

Cardinal Foresees High-Level Catholic-Orthodox Committee

Vatican City — (NC) — Creation of a high-level joint committee to study Catholic-Orthodox relations is being considered by the two Churches.

Augustin Cardinal Bea, president of the Vatican Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity, said such plans are being studied by the Holy See and by the Orthodox patriarchate of Constantinople. He disclosed the plans in an interview in the Jesuit review *Civiltà Cattolica* (June 5).
Asked if the creation of a mixed

working group from the two Churches was foreseen, the Cardinal responded:

"SUCH A GROUP is actually under consideration. It should concern itself above all with dialogue on pastoral matters: common responsibilities of the Church for man of our time."

He was asked what relations the projected committee would have with the mixed committee already set up between his secretariat and the World Council of Churches. "For the moment nothing can be said," he replied. "We must first see what results and conclusions come from one working group or another."

Cardinal Bea said it is clear that Pope Paul VI considers the unity secretariat as a permanent body. He pointed out that the Pope had named two newly created cardinals to it in February and had assigned much more spacious offices to it.

"AS FOR THE mode of the secretariat's incorporation into the Roman Curia, the entire question arises of the reform of the curia, announced some time ago by the Holy Father. Obviously one cannot anticipate this," he continued.

Asked about the work of his body within the whole Church perspective, Cardinal Bea said the

Vatican council's decree on ecumenism declares that Christian reunion concerns the entire Church, lay people and bishops.

"However," he added, "those most responsible for it are the successors to the apostles, of whose pastoral work ecumenism is an essential part. The first problem, therefore, that presents itself is that of coordinating this work of the bishops. Account must obviously be taken of the great variety of situations, and there should be no undue centralization."

CARDINAL BEA then returned to the problem of the secretariat's role in the curia, which is the Pope's administrative arm in the central government of the Church.

"But as regards coordination within the Church's central government, and hence among the curial offices, it will take place in various ways, following at least partly the ways in which the Church's pastoral activities were coordinated and which now will evidently be spelled out according to modern standards within the framework of the planned reform of the curia," he said.

(Father John Long, S.J., an official of the unity secretariat, said the creation of a mixed study committee was among the topics discussed by Cardinal Bea and Patriarch Athenagoras I of Constantinople during Cardinal Bea's visit to the Orthodox patriarch last April. The American Jesuit said the project has not come under discussion since then because there have been no subsequent meetings.

(Father Long pointed out that neither joint group — the one already set up between the World Council of Churches and the Catholic Church, and the one projected between the Orthodox and the Catholics — has been empowered to set up actual collaboration or dialogue. Their purpose, he said, is to study and discuss the possibilities of future collaboration and to report their findings.

(Concerning the secretariat's work in the curia, Father Long said the secretariat conceives of its role as one of aid or service to existing offices and organizations, not one of direction. The secretariat does not plan special desks for ecumenism in mission work or in education or any of the fields of the Church's labors. He said the existing organizations active in these fields will handle their ecumenical aspects themselves, and the secretariat is ready to help them.

("We don't want to move from one centralized system to another," he said.)

Holy See Joins UN Talks

United Nations, N.Y. (NC) — The state of Vatican City is taking part in the UN-sponsored diplomatic conference to draw up a treaty on the rights of land-locked countries.

The Vatican will be represented by Msgr. Alberto Giovannetti, permanent observer of the Holy See at the UN and by Prof. Charles J. Walsh, an economics expert and member of the Fordham University faculty. Dr. Miriam Rooney, former dean of Seton Hall University law school, and veteran of a number of special assignments on trade agreements and treaty interpretation, is acting as adviser to the Vatican delegation.

The conference is being held at UN headquarters from June 7 to July 2. The proposed treaty is designed to ensure the right of free and unrestricted transit for the trade of countries without a seacoast and to protect the sovereign rights of the state through which the transit is effected. A body of arrangements has developed over the years, and the treaty will ensure their international acceptance.

The decision to hold the conference stems from a recommendation of the UN Conference on Trade and Development which held its first session last year in Geneva. This recognized that the development of transit trade is essential for speeding up economic development of land-locked countries.

A draft text of 25 articles will be under review by the conference. The draft was prepared by a 24-nation committee, appointed for the purpose by UN Secretary General U Thant at the request of the Trade and Development Conference. The committee met last October and November.

William Gaston Students Sweep New Bern Contest

The community of New Bern has finished its "Support Your Local Police" Campaign which was climaxed by the announcement of the winners of the Essay contest open to all students of the New Bern school system. The local Catholic High School, William Gaston won the first prize in all four divisions of High School competition.

The winner in the 9th grade was Allan Kauffold; in the 10th grade, Patricia Thomas; in the 11th, Kathleen Genske; in the 12th, Michele Papale.

The Support Your Local Police Week Committee is a group of non-political, non-partisan individual citizens, whose sole purpose is to create better harmony between the members of the Police Department and private citizens.

The Essay contest was sponsored by the local group and all students of the New Bern School systems were eligible to compete for prizes of \$25 savings accounts in local banks, or savings and loan associations.



MISS BRENDA EDWARDS, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Edwards of Mount Holly, has been awarded a \$3,200 Vardell Scholarship to Saint Andrews College in Laurinburg, N.C. The Vardell Scholarship is awarded for a four-year period and is given on the basis of personal interview, four year High School Record, College Entrance Examination Scores, and Christian Character. An honor student at Mt. Holly High School, Brenda is outstanding in both Academic and extra-curricular activities. She has studied piano and organ with Sister Mary Cecilia at Sacred Heart Junior College for seven years. Among the honors Brenda has won in music this year are: A Superior rating in piano and organ in the National Federation of Music Clubs Festival; A Gold Certificate winner in the same Festival for winning a superior rating in piano for three consecutive years; Queen of Music for the Southern District of the National Federation of Music Clubs; 1965 scholarship winner of the student auditions sponsored by the Charlotte Piano Teachers Forum, with a \$100 award; and co-winner of the Young Artists Auditions sponsored by the Mint Museum of Charlotte, with a cash award and the privilege of being presented in recital at the Mint. Brenda has a full-time position as Church Organist, and plays clarinet in the band. She plans to use her scholarship at St. Andrews to study for a Bachelor of Music degree with a major in piano.

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