

Collegians Urged To Participate in Ecumenical Effort

WASHINGTON — Catholic college students should be allowed to participate in ecumenical dialogues to train them for future leadership in the ecumenical movement, the head of the U.S. Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical Affairs said here.

Lawrence Cardinal Shehan of Baltimore, keynoting the convention of the National Federation of Catholic College Students noted that interest and activity in ecumenical matters "have been concentrated for the most part in high ecclesiastical circles — bishops, priests, ministers, theologians."

Success in ecumenism, however, requires "more interest and active participation on the part of the laity," he said. "And for the development of lay leadership and effective, active lay participation, it seems to me that the Church will have to depend increasingly on Catholic colleges, their students and graduates to provide the necessary intellectual and religious background."

Although the task is not exclusively that of the Catholic colleges, the cardinal said, the Church "in the nature of things" will have to look to Catholic campuses rather than Newman clubs at secular campuses for "lay leaders who will be able to participate effectively in the ecumenical movement."

When experts from various churches engage in dialogue, the cardinal said, it "goes without saying" that Catholic religion teachers should be urged to attend. "But provision ought to be made . . . for students to be present at and gradually brought into the dialogue so that some of these at least, at the end of their courses, may be able to take their places in this important phase of the ecumenical movement."

"It was once quite natural and actually expected that the college student would insulate himself within his particular educational institution," he explained. "Today the common concerns which college students are increasingly bringing within their personal orbit produces a variety of associations which inevitably will shatter narrow parochial outlooks."

"The realization that there are others of differing faiths who desire to involve themselves beyond mere intellectual commitment, who are willing to leave the ivory tower and who desire to experience involvement must inevitably produce an atmosphere of respect which will provide more than ample bases for ecumenical exchange."

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Priest Vocation Encampment Draws Eighty-three Youths

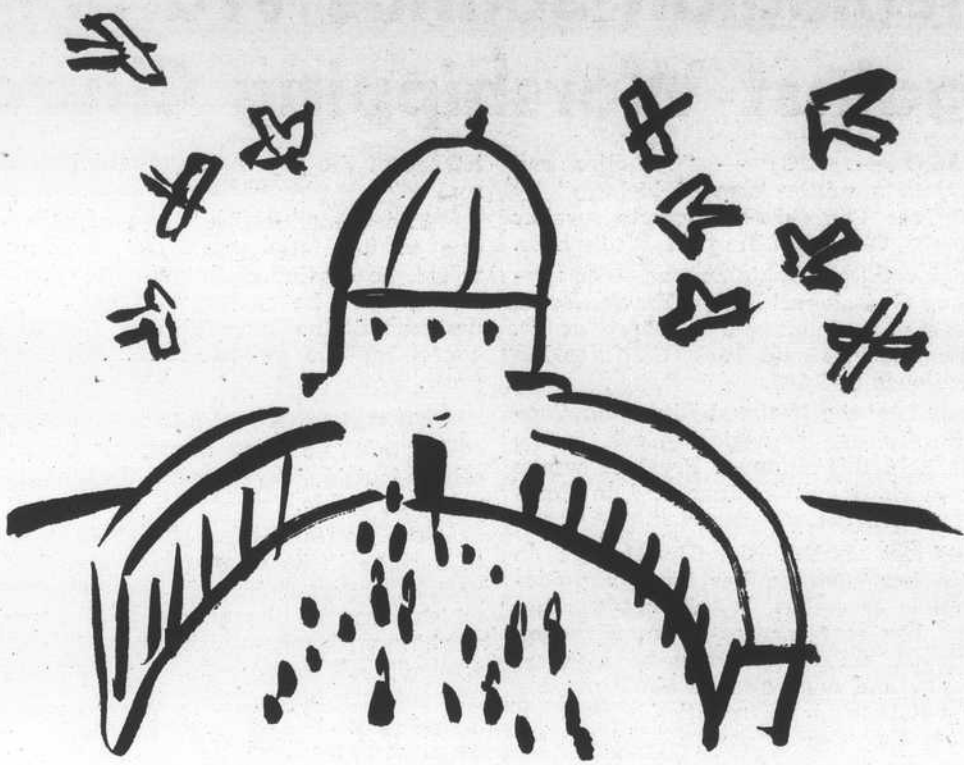
Eighty-three boys from all sections of North Carolina attended the first Priest Vocation Encampment at Hendersonville in late August. Ranging in age from the latter years of grade school through the first year of college, the youths had in common the desire to learn more about the diocesan priesthood.

The three day encampment enabled them to meet priests and seminarians of the diocese as well as the Marianist Brothers from Charlotte. On the last day 25 were inducted into the Priest Vocation Corps.

Knights Sponsor Picnic In Winston-Salem

A family picnic for all four parishes of Winston-Salem will be held on Sunday, September 19, at Miller Park, Brother Thomas E. Miller, of Santat Maria Council No. 2829 of the Knights of Columbus, is chairman for the event. He also handled the arrangements for the annual stag picnic held last month. The Council has named Brother James MacDonald as the Knight of the Month for August.

The Council Opens



Shepherds Of A Kind Flock Together!

Nun Cites Scandal of Apathy to Racial Injustice

DENVER — (NC) — When nuns and priests are seen in the front ranks of civil rights demonstrations, is it a cause of scandal to the Church?

"Definitely not," asserts Sister Mary Luke, first American woman to serve as an auditor at the Second Vatican Council. The Sister of Loretto mother general said in an interview here if there is

"scandal" within the Church, it lies with so-called Catholics "who remain indifferent in the face of glaring social injustices."

Sister Mary Luke, chairman of the Conference of Major Superiors of Women which ended its five-day meeting here (Aug. 27), was asked to comment on criticism charging that it is not "dignified," nor "cultured" for nuns and priests

to take part in demonstrations.

She replied with questions of her own: "What do these critics mean by culture?" she asked. "To my way of thinking, culture is mankind's best efforts to improve the human condition. This is also a prerequisite for all Catholics, religious or laity, who wish to make the Church relevant to the modern world."

She said that integrity rather than lack of dignity is shown by nuns and priests who actively support the civil rights movement.

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