

Church Doctrine Can't Be Accommodating -- Archbishop

Washington, D.C. [RNS] Arch-bishop William W. Baum of Washington was critical of a survey which suggested that Pope Paul's encylical on birth control had caused the Catholic Ghurch to-lose credibility among its members in the U.S.

The archbishop, responding to a. survey headed by Father Andrew M. Greeley of the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago, said that no matter how unpopular a teaching of the Church is it must not ac-commodate itself to what people think it should be

Archbishop Baum acknowledged that for many Catholics there is a problem of acceptance of the Church's teaching on bitth control — namely that no artificiallyinduced controls are to be used.

"At every age, at every moment in the Church's life, many of its members have had problems with the teachings of the Church," the archbishop said, "The Church, though, must be faithful to its understanding of the Gospel, of its vision of Cod's plan. It cannot, in the interest of accommodation, change its doctrine.

"In other words," he said, "the acculturation of Catholics in the United States to American mores is: something which is not an unmixed blessing, and the Church, as the community of faith, should not be expected to accommodate to the mores of any nation of any

He said that the "teaching office" of the Catholic Church has the responsibility of transmitting what is believed to be divine revelation to the Church membership.

"Any question of doctrine must be submitted finally to the teaching office of the Church, and that is what I think every believing Catholic accepts and is obliged to accept — that lafter debate, study and reflection, there is the voice of the teaching office to guide us," the archbishop said. "We believe this is a gift which Christ has left us, without which we could easily go astray."

School

Continued from Page 1

oversees the operation of the current five Catholic schools in Elmira which run on a consolidated basis.

The decision to close Ss. Peterand Paul was made after the board spent 5 hours and 45 minutes discussing and depating the fate of the school system for the 1976-77 school year. The consolidated system is facing problems similar to. those in the public school-system declining enrollments and rising costs.



taff members of the Genesee Settlement House are protesting the way the house is being operated. They carried their protest to the Catholic Charities office March 23 by picketing outside.

Settlement House Staff Protests Its Administration

Staff members of the Cenesee Settlement House picketed the Catholic Charities office Tuesday, March 23, to protest the ad-ministration of the settlement. house. The 10 marchers walked in front of the 50 Chestnut St. location of the office for most of the afternoon:

A lack of communication is the center of the staff members' protest. They cite requests made for improvements in the 10 Dake St. location of the settlement-house, and for more heat in the Day Care Center that they say were ignored. They also protested the allegedly forced resignation of the former executive director Richard Williams.

The Genesee Settlement House is under way.

operated through its own board by Catholic Charities. The board of the house has control over hiring and firing, and the management of the operations, while Catholic Charities is the sponsoring organization. Funding comes from the Social Services, from per diem payments for the adolescents living at the home, and from the Community-Chest

Father Joseph D'Aurizio, director of Catholic Charities, says that he. feels the problems at the House can be corrected, and that procedures to do that are under way. He points out that the protestors want him to take immediate action, and to investigate the situation. He feels that the investigation needs to be done first, and says it already is

The study also claimed that the Continued from Page 1 attendance, daily prayer, support for a son becoming a priest, and three quarters of the decline in financial contributions can be accounted for by a combination of the erosion of acceptance of the Church's feaching on birth control and divorce and a weakening in the willingness of Catholics to accept. papal authority according to papal accordin

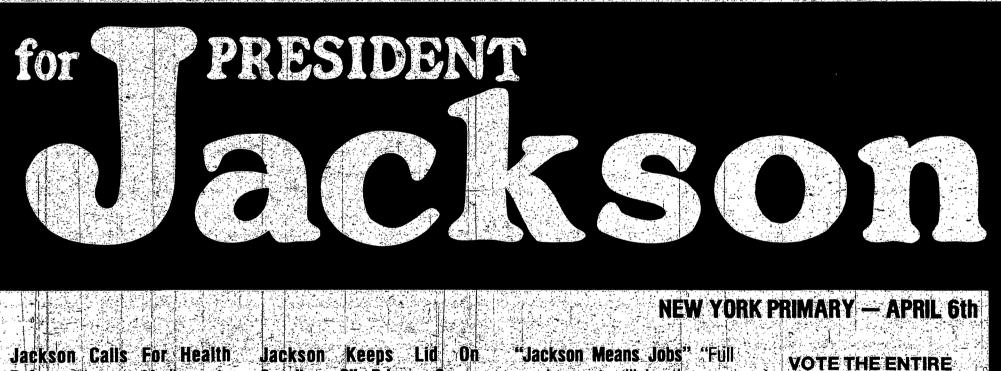
NORC Study

He said fit is rare for a social. researcher to explain a correlation completely, but this turns out to be one of those rare cases. Support for the Vatican Council correlates positively with religious devotion." he added, and the birth control "The encyclical turned off precisely position and decline in respect for those people who were most likely papal authority accounts for the to want their sons to become whole deterioration.

most serious problem for the Church may be the decline in support for priestly vocations in the family, traced once again, it said, to disillusionment caused by the 1968 papal encyclical

1963, he said, 88 per cent of Irish families favored priestly vocations; in 1974, that percentage had fallen. to 44 per cent - six points below. the national average.

Father Greeley concluded that-



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