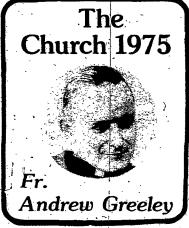


Fall Signup

Registration for the pre-school at Annunciation, 1787 Norton St., is under way. The program is based on play with a purpose in a creative environment. For information, telephone 342-



The "Hartford Theses" mark the end of romantic radicalism in American Protestantism.
Characteristically, just as our separated brothers abandon it, we Catholics embrace it with unqualified enthusiasm.

Still second best. And still, like Avis, trying harder

The group that Peter Berger and Richard Neuhaus gonvened Hartford broken has definitively with all the mush that slopped around in the 1960'ssecular Christianity, political eschatology, pop psychology. They also have rejected the principled anti-intellectualism which spread from these movements and infected the charismatics and the new fundamentalists. Religion is important, says the Hartford gang, and so are ideas. The impact of the "Theses" on American Protestants is already very great. They have been looking for along time for a way to get out swamp.

Catholics are now blithely heading into that swamp. A very distinguished historian remarked to me apropos of the phony hearings" staged by the Center of Concern and the NCCB in Washington recently, "Those people still think we're living in the 1960s." On to the quicksand, fellows and girls!

And how strategically placed was the quicksand! The Third World spokespeople, whose plane fares to the "hearings" were paid for by the NCCB, got top billing. By the time the "commissions" got around to the people from the neighborhoods, including real blacks, Latinos, and American Indians (most of whom are ethnics and neighborhood people like the rest of us), there wasn't any time left to listen to them. Sorry about that, Geno, the Center for Concern people came first. If there's any time left we'll listen to the representatives of the ordinary Catholics who are picking up the tab for this freak show.

The romantic radicals have not only captured the bicentennial, they are dominating the Year of Reconciliation in many parts of the Church. Reconciliation to them means not buying gas from Exxon because it is national." How do we know what a "multi-national" is? Why we read about it in the "New Yorker." Where else do you find out about the complexities of international economics?

Reconciliation I means hating America, loving socialism and abasing yourself before the incompetence of the Third World, including, I presume that quintessential Third World leader, General Amin. (Come to think of it, I wonder if the romantic radicals have ever heard of Ceneral Amin.) Reconciliation means attacking, denouncing, demanding, screeching, confessing, confronting. It means, seeting yourself up in prophetic judgment on your fellow citizens without the credentials of either sound theology or informed economics. It's what you feel that counts.

In the immortal words of Sheridan Whiteside, "I may

A major achievement in the wild-eyed, messianic variety of romantic radicalism was Sister Neale's plea at the Washington hearings for an American 'theology of relinquishment" to match the Third World's "theology of liberation." For sheer incompetence in both theology and economics, this notion sets a standard which will be unsurpassed for a long time.

- There is one point of similarity between the two "theologies" - liberation and relinquishment although I doubt that the good sister would like it. According to the reports I get, almost no one in Latin America takes liberation theology seriously. The Latins are astonished that we listen to it. No one here will take a theology of relinquishment seriously either. But that doesn't stop the NCCB from spending money to give people a platform from which to spout such drivel.

Once again, my friends, into the mush. And never mind if we turn off our people and blow what little credibility we still have. If we keep trying we may still catch up to our betters.

And in the middle of the swamp there is a sign that says, "Hartford: 1,000 miles." The sign points in the direction from which we came.

# **Burglars Take** Bingo Receipts

last week and made off with more \* than \$2,000 in Bingo receipts. They also took the heavy safe. that held the money.

Police said the burglary was committed sometime between Sunday noon and 8 a.m.: Monday, March 17. The thieves entered by

Elmira — Thieves broke into a breaking a window and lowering building at St. Casimir's parish themselves nine feet down a fan Vent into a recreation room. They left by the door. Gouges in the lawn indicated that they moved the safe, presumably to a waiting truck, by turning it end-over-end until they reached the street, police said. All locked cabinets in the club room had been pried open, and a small quantity of

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## New Law Extends Distance For High School Busers

**Brockport** — A recent change in the state education law will have a profound effect on students who wish to attend Catholic high schools next year, according to Sister Carole Proia, principal of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary School here.

The change in the law ups the distance school districts are required to transport students from 10 to 15 miles. The Brock-port Central School District has further ruled that persons from throughout the district wishing to attend Cardinal Mooney High School may be bused there.

The only stipulation is that parents file a request for such transportation on or before April

In other parts of the diocese, persons not living in a city school district also are eligible fortransportation to a parochial or private school not more than 15 miles from their homes.

The distance is measured, in the words of the law, "by the nearest available route from home to school



RICHARD EVANS

## Evans Elected To Hospital Board

Elmira — The Directors of St. Joseph's Hospital recently elected Richard H. Evans a member of the Board of Directors.

He is president of Charles F. Evans Co., Inc. Evans is a past president of the Chemung Valley Builders Association and a trustee of the Elmira Savings Bank.

He is immediate past president of United Community Services of Chemung County and past president of the Chemung County Chamber of Commerce. His many activities include the Elmira Rotary Club, Glove House, New Way Association, Board of Cooperative Educational Services and the Chemung County Solid Waste Disposal District.

Evans is vice-president of the Elmira city club and a past elder and trusee of the First Presbyterian Church of Elmira.

### CHOIR TO PERFORM

The Nazareth College Chamber Choir, directed by Sister Barbara Staropoli, SSJ, will perform in the second annual Festival of the Nations in Washington, D.C., in May.

liquor and eight cartons of cigarets were missing.

Although there is a fire station. next door to the church property, the event apparently attracted no one's attention, police reported.

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