

Pope Paul Visits Seminararians

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most austere in discipline and obedience to seminary life . . .

"YOU GIVE evidence of being the number one seminary in Rome," the Pope said. "Such indeed is your seminary that it is at the top not only in numbers but the beauty of its buildings; not only in its discipline but in its interpretation of seminary life.

"We expect that you will always contribute the fidelity and good example, of the silent but complete influence of your scholastic activity in the preparation for the priesthood. And know that this will be the great gift you bring the Church of God, and that the Church will not fail to repay you with its blessings and thanks, its friendship, its spiritual solidarity with each of you, with your future ministry and with each of your dioceses."

When he arrived at the villa that sets on a hillside of rugged forest and formal gardens, Pope Paul was met by the college rector, Bishop Francis Reh, and the superior of the downtown graduate house for student priests, Msgr. Joseph L. Zryd. He joined the faculty of both houses in the chapel, where the choir gave a polyphonic version of the official prayer for the Pope: "Oremus Pro Pontifice."

AFTER AN address of welcome by Bishop Reh in Italian, Pope Paul spoke informally in Italian to praise the American seminary. Then turned to a prepared address in English devoted to the ideals of seminary formation.

"You are indeed privileged to be

here during this historic days of the ecumenical council," he said. "In the serene workings of the seminary you can witness the workings of the council and strive to enter into its spirit . . .

"We urge you to prepare yourselves intellectually as well as possible, because the community looks to the priest for guidance and leadership more than ever before. Here in the seminary you have order and discipline — guarantees for a good preparation. But we know your young spirits rebel at times at what seemingly are brakes on your initiative, and your desire to confront the vast problems of the world.

"REMEMBER THAT obedience is most necessary in any well-ordered society, and that it is the most basic virtue upon which constructive and effective activity is solidly founded."

With his private secretary, Msgr. Pasquale Macchi, and Msgr. Mario Nasalli Rocca, Papal Maestro di Camera, Pope Paul entered the large dining hall. He chatted with the villa's domestic Sisters and the staff of Italian workmen. Then he sat down, flank by Bishop Reh and Msgr. Zryd.

The students approached him one by one and told him their names and dioceses. He questioned some of them, or smiled as he recognized the name of a place he had visited in America. Pope Paul gave each of them a book as a souvenir. Meanwhile, Americans in Cassocks flashed photo shots continuously from a barrage of cameras only a few feet from where the Pope sat.

Instead of the hushed atmosphere which usually attends the papal presence, the students talked excitedly, beaming whenever the obviously relaxed and happy Pope broke into a smile.

When the Pope had met everyone, the choir sang a hymn in

English. Then the Pope turned to Bishop Reh.

"What now?" he asked, seemingly ready to go on even though he had been there for more than an hour. But the program was over.

Pope Paul rose and went to a group of young Italian workmen standing nearby. "I have left some medals for you," he told them. Then he asked young Domenico Meloni who works at the graduate house to help clean up the wrapping from the stacks of books he handed out.

Almost reluctantly, he returned to his limousine and drove back to the papal palace just up the hill. He had left behind as a gift to the college the golden chalice given him by students at the seminary he once attended in the town of Brescia in northern Italy.

He said he hoped the gift "would establish a link between my own seminary and this one."



WELCOMING Lawrence Cardinal Shehan of Baltimore to the annual meeting of the National Federation of Catholic College Students is Oliver Barber, Jr., president of the federation. Cardinal Shehan keynoted the meeting (Aug. 30) in Washington, D.C.

Priest Tells Newsmen

Catholic News Reporting Not Easy

Manchester, N.H. — (NC) — There is "no easy, simple way of reporting a story" about the Catholic Church, Father Vincent A. Yzermans, director of the Information Bureau, National Catholic Welfare Conference, told a group of newsmen here.

Fifty representatives of the press, radio and television from throughout New Hampshire were the guests of Bishop Ernest J. Primeau of Manchester, at a meeting here to develop contacts between Church officials and communications media representatives.

The bishop told the group the decree on communications of the Second Vatican Council pointed up the need "for consulting professional personnel such as yourselves to assist in spreading the message of religion and, further, to make a

concrete effort to utilize existing communications media in accomplishing this mission."

Father Yzermans, principal speaker at a luncheon (Sept. 9), told the group the Catholic Church appreciates deeply the objective reporting by the press, radio and TV of news about the Church, especially the happenings at the Second Vatican Council.

He recalled that Pope Pius XII has characterized members of the working press as "valiant heralds of truth, fearless defenders of what is right and wise pioneers of a true peace."

"There is no easy, simple way of reporting a story about our Church," Father Yzermans told

the group. "Most Catholic stories have many angles. Many of them are deeply rooted in profound and consequently intricate theological soil. This means, then, that our search must be most thorough; our interviews must be most detailed; our reports, to use a biblical expression, must cite every chapter and verse."

NEW FACILITIES

Baltimore — (NC) — Lawrence Cardinal Shehan has announced plans to construct a new home for the aged, a new House of the Good Shepherd and a new school for retarded children. An \$11 million fund-raising campaign will finance construction.

BLESSES SCHOOL

Nagercoil, India — (NC) — Bishop Thomas R. Agniswami, S.J., of Kottar blessed a new technical school financed by Misereor, the West German Catholic charity organization. The Carmelite-operated school will train boys in mechanical and electrical engineering.

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