

From Courier-Journal Services

Dr. Mildred Jefferson, president of the National Right to Life Committee, said in Colorado Springs that she felt the decision in the Karen Quinlan case should have been a medical, rather than a legal one. Dr. Jefferson, a Methodist and the first black woman to graduate from Harvard Medical School, agreed with the judge's ruling that Miss Quinlan should remain on life support systems but said the case shouldn't have come to the court's attention, saying the decision should have been made by doctors. The Rev. Theodore Conklin, former associate general secretary of the New York State Council of Churches died Dec. 28 at the age of 74. Pope Paul VI has named Auxiliary Bishop Raymond A. Lucker of St. Paul-Minneapolis to be the new bishop of New Ulm, Minn., replacing Bishop Alphonse Schladweiler who is retiring at 73.

Father Robert Campbell, SJ, who is stationed in Lebanon, has strongly criticized the "arms merchants" who are feeding the strife between Christian and Muslims there. A member of the Jesuit Boston Province, Father Campbell attributes the condition in Lebanon directly to arms dealers in the United States and elsewhere, who he says are growing rich on violence in the Middle East. The president of the Synagogue Council of America has called on Pope Paul VI to express his opposition to those Palestinian aspirations which seek Israel's destruction. Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein was referring to a papal statement Dec. 22 urging Israel "to recognize the rights and legitimate aspirations" of the Palestinians. . . . And according to the 1976 American Jewish Yearbook, the world Jewish population has reached 14,230,000, an increase of about 1 million over the past 10 years.

Talk about Church and State! In Denver, the Catholic archdiocese has purchased a six-story downtown office building and among its tenants is the office of the Central Intelligence Agency. According to Newsprint, an ecumenical newsletter, the World Council of Churches meeting in Kenya last month endorsed a resolution urging continuation of the Status Quo of the Holy Places in Jerusalem. This is an agreement between Christian communities and civil power in control of Jerusalem which provides for governance of the use of the holy places. Newsprint also reports that Archbishop Nguyen Van Binh of Saigon in his Christmas message, called on all Catholics to help their countrymen in building an independent and reunified Vietnam. The first Christmas midnight Mass in many years at the Saigon cathedral took place. Both the Thieu regime and the new Communist government had a curfew which was relaxed for the occasion.

Christian Unity Week Scheduled Jan. 18-25

Graymoor, N.Y. — For one week beginning Sunday, Jan. 18, Christian Churches throughout the country and the world will come together in a variety of ways to pray for unity.

It will be the 68th consecutive observance of the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and Christians will be deliberately stepping aside from denominational and confessional differences to assess the health and vitality of the ecumenical movement and to unite in prayerful anticipation of the day when, according to the prayer of Jesus, "all will be one."

The theme for the 1976 observance, "We shall be like Him," is taken from the First Epistle of St. John and recalls the basic Christian hope for the future. The theme was selected by the Graymoor Ecumenical Institute, with headquarters here, and the Faith and Order Commission of the National Council of Churches.

Describing the Christian's hope as "an intensely personal one in an age when impersonalism and

anonymity prevail," Father Arthur F. Gouthro, SA, director of the Graymoor Ecumenical Institute, said that "non-personal solutions to our problems of alienation and conflict" have led to skepticism. He suggested looking instead "to the person of Jesus for new understandings and renewed strength for living."

"Weary and tired with our efforts to bring about unity among the churches," Father Gouthro said, "we enter the Week of Prayer as a welcome oasis on our ecumenical pilgrimage where we can stop, rest a while, regain our vision and move forward on our way."

"The journey is marked out for the churches," Father Gouthro said, "not primarily through institutional and structural mergers and unions, but through the power of the promises God has given to us in Jesus Christ."

"Because Jesus Christ has come among us, today's divisions and alienations can become tomorrow's fleeting memories of a past which has been transformed and renewed."

Costello Dies; Was Eire Premier

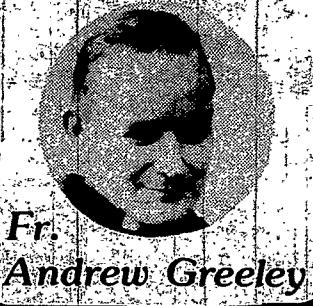
Dublin [RNS] — John A. Costello, who served two terms as prime minister of Ireland, died here Jan. 5 of cancer. He was 84.

A leader of Fine Gael, or United Ireland Party, Mr. Costello headed Ireland's first coalition government from 1948 to 1951, returning to office for another three years, from 1954 to 1957.

During his first term as prime minister, his government withdrew from the British Commonwealth and set up an independent Irish Republic.

He strongly favored reunification of the republic with the six counties of Northern Ireland, but equally strongly denounced efforts by elements of the Irish Republican Army to achieve the goal by force of arms.

The Church 1976



Fr. Andrew Greeley

One of the great tragedies of the post-conciliar era was the failure to integrate the research scholarship of the American Catholic universities into the task of implementing the council. Indeed, as far as conciliar experts in post-conciliar application, the leadership of the American church apparently did not realize there were Catholic universities.

Now, finally, a number of bishops and college presidents gathered recently at Notre Dame to discuss the state of American Catholicism. It is an ancient military maneuver which Napoleon called locking the barn door after the horse got out. You blow the post-conciliar era and gather to talk about it afterward.

I don't blame this failure on the bishops nearly as much as I blame it on the universities. I note in the list of participants at the meeting there is not a single scholar who has done empirical research on the church in the United States. You can depend on it. If the Catholic university presidents had any, such men, they would have trotted them out for the meeting. They don't — and to make matters worse, they don't think they need any.

Back in the middle sixties a team of National Opinion Research Center staff members did a study of Catholic colleges and universities — a quite favorable report, by the way. We pointed out that there was a broad range of specifically Catholic subjects on which the Catholic universities could most appropriately do first-class research for internal Catholic problems and for the wider scholarly community.

Catholic theology, Catholic thought, Catholic education, Catholic liturgical and mystical symbols, religious socialization, American Catholic history, the response of Catholics to the Vatican Council — all of these would have been of interest to both the world of scholarship and to those responsible for practical programming in the American church.

Virtually no one in the Catholic universities has touched any of these issues. Indeed, the American Catholic universities have not managed to put together a single first-rate theology department. Most of the best Catholic theologians are on the faculties of non-Catholic schools — in great part because the Catholic universities are not able to protect them from episcopal interference.

Notre Dame, which hosted the wake for American Catholicism, is an excellent case in point. In 1966, when we were working on our study of Catholic universities, everyone on campus was talking of Notre Dame becoming a "Catholic Princeton." Being a first-rate Catholic Notre Dame, apparently, was not enough.

Father Hesburgh has become one of the leaders of the Catholic world. Unfortunately, the Notre Dame faculty has not even tried to keep up with him. In addition to adding to the post-season woes of Bear Bryant and installing co-eds on campus, Notre Dame's principal contribution to the post-conciliar era has been the vehemently anti-intellectual charismatic renewal — which now seems to be leading people out of the church in growing numbers.

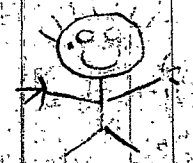
K of C Pledges \$100,000 For Congress Altar

New Haven, Conn. [RNS] — The Knights of Columbus have pledged to contribute \$100,000 toward the construction of an altar in Veterans Stadium, Philadelphia, that will be used for special Masses at the 41st International Eucharistic Congress next August.

Supreme Knight John W. McDewitt announced that the Roman Catholic fraternal organization's Supreme Council agreed to the gift after discussions with Cardinal John Krol of Philadelphia, chairman of the Congress board of governors.

A triangular altar, designed by Peter H. Frink and Robert J. Beuchat, Philadelphia architects, will be symbolic of the Holy Trinity and reflect the emblem of the Congress — two stylized hands hold the Sacred Host. The altar will rest on an 8,100-square-foot platform that will nearly cover the stadium's baseball diamond.

McDewitt noted that the Knights have been involved in plans for the Congress (Aug. 1-8) since the formation of the board of governors to supervise its organization and activities.



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