



From Courier-Journal Services

Representatives of six branches of the Sisters of Charity meeting in Convent Station, N.J., pledged to "strive for simplicity" in observing the canonization of their founder, Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton, next Sept. 14 in Rome. Citing the "true spirit" of Mother Seton, the Sisters said that would "preclude any type of lavishness." The Sisters also hope the occasion will be used to promote awareness of the needs of the poor. The Supreme Court has refused to hear the appeal of 10 families to review a Missouri Supreme Court ruling that denied the loan of textbooks to children attending Church-related schools. The Free Textbook Act was struck down by the Missouri court last July after two years of operation.

A series of meetings between the U.S. Catholic bishops Ad Hoc Committee on Farm Labor and principals involved in the California farm workers labor dispute were described as "cordial and fruitful" by the committee chairman. While not disclosing the substance of the discussions, Auxiliary Bishop Joseph F. Donnelly of Hartford, Conn., said they were cause for optimism. Religious News Service reports that nearly half of the 22.6 million black Americans are members of churches affiliated with three major black Baptist conventions. The third largest Protestant denomination, after the Southern Baptist Convention and the United Methodist Church, is the black National Baptist Convention which has 6.3 million members, according to Baptist World Alliance.

PEOPLE — A Jewish funeral service for famed operatic tenor Richard Tucker who died Jan. 6 was held on the stage of the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. Eulogies were delivered by Cardinal Terence Cooke; Schuyler Chapin, general manager of the Met; Rabbi Mordecai Waxman of Temple Israel, Great Neck, N.Y., and Rabbi Alvin Kleinerman of Park Synagogue, Chicago. Margaret Bush Wilson, a St. Louis lawyer, has been elected as chairman of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the first black woman to head the nation's oldest civil rights organization. An apparent attempt to assassinate black civil rights leader Jesse Jackson was thwarted by two off duty officers who subdued an armed man before he could fire a shot. Jackson was at a meeting of People United to Save Humanity in Chicago when a suspect rose from his seat, pointed a revolver at Jackson and shouted that his mission was to kill anyone helping black people. The man, a black, was subdued by the off-duty officer.

THE SLOT MAN

Carmen Viglucci

Fire, besides its obvious harm, also has a disturbing psychological effect. Even when arson is involved, those victimized by a fire, homeowner or businessman, often have a lurking feeling of guilt as if there were something that could have been done to prevent the blaze, that could have saved the house the shop, or whatever. There is no real basis for this yet it is haunting.

When it is a business that must produce its work on a daily basis, such as the Daily Record which was hit by fire last Wednesday, the depression must be quickly put aside so that concentration will be on the day's work. With remarkable flexibility, good spirit, and high professionalism, the management and staff of the Daily Record bounced back quickly on the very day of the destruction and did not miss an edition.

We at the Courier-Journal were fortunate in that we were able to help a fellow publication in distressed straits. Our general manager, Anthony J. Costello, arrived on the scene on the below-freezing morning of the fire and immediately offered the facilities of the Courier-Journal to the Daily Record until it could get back on its feet.

So later in the morning, the Record staff moved into our advertising offices and im-

mediately plunged into the routine work of "getting out the paper." We were able to offer the warm cup of typewriters, telephone service, paper, typesetting equipment and computers (the same kind used by the Record).

Others also helped. Daily Record president and publisher Johnson D. Hay and editor Roger Gorman reported offers of help from many sources, including other printing houses and news publications.

One professional brother did not come through. The Daily Record, which does not employ a photographer, did not get any photos of the fire for its edition that day. Gorman tried to get an extra one from the Gannett Newspapers but was informed that the publishing Goliath considered the 2,500-circulation legal newspaper "a competitor" and would not let it use any of its photos.

We have a feeling that the big shots at the Gannett chain would not make such an unneighborly decision and that the company will do what it can to assist. Still at the peak of emergency when any little help means so much more, some officious underling must have surmised that the prevailing sentiment at Gannett would be to say no.

Regardless, the Daily Record maintained its tradition of never missing an edition and by so doing merits the respect of its readers and the business community.

Pending final assessments, one of the great losses to the fire may be Gorman's list of odd names. The collection represents a 20-year hobby with Gorman and some 20 typewritten pages, single-spaced, of names such as Horsely Outerbridge and Sir Dingle Foot. Hopefully, the lists will be salvaged.

Priests Council Okays Bulk of Retirement Plan

By MOLLY JUDGE

During the last meeting of the fourth Diocesan Priests' Council at Becket Hall, the Priests' Retirement Plan was accepted with the exception of a clause dealing with a mandatory retirement age which was tabled for further discussion.

The new plan which was presented by Father Charles Bennett stipulates that an annual assessment from parishes and institutions employing a priest be raised from the present \$600 to \$1,000 beginning July 1, 1975. Retired priests will now be entitled to a maximum benefit of \$300 per month. This figure will not affect the Social Security pension but pensions from other organizations, such as military, government or an educational institution, will be combined with the priest pension and cannot exceed the allotted amount.

An amendment specifying that a morally responsible investment policy of the assessment monies be added to the Priests' Retirement Committee's responsibilities was included in the proposal.

As an initial response to the world food crisis, the council adopted a resolution from the Social Action Committee. The resolution stated that each parish Human Development Committee, if one exists, or another appropriate committee assume the responsibility for its parish's response to the crisis. The Office of Human Development will be mobilized as the crisis resource center for the diocese and develop effective presentations on the situation. "We must realize that this is only an initial response and that the world food shortage will be a serious

problem in years to come," said Father John Mulligan, chairman of the committee.

Father James Hewes has volunteered to represent the Priests' Council at the February meeting of the state Human Life Committee. Father John McDonald will be the council's representative during the conflict resolution meeting of the Sister's Maintenance proposal this month.

A report from the Diocesan Office of Planning was delivered by Father Peter Bayer. Father Bayer said that the Rochester Diocese will sign a contract with Felix M. Lopez and Associates in order to implement Phase One and Two of the proposed goal-setting program. The program will establish a system of priorities in the Diocese. Phase One primarily deals with establishing tentative diocesan purpose and goals for one year beginning May 1975. To test the viability of the program, Phase Two encompasses 10 prototype parishes chosen by the regional coordinators from September 1975 to June 1976.

Reports on the La Paz Mission, the Nursing Home Program and the Joint Role Clarification Committee were presented to the council. Father Joseph Reinhart, director of the Diocesan Missions Office, congratulated the Sisters of St. Joseph on their 10th anniversary of mission work in Brazil. Father Reinhart also delivered a progress report on the commission which was organized to investigate the Latin American missions. The commission is presently looking into the feasibility of sending additional missionaries to La Paz or similar missions and evaluating their performance. Currently, the La Paz mission is being operated by lay people who were trained as catechists by Rochester missionaries. Father Reinhart deemed the La Paz experiment without missionaries successful and indicated that three Bolivians have expressed their desire to enter the priesthood.

Sister Judith Reger of the Office of Human Development reported on the task force designed to evaluate regional

workshops on nursing and domiciliary care homes. The workshops have been poorly attended, she said. As a result, the council recommended that regional coordinators make reports to the June Priests' Council meeting concerning the nursing homes and domiciliaries in their region and that the Task Force issue a single page of guidelines to be used by the regions in their reports.

A progress report of the Joint Role Clarification Committee outlined the specific questions being considered by the committee. Among the considerations is a refinement of the over-all mechanics of Process A and the definition of specific responsibilities of each consultative body for creating and enforcing diocesan policy.

The council urged that the diocese appoint a task force to evaluate the present practice of administering the sacrament of confirmation. The task force would study the required age of receiving confirmation along with all other aspects of the sacrament.

Father Paul McCabe resigned from the council as a symbol of protest. Father McCabe felt that the vote to increase priest's salaries during the December meeting was a violation of parliamentary procedure. According to Father McCabe, the council should have listened to the recommendation of the Personnel Finance Committee to increase the annual wage \$60 and then discussed it with their blocks before voting. Both the report and the vote occurred during the same meeting in which Father McCabe was absent.

Bishop Joseph L. Hogan, who attended the final meeting, expressed gratitude to the members of the council and hoped that more priests would become involved in diocesan government by accepting nominations to the body. "I am greatly impressed with the accomplishments of the council considering the tremendous amount of work involved. The list of accomplishments is very impressive," he said.



MISS OLOWO

Woman Named Ambassador To Vatican

Vatican City [RNS] — In a precedent-shattering move, Pope Paul has accepted the nomination of a woman as an ambassador to the Vatican. The pontiff agreed to receive the credentials of Bernadette Olowo, 27, named by President Idi Amin as Uganda's envoy to the Holy See.

The Pope's decision breaks what is believed to be a 900-year-old unwritten tradition barring women from becoming official representatives at the Vatican. Miss Olowo, a secretary in Uganda's embassy in Bonn, will also serve as ambassador to West Germany, where she will reside. Roman Catholics in Uganda number about 3.5 million out of a total population of 10,764,000.

STRING ENSEMBLE

A senior citizens' string ensemble will be developed by the Barley School of Music at the branch to be opened Jan. 25 in Brighton. The new studio at 2541 Monroe Ave. will be accessible by elevator. Information on the ensemble and on the schedule of lessons may be obtained from the main school in Fairport, telephone 377-1220.

The term of the Fourth Priests' Council ended this January. The following is a list of accomplishments and projects acted upon during its two years.

Accomplishments:

- (1) Priests' Council Finance Committee Proposal: salaries increased.
- (2) Sisters' Maintenance and Salary Proposal: salaries increased.
- (3) Planning Office Proposal approved.
- (4) Concepts of Religious Orders staffing the parishes in the 70's and '80's and of Pastoral Assistants approved.
- (5) Revision of Priests' Council Constitution initiated and completed.
- (6) Clarification of the council role in relation to the bishop, and participation in the role clarification process of the consultative bodies.
- (7) Fund Development Office approved.
- (8) Social Action Committee formed and functioning.
- (9) Better understanding of La Paz Mission as well as constant communication leading to orderly disengagement of personnel from La Paz!
- (10) New Marriage Guidelines approved (evaluation due 3-75).
- (11) Nursing Home Guidelines approved (regional implementation now in process).
- (12) Active support for St. Mary's Hospital re future of obstetrical facility.
- (13) Retired Priests' Pension Program established.

Programs Approved, But in Conflict Resolution:

- (1) Concept of Justice and Peace Ministry — mechanism to be determined.
- (2) Sisters' Maintenance (with Council's amendment).
- (3) Constitution for the Pastoral Council.
- (4) Pastoral Assistants' Proposal — setting up guidelines.

Diocesan Programs:

- (1) Reactivation of the Ecumenical Commission.
- (2) Goal-Setting for the diocese.
- (3) Better relationship with Council of Inner-City Parishes (CICP).

Incomplete:

- (1) Permanent Diaconate
- (2) Goal-setting for the diocese, although endorsed, not yet carried through.
- (3) Long-range ministerial needs.