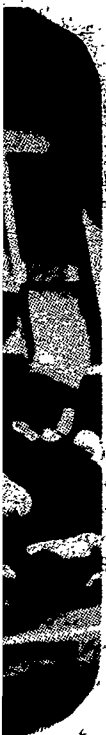


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CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE BANNED

Tension escalates in South Africa, where government "bans" against apartheid critics restricts them even from speaking in small groups. This controversial placard symbolizes the plight of the Christian Institute of Southern Africa, which has been silenced by government decree. The Institute has been an arch critic of the government's racist policies and was considered one of the country's most effective Christian voices. (RNS)

Vatican 'Laments' Failure, Of Helsinki Action

Vatican City (RNS) — Vatican Radio, marking the fifth anniversary of the convening of the Helsinki Conference on European Security and Cooperation, lamented the lack of implementation of the conference's human rights initiatives, and cited the denial of religious freedom, in some countries.

"Now, at two years' distance from the signing of the final Helsinki treaty," Vatican Radio said, "one cannot but notice that the obligations assumed by the states attending the conference require much more incisive action to put it into practice.

"The exercise of religious freedom, in particular, in some countries can hardly be said to be guaranteed. In certain cases it is even denied, as is the case of some Catholic communities of the Eastern Rites... who have lost their civil right to exist due to new juridical political provisions laid down since World War II."

"The Ukrainian rite is an example of an entire Church being absorbed by another Church according to a political mandate. It was declared non-existent by Soviet authorities who recognized only the state-controlled Ukrainian Orthodox Church."

The Vatican broadcast said, however, that "something has moved in peoples' consciences and it is right to hope that what has not yet been done will

be done within the next few years."

"The 'final act' of the Helsinki conference cannot be considered a magic wand, capable of working miracles of an instantaneous and integral modification of decades-old historical backwardness and ideological hostility," the broadcast declared. "Nor however can it be considered a simple affirmation of no consequence."

Vatican Radio said the Helsinki accords, now being updated and checked for implementation at Belgrade, is an agreement freely signed by the participating states and is to be "encouraged and supported" as a force for human rights, including religious freedom.

"It is with this hope that the Holy See is now taking part in the Belgrade conference on the application of the Helsinki agreement," the broadcast said, adding the Vatican's hope that future meetings will be held to appraise and stimulate the process set in motion by the Helsinki conference.

Vatican Radio pointed out that the Vatican took part in the original conference not so much as a state but as a "center of moral irradiation" and to offer its contributions toward the solution of so many serious world problems.

The broadcast noted that particularly in line with the

Vatican's outlook was the affirmation in behalf of human rights, and particularly religious freedom spelled out in the final act of the conference as "the freedom of the individual to profess and practice, alone or with others, a religion or a credo acting in accordance with the dictates of his own conscience."

"This is the spirit in which the Holy See accepted the invitation and inspired its presence and its attitude at the Helsinki conference," Vatican Radio said.

MEMORIAL LECTURES

A gift in memory of Dorothy Mattes Roeser will enable the Nazareth College French department to offer an annual lecture by a visiting scholar. Dr. Virginia Otto, foreign languages chairman, said the first lecture would be scheduled next Spring.

The late Mrs. Roeser, a member of St Agnes parish in Avon, was a graduate of the college and of the Nazareth Conservatory of Music. She taught French, Spanish and English in several area high schools and was a member of the New York Federation of Foreign Language Teachers. Her husband, F. Eugene Roeser of Pittsford, gave Nazareth \$5,000 to establish the lecture series.

Nation's Bishops Discuss Family Ministry Office

Washington, D.C. (RNS) — The nation's bishops took a significant step toward the development of a broad pastoral plan for family ministry, the establishment of a bishops' committee on marriage and family life, and the "formulation of a total catechesis of human sexuality and family life."

During their four-day general meeting which closes tomorrow, Thursday, Nov. 17, the bishops discussed in special workshop sessions some 45 recommendations of a U.S. Catholic Conference Ad Hoc Commission on Marriage and Family Life in areas ranging from pastoral theology and catechesis to family ministry to the special needs of minority families.

Although no action on the recommendations was expected at the bishops'

meeting, the discussions marked the culmination of an "extensive process of study, analysis and decision-making" by the commission "in order to come up with a series of recommendations that will help the national Church to give an adequate and well directed response to the... need for a more effective approach to the complex issues affecting marriage and family life," the commission said in its final report.

The commission addressed such questions as divorce, the women's movement, the lack of complete theology of marriage, the dearth of goals and values in Christian families, the lack of a sense of commitment in marriage, confusion over the purpose of marriage, the need for sexuality education and the need to develop ministry for couples and

families.

The body's first recommendation calls for a "comprehensive pastoral vision or action plan for the entire ministry of the Church related to married couples and families." It stresses a "pastoral approach" that will involve the Church at all levels working out programs and projects that respond to the needs of young people, married couples, divorced, widowed, whole families and special minorities.

The second recommendation asks for the establishment of a bishops' Committee on Marriage and Family with a secretariat that can approve, coordinate and advise the diocesan offices on the nature and direction of the pastoral plan as well as other questions on family issues.

Catholic Charities Head Notes Government Program Benefits

Washington, D. C. (RNS) — A leading U.S. Catholic Charities official has endorsed President Carter's Better Jobs and Income Program (H.R. 9030) as a "good instrument with which to begin the task of welfare reform" in this country.

Msgr. Lawrence J. Corcoran, director of the National Conference of Catholic Charities (NCCC) told the House special Subcommittee on Welfare Reform that the Catholic Charities movement "prays that Congress will pass...an equitable fair income bill" before adjournment next year.

He maintained, however, that the basic federal benefit level of the program is inadequate and should be based at the "poverty line," with the program indexed to increases in the cost of living. He also suggested that the determination of benefits should be based on current income and not on a six-month accountable period, despite the projected savings of \$2.9 to \$3.3 billion.

Msgr. Corcoran also said that the jobs component of the program must be improved by a "greater allocation of resources" and by paying a higher wage in government-worked jobs.

Noting that the basic value of the program is in making work the base on which all else is built, the priest also said the program placed a strong emphasis on the family and sought to maintain the "basic unit of society."

He praised the program's thrust toward a federal system of income maintenance, with national eligibility standards, and added that the general assistance programs of the states have been inadequate and practically non-existent in many states.

In discussing "major inadequacies" in the program, Msgr. Corcoran said that because the benefit level is put at 65 per cent of the official poverty line the poor will continue to get poorer in relation to the rest of the population.

He noted that while the NCCC favors eliminating the

Food Stamp program in the context of overall welfare reform, unless the benefit level of the program is substantially improved there is substantial reason to maintain the Food Stamp Program.

In analyzing the overall Carter program, Msgr. Corcoran said the NCCC was pleased to see that individuals will not have to strip themselves of assets in order to participate in the program.

At the same time, he took issue with the program requirement of a reduction in benefits when an elderly person shares a common residence with a related individual. He indicated that the provision was a "dis-incentive to human consideration of extended family life." He also urged the subcommittee to permit an unmarried parent living with her parents to file as separate household with no reduction in benefits, and to reject the proposal that women with minor children over age 7 are employable.

"A single adult member of any household with minor children should have the option to work, or to continue in the

Mrs. Schroth Named To Hospital Board

Patricia Langie Schroth has been appointed to the board of trustees of St. Mary's Hospital, Sister DeChantal, chairman, announced last week.

Mrs. Schroth is the wife of John F. Schroth Jr. of Pittsford and the mother of four children. She continues in the tradition of her parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Louis A. Langie Sr., who were hospital board members and volunteer workers, the announcement noted. She is a past president of the Women's Board of St. Mary's. A member of Seton Branch 70, she is co-chairman of Seton Branches and heads the committee for the Seton Charity Ball scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 19, at the Downtown Holiday Inn. She teaches religion at St. Louis Church and works with the Pittsford Girl Scouts. She has served

CHARITY PARTY

The Catholic Women's Club has scheduled a benefit for St. Bridget's parish—a salad bar lunch on Monday, Nov. 21, with an afternoon of cards, in the Otto A. Shults Community Center at Nazareth College. Festivities begin at 11 a.m. Mrs. Donald Tyrrell, chairman, has the assistance of Mrs. Barry Tyrrell, Mrs. Rose Swartz and Mrs. John Brongo. Tomorrow is the deadline for reservations, which may be made by calling the club, 275-9173, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., or through 381-5905 or 586-5896.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Groton—St. Anthony's Church will conduct their first annual Christmas Fair Saturday, Nov. 19 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be crafts, games, good things to eat, toys, and Santa will make a special appearance for the children.



PATRICIA SCHROTH

also at the Cerebral Palsy Association, the Red Cross and the United Community Chest.

She is a graduate of the Academy of the Sacred Heart here and of Manhattanville College in Purchase, and holds a University of Rochester master's degree in English.