



### Scout Renewal

Eleven Boy Scouts from Victor, East Bloomfield and Geneva take part in a Day of Renewal held Saturday, September 29 by Father John Coonan, pastor of St. John church, Clyde. Ken and Edna Bellis hosted day.

## U.S. Bishops Consider Pastoral on Education

Washington, D.C. (RNS) — A wide-ranging pastoral statement on Catholic education, described as "low-keyed, honest, hopeful, unpretentious," will be presented for approval to the nation's Roman Catholic bishops at their annual meeting here in November.

Entitled "To Teach as Jesus Did," the document, which has already gone through two revisions, could be the bishops' first collective pastoral since their 1968 statement on "Human Life in Our Day."

In January and in September of this year — drafts of the education document were sent to the bishops for comment and suggestions. The process has involved consultation with hundreds of individuals and groups throughout the country, including professional education organizations.

Auxiliary Bishop William McManus of Chicago, chairman of the U.S. Catholic Conference's Education Committee, said in a letter accompanying the draft sent to bishops in September, that the document has "a pastoral theme, sets forth a doctrinal rationale for the Church's wide effort in education, and holds out hope for the future of Catholic education in its presently institutionalized forms."

He said it is "not a learned treatise . . . nor a legislative declaration of policy and rules, nor a polemic extolling of Catholic education, nor a legal brief in its defense, nor a popular-style for casual reading."

"The document is a pastoral message, a low-keyed, honest, hopeful unpretentious statement of some thoughts and views worthy of expression by the American bishops," the prelate added.

Bishop McManus is one of five members of a committee assigned to revise the pastoral statement in light of the bishops' suggestions. Others involved are Auxiliary Bishop John B. McDowell of Pittsburgh; Msgr.

Olin J. Murdick, USCC's Secretary for Education; Father Laurence Murphy, director of the USCC Division for Higher Education and Russell Shaw, director of the National Catholic Office for Information.

The pastoral statement pertains to all institutions and programs of formal education under Church sponsorship, omitting only seminaries. The seminaries were treated at length in a recent program of priestly formation approved by the bishops.

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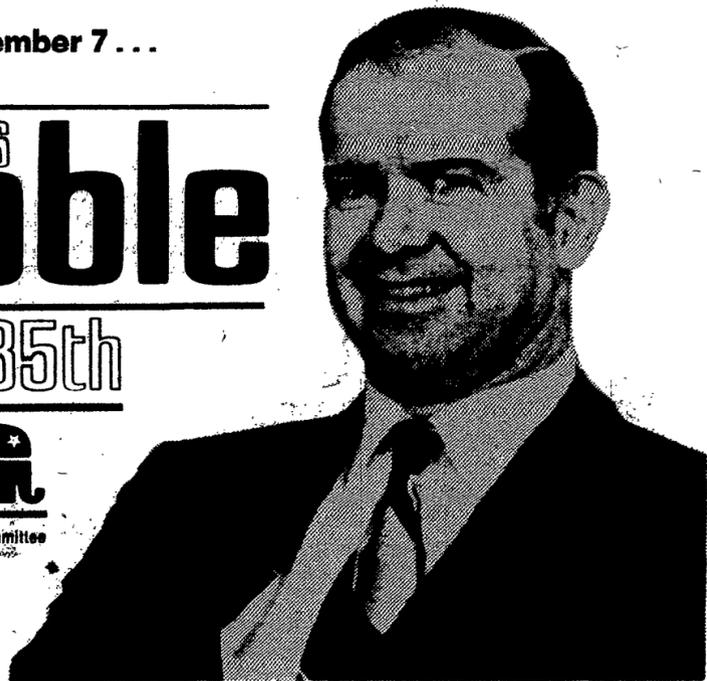
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