

THE WEEK'S NEWS IN REVIEW

ABM Opposed

An 18-member committee of the presbytery of priests in the St. Paul and Minneapolis archdiocese adopted a resolution opposing deployment of the anti-ballistic missile system (ABM) and forwarded it to the national Federation of Priests' Councils.

Father William J. Cantwell, C.S.P., chairman of the presbytery's social action committee, said the committee decided to take action without referring the resolution either to the 600-member presbytery or the 24-member Priests' Senate.

"We acted in the interest of time," Father Cantwell, who also is a member of the senate, said. "The presbytery will not meet until late in June and the senate is not scheduled to meet until the fall. Either group can take the matter up if it desires."

Bible Wins Again

The Laurel Highland School Board, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, voted 9-1 to allow voluntary Bible reading and prayers in its public schools.

The action, in defiance of the U.S. Supreme Court and the Pennsylvania Department of Justice, came as another county school district prepared to fight a suit instituted by the American Civil Liberties Union challenging its decision to restore Bible reading and prayer exercises despite a petition signed by 200 teachers opposing the proposal.

Meanwhile, the Albert Gallatin School District which earlier approved Bible reading and prayers in its schools, received pledges of financial support to oppose the ACLU suit. A group of citizens organized to battle spiraling taxes said it would contribute to the school district in the legal case.

People

Brother Donald Sullivan, O.S.F., has been named president of St. Francis College in Brooklyn following the resignation of Brother Urban Connard who headed the school for 11 years. Brother Connard, 49, cited "physical and mental exhaustion" in his letter of resignation. A native of Brooklyn, Brother Sullivan is 38. . . .

Floyd Anderson, a layman who has been active in the Catholic press for more than 30 years, has been appointed editor of The New World, archdiocesan newspaper in Chicago. Director of the National Catholic News Service since 1963, Anderson will succeed Msgr. John Kelly who died last September. . . .

The Rev. Malcolm Boyd, controversial Episcopal priest and best-selling author, said here he has no intention of severing his connection with the "institutional Church." "I feel I have a Virginia Wolf kind of marriage to the Church," he explained. "It's violent, it's lusty, organic. A divorce would be out of the question. We would always be in one another's fantasies." Father Boyd is the author of several books including the best seller "Are You Running with Me Jesus" . . .

The National Conference of Christians and Jews will honor three prominent churchmen at its third annual Religious Leaders dinner on June 19 in New York City. The clergymen to be cited for "courageous leadership in inter-creedal relations" are Terence Cardinal Cooke, Archbishop of New York; Presiding Bishop John E. Hines of the Episcopal Church; and Rabbi Jacob Philip Radin, president of the Synagogue Council of America.



Unique Celebration

An archbishop, a bishop, three monsignors and two priests are concelebrants at a Mass marking the dedication and blessing of the new \$390,000 Our Lady of Mount Carmel church in Tempe, Ariz. Apart from one monsignor, all of the concelebrants are former pastors of the old parish, founded in 1903 as a mission served by the Franciscan Fathers of St. Mary's Church in Phoenix. Among the concelebrants are Msgr. Bernard L. Gordon, now vicar-general of the Tucson diocese, pastor from 1941 to 1947; Msgr. Arthur F. Gramer, pastor from

1937 to 1941; Bishop Francis J. Green, (a native of Corning, N.Y.), bishop of the Tucson diocese, pastor from 1934 to 1937; Archbishop James P. Davis, Santa Fe, N.M., pastor in 1932 when Tempe was established as a parish; Father Daniel A. McCready, pastor since 1955; Father Francis L. Bechtel, pastor from 1948 to 1955; and Msgr. Don H. Hughes of Tucson, who lived as a youth in the area and whose family donated the 10-acre site for the church. (RNS)

Divorce, Italian Style

Legislation to bring divorce into Italy is moving steadily through the Italian parliament despite a determined stand by Christian Democrats.

For the first time, the existence of Italy's center-left coalition government seems threatened—however distantly—by the struggle over divorce.

Christian Democratic strategy to prepare now for the reversal of an eventual divorce law by popular referendum has also been running into trouble. The House of Deputies refused (May 28) to discuss a referendum law before opening debate on the divorce legislation.

By a show of hands the following day, the House voted down a Christian Democratic motion to reject the divorce legislation as unconstitutional.

Birchers 'Irresponsible'

"The John Birch Society and other reactionary groups are gravely irresponsible in promoting a controversy over sex education," declared Father James T. McHugh, director of the Family Life Division, United States Catholic Conference.

"They are focusing on isolated incidents that any knowledgeable person would recognize as wrong, and are unjustly characterizing these incidents as normal aspects of any sex education program," he said.

From Convict to Priest

TURIN, Italy—(RNS)—A former convict expressed hope here that he would be able to celebrate Mass for inmates of the Turin jail in June after his ordination to the Catholic priesthood.

Leone Ghetti, now a deacon, had given Holy Communion to the prisoners and recalled his round-about journey to the priesthood which included an escape from prison when he was 17, a tour of duty in the French Foreign Legion, and an 11-year sentence for robbery.

The son of a police chief, he was arrested (charge unrevealed) and sent to jail when he was 16 but broke out a year later and fled to Corsica where he joined a Legion that asked no questions.

Three years later he deserted, rowing back to Sardinia in the night. But Italian police picked him up a short time later on a robbery charge and he was sentenced to 11 years.

It was while he was doing time, he said, that he started to study and "my 'Mr. Hyde' part left as quickly as it possessed me."

The 30-year-old Franciscan Friar, who will be ordained at St. Anthony's monastery here, said his greatest comfort now is the knowledge that "I shall be a priest and return as minister to the men in prison."

Canada's Christians Map Poverty Attack

Montreal, Que.—(RNS)—An inter-church strategy committee has urged Canada's Christian congregations to earmark 3 to 5 per cent of their annual income for a concerted war on poverty at home and abroad.

This "beginning" in 1970 would be a year's investment of about \$10 million in people and help projects, the committee said.

The 26-page report was a direct result of a national conference of 500 delegates from 12 denominations and several voluntary organizations held here May 30 last year. The conference was called by the Canadian Council of Churches and the Canadian-Catholic Conference, co-operative voice of the hierarchy.

The committee recommended a review by all denominations of their resources and priorities.

The 12 denominations involved are the Disciples of Christ, Greek Orthodox, Lutheran, Mennonite, Roman Catholic, Anglican, Baptist, Presbyterian, Friends (Quakers), Salvation Army and United Church of Canada.

"Any realistic review will examine church resources in the light of human needs in the community and beyond, such as education, employ-

ment, health, housing and leisure needs," the report said.

It suggested the \$10 million raised from congregations could be allocated by inter-church agencies.

"Alternatively," the report said, "congregations and parishes could adopt some form of 'voluntary management' in lieu of property taxation, or delay the interior completion and furnishing of new church buildings."

The report also recommended that during Lent 1970, Canadian Christians conduct an inter-church campaign for world development funds and jointly support some overseas projects.

It called putting new priorities into effect "the crunch test" of the Christian community's credibility.

The report did not suggest that the Churches try to go it alone, or try to duplicate what government and other agencies are better equipped to do — and in which many Christians now serve.

"Rather, it is a question of Christian groups serving as a leaven, pushing toward a just and compassionate society," the report said.

One possibility was to shift the emphasis from ecclesiastical housekeeping to serving in the community at local, regional, national and international levels. As a "ministry of justice," the church should also initiate political action on behalf of deprived and minority groups.

Christian manpower should be re-deployed so that men, women and youth could give priority time to the cause of human development.

Churches, the report said, should also shift from the attitude of, "When in doubt, build," to "Where there is

need, open the door." Whenever possible, interdenominational building should be favored, and such buildings should be "modest churches, not triumphant monuments."


The report also suggested capital financing could be reviewed in terms of its burden on the poor in the congregation and the community. Existing facilities should be adapted to community uses.

"Public priorities still put the power of money before the power of people," the report said.

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Twelve For In Milwaukee
Milwaukee — (RNS) — Circuit Court jury deliberated one hour and 10 minutes before finding 12 members of the "Milwaukee 14" guilty of burglary, theft and arson in the destruction of Selva Service records here last Sept. 24.

The courtroom erupted a demonstration by sympathizers of the defendants.

The jury rejected pleas from the defendants that the real issue was the legality of the Vietnam war and the draft.

Five Catholic priests, minister, a Brother, and 11 laymen were convicted by a jury. They are: Father Robert Cunnane, 36, of Stoughton, Mass.; Father James H. Ney, 28, of North Weymouth, Mass.; Father Anthony M. Lacey, 39, of Roxbury, Mass.; Father Alfred Janicko, of Minneapolis; Father LaRose, 33, of Milwaukee; and the Rev. Jon Higginbotham, 27, also of Milwaukee.

Also Dan Cotton, 24, of Louis-James Forrest, 27, and Bob Graf, 25, of Milwaukee; Fred J. Ojile, 23, of Minneapolis; Doug Harvey, 27, a son of Minneapolis; and Bro. Basil O'Leary, 48, of Waukegan, Minn.

Judge Charles L. Larson freed the defendants on bail until sentencing June 8. He could receive up to 18 years in prison.


Judge Larson charged 6 of the defendants with

Detroit Lo Of Sisters

Detroit — (RNS) — There are 6 per cent fewer nuns in the Detroit Roman Catholic archdiocese this year than 1968. Auxiliary Bishop Joseph M. Breitenbeck, episcopal vicar for religious, revealed here.

The statistic was released as a news item learned that number of girls entering convents has declined by 50 cent in many orders here as high as 90 per cent some. A few of the smallest communities of Sisters reported that they have

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