



Black Rhodesian Workers Murdered

The bodies of 27 plantation workers in Rhodesia are viewed by wives and families after the workers were rounded up and shot down by nationalist guerrillas operating in the Inyanga mountains near the Mosambique border. Rhodesian security forces said the guerrillas took the workers from one tea estate to another and then massacred them. (RNS)

Tuition Break At Nazareth

A new policy at Nazareth College will enable those 60 and older to audit undergraduate continuing education courses for less than half the tuition paid by regular students.

Elaine Halden, Nazareth director of Continuing Education, said the new policy will permit older students to audit the undergraduate courses at a tuition cost of \$95 plus a \$5 registration fee. The regular charge for auditing a three-credit course is \$195.

Although not required to take any of the course examinations, students who audit courses are expected to keep up with the work assigned and participate fully in class discussions.

The new policy will take effect in the Spring semester which will begin Jan. 17. For registration information, the Continuing Education office

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competent scholars than with incompetent ones.

But still it was a tragedy. At some stage in the game, the leadership of the Catholic Church in the United States is simply going to have to make up its mind that it will have to do research on the present state of the Church and of the Catholic population.

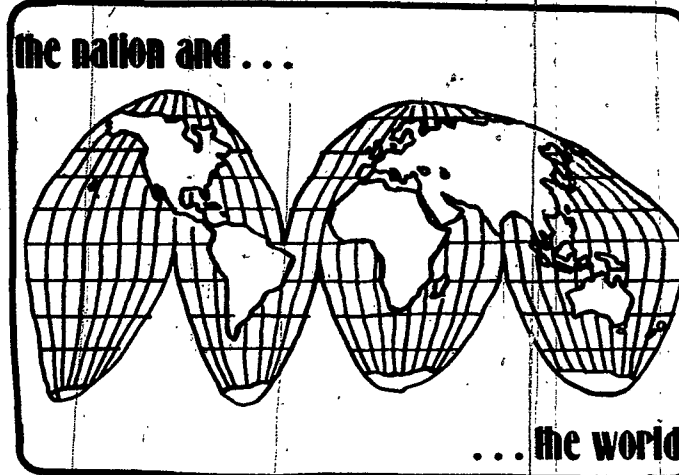
The argument used against the McManus plan — that the Church couldn't afford it — is the very opposite of the truth. In fact, the Church cannot afford not to do it; it cannot continue to go on making major decisions that will have a profound effect on the future life of its people while groping around in the dark.

If the Church could afford the craziness of the Detroit "call for action," it can certainly afford sensible and careful self-study. So while my life is made easier by not having to worry about some bureaucratic nonentity with a fat bankroll, the work of the Church is made harder by the postponement of a decision to take serious research seriously.

There is also, I think, a deeper and more serious problem. The American hierarchy is rapidly changing. (I have even sworn off attacking them.) The appointment of Bishop McManus to Fort Wayne-South Bend and Bishop Cosgrove to Belleville this summer was a major turning point, and I think will be so interpreted in years ahead. But the new, pastorally-oriented bishops of the Jadot years are going to need ideas, since they will not be able, as some of their predecessors are, to fall back on the notes they memorized in their seminary classrooms. The critical question is where will they get their ideas? If they put money into bad scholarship and rotten research, they will drive good scholarship and competent research out of the ecclesiastical marketplace.

I must quickly point out that I do not think such was Bishop McManus's intention. On the contrary, I count him one of the great bishops of the country, and think his promotion to Fort Wayne-South Bend was one of the best appointments in the hierarchy in the last 15 years.

Furthermore, given the proclivity of the USCC for searching out not only immature scholars but mediocre ones, I could readily foresee the possibility that my colleagues and I would be forced to defend ourselves against the same kind of people who reviewed our study for many Catholic journals, those who lacked the skills to comprehend the methodologies we used. It is far easier to defend your work in dialogue with

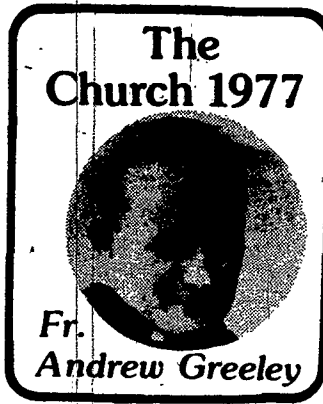


More than 60,000 persons are expected to attend the 1977 Conference on Charismatic Renewal, an ecumenical gathering of charismatic Christians in South Bend, Ind., slated for late July. For the first time the conference will be billed as ecumenical rather than non-denominational. Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment during 1977 "looks promising," according to the Religious Committee for the ERA. Thirty-eight of the states must ratify the amendment before it can become part of the constitution. Sister Mary Luke Tobin, S.L., chairs the committee. A layman has been named the Catholic Chaplain at Nassau Community College in Uniondale, N.Y. Married and the father of a six-year-old child, Gene Zirkel is the first layman to be named to such a post in the Diocese of Rockville Centre. The U.S. Catholic bishops' Committee for Pro-Life Activities has issued a four-page brochure attacking the Supreme Court's 1973 abortion rulings and calling for passage of a constitutional amendment to protect the unborn.

As reports surfaced in Santiago, Chile, of the disappearance of eight recently arrested Chilean leftists, a Red Cross official in Geneva said the organization was planning to terminate its activities on behalf of political prisoners in Chile because of the improvement of human rights conditions there. Alexander Hay, president of the International Committee of the Red Cross told reporters that while there are still between 700 and 800 political prisoners in Chile their release depends largely on the willingness of other countries to accept them as refugees. Pope Paul has received the credentials of a new Zairean Ambassador to the Vatican in a move seen as evidence of the easing of tensions between the Church and State in Zaire, the papal action came shortly after President Mobutu Sese Seko returned to the church all the schools he nationalized in 1974.

House Needs Shoes
Robert Rice, father of Auburn's Father Robert Rice, has been volunteering his time and services to St. Joseph's House of Hospitality in recent months, and reported last week that there is a need for men's shoes at the charitable facility. Rice also reported that

donations of women's clothing should be brought to the depots at St. Michael's Church, St. Carmel Church and St. Bridget's Church for distribution to the needy. He noted that St. Joseph's House serves indigent men and that only men's clothing is useful to those served.



The Church 1977
Fr. Andrew Greeley

I have mixed emotions about the failure of the bishops at the meeting in Washington last month to endorse Bishop McManus's plan for a "voluntary" research fund for the serious study of Catholic education. On the one hand, I must confess a certain sigh of relief. My colleagues and I at the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) dominate the field of research of Catholic education — by default, since nobody else is seriously into it. It seemed to me to be quite reasonable to assume that the people who got to spend the money would promptly begin to attack us, if only because in the Catholic Church today, a sure way to get fame for yourself is to attack those who hold the dominant position somewhere. Research scholars, of course, don't do that sort of thing, but on the basis of previous performance, I can think of no reason to believe the U.S. Catholic Conference would hire mature scholars to do their research — if they were even capable of finding such scholars.

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