

Truman Sought to Apply Religion to Government

Kansas City (RNS) — Harry Truman believed in applying religious principles to government.

As President in the years immediately following World War II, he often spoke publicly of his faith in Christianity as the great force for reconciliation and healing.

Mr. Truman frequently referred to the principles of the Sermon on the Mount in public addresses. In a 1946 address to the Federal (now National) Council of Churches, he said, "If men and nations would but live by the precepts of the ancient prophets and the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount, problems which now seem so difficult would soon disappear."

In that same address, which was broadcast around the world, President Truman related religious faith to the problems of atomic energy, which had just begun to be realized:

"If the civilized world as we know it is long to survive, the gigantic power which man has acquired through atomic energy must be matched by a spiritual strength of greater magnitude."

A life-long Southern Baptist, he frequently worshipped at First Baptist church in Washington during the years he was President, although he always retained membership in the Grandview, Mo., Baptist church that he joined in 1916.

Mr. Truman drew widespread criticism from his fellow Baptists

and other Protestants when he nominated Gen. Mark W. Clark, an Episcopal layman, to be the first United States Ambassador to the Vatican in 1951.

At an emergency meeting in response to the nomination, the general board of the National Council of Churches warned that "the appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican would be wrong in principle, and would produce consequences both far-reaching and disastrous to the national unity of the American people."

When a reporter mentioned the criticism of the nomination made by leaders of the President's own Baptist denomination at a press conference, Mr. Truman replied that he believed in separation of church and state, but did not feel that the nomination in any way affected that principle.

The protests became so great, however, that Gen. Clark finally asked the President to withdraw the nomination.

Despite the failure of his nomination, U.S.-Vatican relations were at one of their highest points during President Truman's administration.

In August 1947, the President exchanged correspondence with Pope Pius XII in notes that were widely interpreted as criticizing communism, although that term was not specifically used in the letters.

In his letter, President Truman

affirmed that the United States is "a Christian nation," and called for "faith in the inevitable triumph of truth and decency; faith that mankind shall live in freedom, not in the chains of untruth nor in the chains of a collectivist organization."

Pope Pius, in his reply declared that "the country that would shackle the word of God, given to men through Jesus Christ, helps not at all the lasting peace of the world."

As a former President, Mr. Truman had a personal audience with Pope Pius in 1956. During his stay at the Vatican, he told a newsman that although "I am a good Baptist, I always favored diplomatic relations between the United States and the Holy See."

President Truman's relations with the Jewish community were as cordial as those with the Christian community. He won widespread praise for being one of the first heads of state to extend recognition to the State of Israel in 1948. Even before that, in a 1947 message to the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, he declared that "the world of religion owes an incalculable debt to Judaism."

In a message to Jacob Aronson, the Union's executive board chairman, the President said:

"By the courage and power of endurance with which Judaism has invested the Jewish people it attests the influence of faith over the lives of men and nations. I trust that Judaism, holding fast

to its ancient teachings, will exemplify in terms of the Twentieth Century the free spirit of American institutions."

Although Mr. Truman was a Baptist, his wife and daughter were Episcopalians and frequently worshipped at the Washington Cathedral.

On a visit to Cleveland, O. in 1947, the President's Washington pastor, Dr. Edward Hughes Pruden of First Baptist church, was asked by newsmen, "What sort of a churchman is the President?"

The clergyman smiled and replied: "I wish I had more people in my congregation like him. He's always pleasant and I've been greatly impressed by the sincerity of his religion."

Asked about the seating of the President, Dr. Pruden said, "That little detail is taken care of by Secret Service men. Usually he has a pew about two-thirds of the way back from the pulpit and a little left of center."

"But you mustn't," the pastor smiled, "read a political implication into that."

Hubbard Named NOBC Chairman

Washington, D.C. (RNS) — Walter T. Hubbard Sr. of Seattle has been elected chairman of the National Office for Black Catholics (NOBC) by its board of directors meeting here.

A member of the staff of the Washington State Human Rights Commission, serving as its contract compliance officers, Hubbard succeeds Charles Hammock, a Philadelphia attorney who was recently elected to the

Pennsylvania legislature.

Mr. Hubbard is also chairman of the National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice, chairman of the Central Area Civil Rights Committee in Seattle, and also chairman of the Combined Citizens Advisory Council of the Seattle Model Cities program. He is a member of the board of the Seattle Housing Development Corporation and of the Civil Service Commission of King County.

Officials, 2 Pastors Named

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riages among the young has attracted attention nationally.

Msgr. Krieg is a native of Rochester, from St. Michael's parish, and a graduate of St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's seminaries. Ordained in 1953, he was assigned as assistant pastor of St. Joseph's, Wayland, and then of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Rochester, before he was sent to study in Washington in 1958. Pope Paul VI made him a papal chamberlain in 1966.

Father Lynch, of the St. Bernard's class of 1960, has been tribunal secretary since 1966. Before that, he had been assistant pastor of St. Mary's, Corning, and, briefly, of St. James, Rochester, where he lives. He is a



FATHER BAKER

Rochesterian, from St. Augustine's, and an alumnus of Aquinas and the diocesan seminaries.

Father Baker, also a Rochesterian, attended St. Andrew's parish school and the diocesan seminaries and was ordained in 1948. He was assistant pastor of St. Patrick's, Corning, and St. Michael's, Rochester, before becoming pastor in Cohocton.



MSGR. KRIEG

Pontiff Grim, But Hopeful

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could without warning throw into the offensive the fearful arsenal which is said to have been accumulated for defense."

In speaking of the Middle East, the Pope appealed for a more concentrated effort toward a peace treaty between the Israelis and Arabs.

"This protracting of the state of war, without effective moves toward the search for peaceful solutions, and accompanied by the effort to increase respective military potential, forms a permanent and grave danger in an area which is so sensitive and delicate," he said.

CONDITIONING CLASS

A conditioning class for people who want to get in shape will begin at the CYO on Monday, Jan. 8. Classes will be held every Monday and Wednesday night, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the gym, 50 Chestnut St. Pre-registration will be held this week. Those interested may call the CYO office at 454-2030.

SNOW WHITE

An unusual production of Snow White will be shown over WXXI/Channel 21, Jan. 7, at 7:30 p.m. The play will be performed by members of the Soviet Union's Central Children's Theater of Moscow. The story will follow Alexander Pushkin's retelling of the Grimm fairy tale.

Wednesday, January 3, 1973

The Bishop's Public Appointments

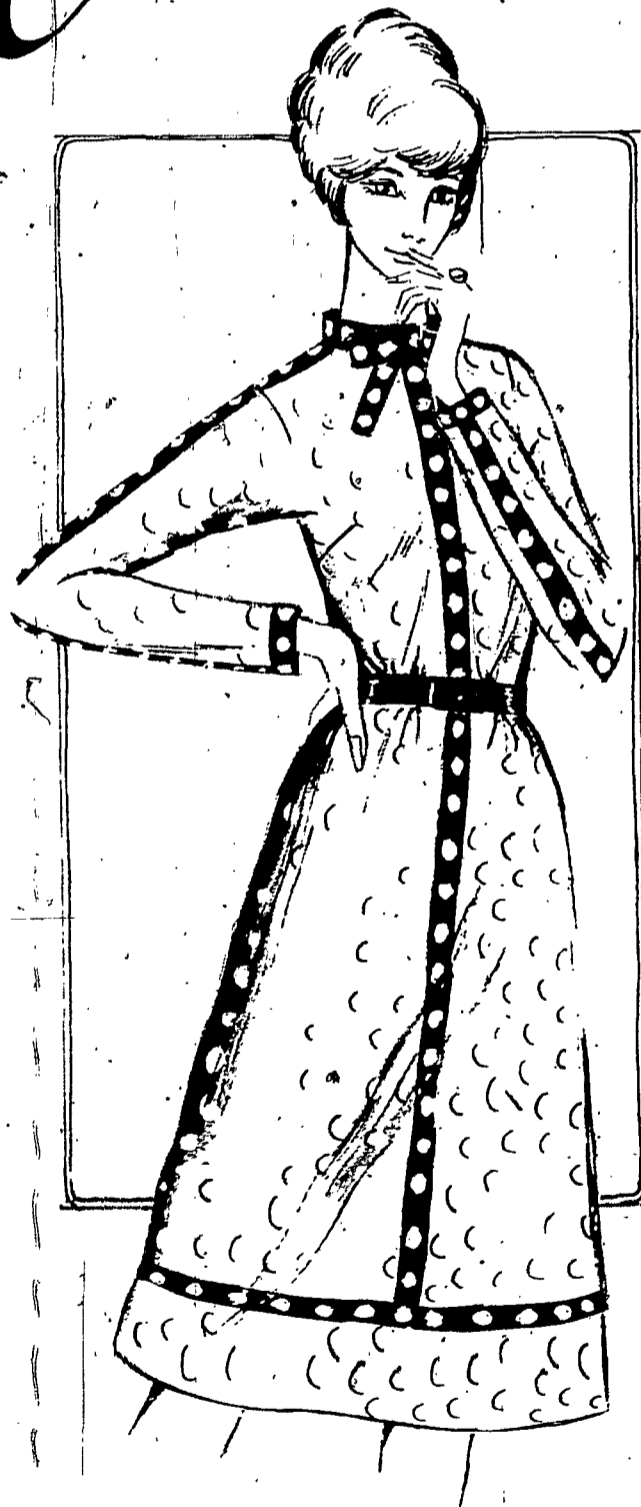


January

- 6—Radio Message, Family Rosary Network — 7 p.m.
- 9—Priests' Council, St. Bernard's Seminary — 10:30 a.m.
- 12—Interdepartmental Staff Meeting — 11 a.m.
- 16—New York State Bishops' Meeting, LaGuardia Airport — 10 a.m.
- 18—Celebration of Eucharist and Homily for Irish Christian Brothers, Bishop Kearney High School — 5 p.m.
- 22—Columbus Civic Center Board Meeting, Pastoral Office — 10:30 a.m.
- 22—Celebration of Eucharist and Homily for Deacon Interns, Episcopal Residence, Victor — 5 p.m.
- 23-24—Clergy Conference, St. Bernard's Seminary — 10 a.m.
- 25—Workshop for Religious Education Coordinators, Notre Dame Regreat House, Canandaigua — 11:30 a.m.
- 28—Celebration of Eucharist and Homily, St. Ambrose Church — 9:45 a.m.

Courier-Journal

McCurdy's



Jerry Silverman salutes spring

in a blaze of red, white and black polka dots. 100% Qiana nylon, soft as silk, with a penchant for looking perfect (the Shannon Rodgers signature, of course). Misses' sizes. \$110. McCurdy's Fashion Gallery, Second Floor, Midtown.