish council are Edward Cannon and Dolores Lamb.

Guitarists will be leaving as soon as college resumes. Any teenager or adult who wishes to join the St. Ann's folk group for the 9:45 Mass should contact John Bartell, 324-7556.

Bath — Arthur T. Moran has been appointed trustee of St. Mary's parish for a two year term. He succeeds Edward W. Foster.

The Knights of the Precious Blood Council and their families and guests held their annual picnic Sunday Aug. 13 at St. Stanislaus Church in Bradford.

Dansville — At a recent meeting to discuss the Christian Education program for students of the public school, the majority of the St. Mary's parishioners attending seemed to favor a Sunday School of Religion. If the Sunday plan is adopted, it could mean dispensing with the bus, which is quite an expense. It would bring together all at one time the teachers, students and parents. Father Richard O'Connell wishes to hear any comments on the plan by local interested parties.