

Senate of Priests

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gram was agreed upon. Available to clergy personal requests were the Rt. Rev. Peter McNerney, Rev. Gerald Kennedy, O.M.I. and Rev. Charles Mulholland. A program to meet post-ordination education by which a priest may wish some further advancement in the knowledge of a particular field of study was agreed upon. A committee was formed to assist him, naming Fathers Donald Staib, John Wall and Charles Mulholland.

Format of Retreats

Suggestions were also made as to the manner in which the format for priest retreats could be patterned. Some asked that priests be given an option on the place of retreat and that conferences be adapted to contemporary needs.

Many expressed their preference for the "workshop" type of retreat held last year while studying the council decrees. Bishop Waters said that the spiritual formation of the clergy was foremost in the importance of the days' considerations.

Of general interest to all were the recommendations for the welfare of retired and infirmed clergy as well as those temporarily incapacitated from active pastoral duty.

Clerical Subsidy

A presentation of recommendations urged that the present Clerical Relief Fund now administered by Monsignor Hugh Dolan and Father Cletus Helfrich of Salisbury be continued and the funds be enlarged. Monsignor Edward T. Gilbert presented these recommendations — priests who have spent most of their lives in the diocese have in effect no other home — so some fixed arrangement should be made with a Catholic health caring institution in the Diocese to receive clergy who need temporary or permanent medical care. He also cited the need for better communications between the clergy of informing one another of the illness of a brother priest.

Clerical Retirement

On the subject of retirement he made recommendations at an age in which a priest may retire if he so will, an age in which a priest may resign from parishes involving large responsibilities and an age at which priests must retire from active ministry. While ages were definitely suggested it was agreed that the committee should make a further study on the matter. Sums of retirement were suggested by Fathers Frederick Koch and Mulholland, committee members. Msgr. Gilbert presented the figures.

If a priest desires to retire in a church sponsored facility he would receive a monthly subsidy of \$330, living privately he would be entitled to \$550 a month. These allotments would be made from the present clerical fund

augmented by an increased annual sum by the diocesan clergy and a 50 cents per capita tax of every Catholic in all the parishes. The good will of the laity, Monsignor Gilbert said, would be assured in this fund. The parishes of the diocese administered by religious orders would give like amounts to the community of the clergy for their care of dependent priests. The committee was asked to re-evaluate the recommendations and submit them in a more definite form at the next senate meeting which will take place on Sept. 6.

School Discussions

The assembled clergy voted to make the recommendations proposed by the Rev. J. Paul Byron, Charlotte, for the merger of the two Catholic high schools in that city. The unification of the boys' high school presently taught by the Marianist Brothers and Our Lady of Mercy High School for girls conducted by the Sisters of Mercy was seen as a conservation method of faculty membership as well as operational costs.

Bishop McLaughlin stated the pressing for the replacement of the present Notre Dame High School facility at Greensboro. Father Donald Staib, coordinator at the school, said that a nearby site was under consideration and that an estimate for an all metal building construction would be received within a few days. Some priests said that a concentrated effort for a specialized CCD program would be sufficient. Bishop Waters expressed his conviction that only a fully accredited Catholic high school program would fill the conscientious needs of Catholics in that community.

Fathers Wall, Koch, Mulholland and Msgrs. Begley and Gable were asked to form a social apostolate committee for future programs of Priests Senate meetings. A three-point program of communications, the commending priestly authority, pastoral counselling, the recognition of needs of poverty, the drop-out, the retarded, were proposed by the agenda committee for future meetings of the Senate.

Serving on this subject are: Msgrs. McNerney, Begley, Dolan and Lynch and Fathers Kennedy and Wall. The approaching time for adjournment required the tabling of these recommendations to the study of the committee until the early September meeting.

MAY MEETING

Bogota, Colombia — (NC) — The general secretariat of the Latin American Bishops' Council (CELAM), headquartered here, will hold a general meeting May 13-20. Members of CELAM's departments and specialized institutes will report on their individual programs, with the aim of coordinating these programs.

Senate of Priests with Bishops Have Initial Meeting



Pictured are clergy of the Diocese of Raleigh who are members of the Senate of Priests and who were called into their first session on April 6 at the Bishop's residence in Raleigh. The assembled clergy are (front row, l. to r.) the Rt. Rev. Peter McNerney, Rev. Charles Mulholland, Rt. Rev. Charles J. Gable, Rt. Rev. Michael J. Begley, Rt. Rev. Frank J. Howard, Rt. Rev. Hugh A. Dolan; (second row) Rev. Edward O'Doherty, a visitor, assistant at Hendersonville who delivered a spiritual conference to the group, Rev. Donald A. Staib, Very Rev. Charles J. O'Connor, Rev. John Wall, Very Rev. Michael A. Carey and Rev. Gerald Kennedy, O.M.I.; (third row) Rev. Frederick A. Koch, Rt. Rev. George E. Lynch, Rev. J. Paul Byron, Rev. Edward T. Gilbert, Most Rev. Charles B. McLaughlin, Auxiliary Bishop, and Most Rev. Vincent S. Waters, Ordinary of the Diocese.

Editor's desk

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but an affected, stern windward eye was kept for deficiencies in "effort" or "application." And when high grades of arithmetic, spelling, grammar and science would laugh at low ones in history and geography, there was always a comment about too much "Bat Man and Robin" and not enough home study.

As they would singularly approach the desk you would remember your pastor 40 years ago who would give you your card with a paternal smile, regardless of what progress or lack of it was indicated and remark, "Fred Koch has a good card."

Once in awhile there would be a "terror" with a bad case of the "Budges" or a "wiggler" with a "black mark" in the "application" column, and you would hear yourself say, "see me after school."

Having had some time to kill in the Washington Airport a year ago, we passed the "Avis Car rental booth" and picked up a "We'll try harder" button from their ad campaign. Upon request the lady kindly gave me a pocket full of them, and it was great to be able to occasionally attach

one to a report card that needed that certain extra "umph." We hope everybody this week had "good card."

Twenty years ago the N.C. reported on a Holy Week Series of Sermons delivered at the Cathedral by Father Joseph T. Callahan, S.J., once chaplain hero on the aircraft carrier "Franklin" and who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Father died a few years ago and his sister, a nun since then dedicated a naval vessel to his memory. R.I.P.

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