



From Courier-Journal Services

The Rules Committee of the Missouri House of Representatives voted 3-1 in favor of a federal anti-abortion convention designed to amend the U.S. Constitution. The matter now goes to the House. The State Senate already voted 24-8 in favor of the measure. In St. Paul, Minn., the Council of Catholic Women has joined the Priests Senate in supporting a bill to rescind Minnesota's ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). The council, an organization of 180 women's groups with 20,000 members, thus parted company with two groups of archdiocesan nuns on the issue. An attorney in the right-to-life movement, Martin McKernan Jr., told a conference on medical-moral issues in Convent Station, N.J., that the U.S. Supreme Court decision permitting abortion paved the way for compulsory euthanasia. He said that in the future people could question whether drug addicts, alcoholics, the senile, the very old are capable of "meaningful life."

Mother Teresa of Calcutta has been proposed for the 1975 Nobel Peace Prize. The Albanian nun founded the Missionaries of Charity in 1950 to work among the "poorest of the poor." Thomas P. Melady, former U.S. ambassador to Uganda, has charged that under the four-year rule of President Idi Amin, the East African nation has become a "horror chamber" with 80,000 slain. The Rome-based Knights of Malta is completing construction of a hospital in Teheran, Iran. A survey directed by a Catholic sociologist shows that the Church has been losing members at the rate of 250,000 a year and is securing fewer converts now than at any time in its history.

The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service has resumed the airlift of Vietnamese children to the U.S. As of April 17, 1,650 children had been processed and there was concern that the 2,000 limit had been passed. Gov. Christopher Bond of Missouri will review charges by Catholic bishops that the State Board of Education exercises hostility against nonpublic students and teachers.

The New Orleans archdiocese has leased the Louisiana Superdome for a massive Holy Year rally on Sept. 7, featuring Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen as the main speaker. Although the Superdome will not be finished at that time it reportedly will be ready to accommodate the rally. The resignation of Dr. Arthur S. Flemming as chairman of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission has been urged by critics of the commission's recent report opposing constitutional amendments banning abortion. Ray L. White, executive director of the National Right to Life Committee and a Mormon asked for the resignation of Dr. Flemming for "unfairly characterizing the life and death issues involved and by attempting to influence the President and Congress with a partial and inaccurate report." And on the same subject, Rep. Henry J. Hyde of Illinois asked Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, president of Notre Dame and the former chairman of the Civil Rights Commission, to "publicly repudiate the report."

Concert Slated

By DICK BAUMBACH
[734-1982]

Elmira — If last year is a prelude of what's to come this year, St. Patrick's Church should be filled Sunday, May 4, at 4 p.m., when the 40-voice parish choir from St. Mary our Mother Church, Horseheads, presents its second annual Spring Concert.

Father David E. Fedor, associate pastor of the Horseheads church, said last year 400 persons turned out for the first concert.

"From all indications it looks like we may be doubling that number this year. We are really looking forward to this opportunity," Father Fedor said.

The concert will consist of music for chorus, organ, brass and percussion. Works included will

be from Bach, Sowerby, Gabrielli and others.

Father Fedor said the concert will be a mixture of contemporary and traditional religious music.

Father Fedor, who leads the choir, has been a student of the Eastman School of Music. From 1962-1971 he was associated with the music department at St. Bernard's Seminary as organist and music director. As a recitalist he has given a number of organ concerts and performed at several radio broadcasts.

David Jackson, a graduate of Ithaca College School of music, will be the organist at the upcoming event.

Jackson has given major recitals in Ithaca, Elmira and the National Shrine in Washington, D.C.

Father Fedor said there will be no admission, a free-will offering will be accepted. The public is invited.

Homell News

FUN FAIR

Homell — St. Ignatius Parish will hold a Fun-Fair June 13 and 14. Usable items are need for the White Elephant Sale.

ROSARY, ALTAR

Bath — Father Gerard Guli, pastor of St. Stanislaus in Bradford and St. Joseph in Campbell, will speak at the May 7 Rosary and Altar Society of St. Mary's Church.

CABRINI DINNER

The Mother Cabrini Circle will sponsor a smorgasbord dinner Sunday, May 4 from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. at Montgomery Neighborhood Center. The dinner is a fund raising project to provide scholarships for black students attending Catholic high schools. Fourteen students now receive scholarships from the Mother Cabrini Circle. Tickets are \$2.50 for adults and \$1.25 for children under 12.

Full Food Production Urged by Catholic Agency

Washington, D.C. [RNS] — Full production of food by American agriculture is "morally and ethically" essential at a time when food shortages mean starvation for millions abroad and at home, an agency of the U.S. Catholic Conference said in a wide-ranging statement on the U.S. domestic food policy.

At the same time, the statement stressed the "particular responsibility" of the Catholic Church with regard to the food crisis because "we look upon feeding the hungry as a requirement in justice."

Tying the statement to "Food Day", (April 17) the USCC's Department of Social Development and World Peace said it was urging Catholics "to deepen their understanding of the food crisis and commit themselves to continued reflection and action to feed the hungry both here and abroad."

Noting that response by Catholics to a pastoral plan of action on hunger issued by the U.S. bishops has been "widespread and significant," the USCC statement said the "grave international consequences of food shortages must be a continuing concern of the American people."

"However," it added, "we must not neglect the very serious food

and nutrition needs in our country."

Termining the development of a comprehensive food policy "an urgent priority for the nation," the statement said that whatever form the policy takes it must "work toward full production, equitable distribution and price stability. At a time when world food shortages mean starvation for millions, a U.S. agricultural policy of full production is absolutely essential."

Observing that there are more than 37 million poor people in the U.S., most of whom receive insufficient nutrition, the statement called for increases in the family food stamp program but opposed any increases in the price of food stamps. "Appropriate steps should be taken to guarantee that the benefits of the program go to those who are actually in need," it stated.

The statement called for the extension and improvement of free lunch, free breakfast and special milk programs for children, the continuation and expansion of the protein supplement program for low-income women, infants and children, and full implementation of the Older Americans Act which provides for food aid to the elderly.

It also called on the government to encourage schools and

other institutions "to provide broader programs in practical nutrition education" as an essential part of a "national policy against hunger and malnourishment."

Turning to ownership of the food production system, the USCC statement cited as a "disturbing phenomenon" the increase in "corporate controlled agriculture."

"We support an agricultural system based on widespread ownership of resources and the means of production," the statement emphasized. "Legislation is needed now to inhibit further encroachment upon agriculture by non-farm corporations and to insure that our land is kept in the hands of those who work it."

Finally, the statement declared that "in light of present food needs, farmers must be encouraged to produce to full capacity. To cut back on production in the face of unmet world needs would be morally and ethically untenable."

At the same time, the statement said farmers must be protected through a system of equitable "target prices" that would assure farmers a fair return on their investment and labor.

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