



Father Atwell back on the job.

Photo by Susan McKinney

## TOWARD TOMORROW

### Father Henry Atwell

The first thing I want to say in getting back to my typewriter is "thank you" to the so very many people who were concerned for me and prayed for me at the time of my heart attack last April.

Superb medical care, four months of doing nothing — as the doctor ordered, and God's gracious mercy brings me back to work once again, and I am grateful.

A hospital, I have concluded, is a parable of what our world should be.

When I was rushed into the emergency unit at Genesee Hospital in Rochester, 16 skilled and healing hands reached out, each doing its appointed task, to save life. Even the chaplain's hands were there to provide the holy anointing and God's strengthening grace. Other hands attached oxygen, intravenous nourishment, drug injections, and quickly I was on the way to that hospital's noted and excellent Coronary Care Unit.

Then a new team took over, with the latest and most sophisticated electronic equipment to monitor every vital function. But even this costly and complex equipment cannot replace the talent and skill and personal dedication of staff doctors, nurses and other personnel.

Wouldn't this be a wonderful world if it were like a hospital — where all those with talents and

skills would use them for those in need, and all this in favor of life.

Our daily news, and even to a great extent our own daily experience, reveal a world where talents, skills, resources are either squandered or used for selfish motives, and billions of dollars are spent for armies and weapons and death rather than for homes and food and life.

If one person in need of healing for life comes to a hospital, scores of people respond instantly.

If, however, thousands of persons are in need of a home or food in order to survive in life, then few if any care and life goes on as usual.

We are blinded by a throng in need, we respond so well to an individual. Is there not some paradox here?

Perhaps it is because we are overwhelmed by numbers. We simply cannot cope with thousands and so we turn away lest we be swept up in their frustration.

And that is why we need much more than just one-to-one charity, necessary as that is. We need systemic change, to rearrange the pieces of power in our world so such massive needs will not arise. Some people say this isn't the Church's business. If not, then who else will be Good Samaritan to the hungry millions?

## St. Bernards Men Set Homecoming

The alumni of St. Bernard's Seminary will gather in Rochester next Tuesday for their biennial general assembly, a two-day affair.

At their luncheon Wednesday, Sept. 25, in the Flagship Hotel, they will celebrate the upcoming

### Synod Appointee

Washington, D.C. [RNS] — Pope Paul VI has appointed Archbishop John R. Quinn of Oklahoma City to the Synod of Bishops, which will open Sept. 27. Theme of the international gathering is "The Evangelization of the Modern World."

Archbishop Quinn, 45, is one of a number of bishops appointed by the Pope to attend the Synod. Other bishops will attend by virtue of their office, or as elected delegates from their respective national episcopal conferences.

Catholic bishops of the U.S. have elected four prelates to represent them at the 1974 Synod. They are Cardinal John Krol of Philadelphia, Cardinal John Carberry of St. Louis, Cardinal John Dearden of Detroit, and Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin of Cincinnati.

birthday of retired Bishop James E. Kearney, who will be 90 years old on Oct. 28.

Festivities will begin with a buffet supper Tuesday evening at the seminary.

Bishop Dennis W. Hickey will be principal celebrant of a Mass in the seminary chapel at 10 a.m. Wednesday. Among the concelebrants will be Bishop John E. McCafferty and Bishop Francis J. Harrison, auxiliary to Bishop David F. Cunningham of Syracuse. The latter is expected to attend the luncheon, which will follow a business meeting.

The alumni association has about 1,350 members, including 18 bishops serving in various parts of the country, according to Father Joseph Reinhart, executive secretary. Between 400 and 500 members customarily attend the biennial sessions, he said. In alternate years, separate regional meetings are set up for New York State, New England, New Jersey, the Scranton area and the southern states.

The association president is Father David O. Liptak of the class of 1953, who is associate editor of the Catholic Transcript of Hartford, Conn.

## Pope Sends Unit to Cyprus

Vatican City [RNS] — Pope Paul has sent a special "assistance mission" to the island of Cyprus to aid victims of war and civil disturbances there, Vatican Radio reported. The mission, first announced Aug. 15 but delayed by the break-

down in the Geneva peace talks, is headed by American-born Msgr. Joseph J. Harnett, a regional director for the U.S. bishops' overseas aid and development agency, Catholic Relief Services. Msgr. Harnett, stationed in

Rome and in charge of CRS operations in the Near East, Northern Africa and South Asia, will lead the mission under the auspices of Cor Unum, a pontifical agency created by Pope Paul in 1971 to coordinate human development work of the Church.

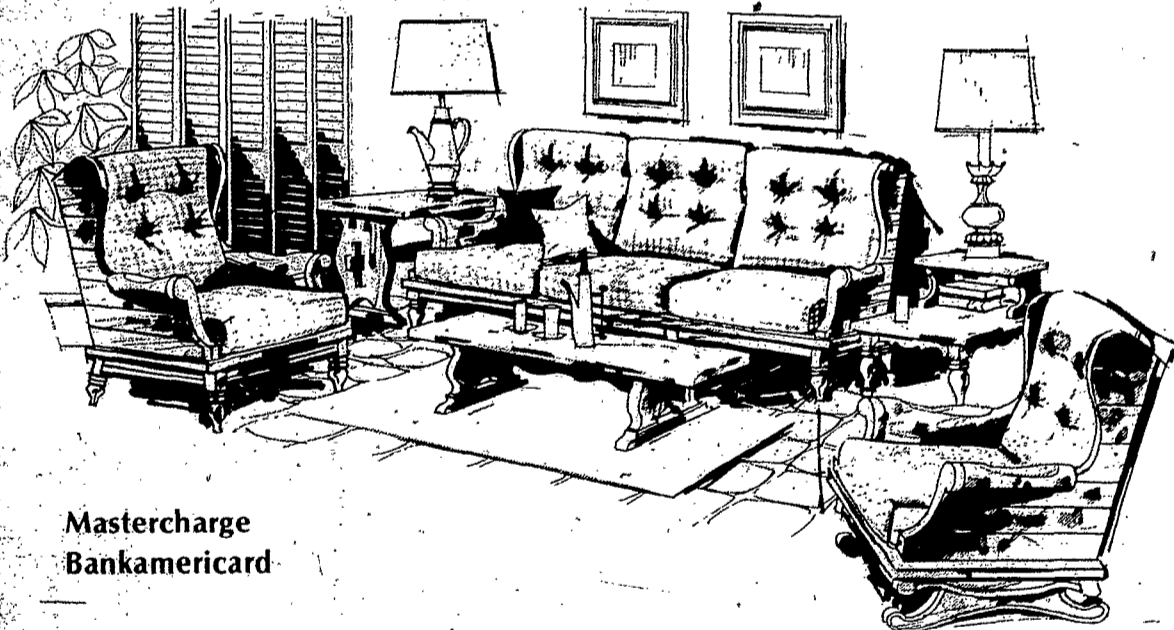
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