



Bishops Given Dioceses

Washington — Pope Paul VI has made the following appointments in the hierarchy of the United States:

Most Rev. James J. Sweeney, resigned as the bishop of Honolulu.

Bishop John J. Scanlan, administrator of the See succeeds as the Ordinary of Honolulu.

Auxiliary Bishop Thomas Mardaga of Baltimore is named the bishop of Wilmington, Del.

Bishop Mardaga, a native of Baltimore was ordained May 14, 1940 and consecrated last year.

Defends Dutch Catholics

London — A Dutch bishop said here that he is "often shocked by the sensational news items, half-truths and distorted stories" about the Church in the Netherlands.

The Bishop of Haarlem told a meeting of the clergy: "There is no doubt a strong desire for greater authority of the local church which means greater decentralization, quite in accordance with the dogmatic constitution of Vatican II on the Church and with the decree on the pastoral office of the bishops.

The aim of the Church in the Netherlands, he said, is to "dare to accept that God has everything to do with our human life" and to "meet Him in human signs."

He denied that the Church in the Netherlands is on the verge of schism. In his country, he said, the percentage of Catholics who attend Sunday Mass is 65.

Masonic Relations Studied

Vatican City — Press reports indicating that the Holy See was lifting the ban barring Catholics from belonging to the Masons have brought no official reaction from the Vatican. However, the possibility of a change in attitude in the future was considered possible.

However, it was learned that the Church's traditional attitude is being restudied by the Doctrinal Congregation in a more favorable light, due to historical changes. It is considered possible that relations between the Church and Masonry could be more favorably viewed in those cases and in those countries where relations are no longer strained by traditional hostility.

Warns Deforming Gospel

Vatican City — Pope Paul VI has sent a letter to French Catholic intellectuals meeting in Paris encouraging new studies in philosophy and theology but warning against deforming the message of salvation.

The letter encouraged legitimate studies but warned against inconsiderate disturbances of the Christian people by advancing hypotheses which

could mislead persons not sufficiently familiar with the subject under study.

"It is then urgent to repeat our faith in Christ the Savior in such a way as to reach the contemporary mentality by means of legitimate psychological, philosophical and theological studies, without, however, deforming the message of salvation, but rather by illuminating it."

K of C Assets Hit Peak

New Haven — Both the Knights of Columbus' total insurance in force and the assets as of Dec. 31, 1967, reached all-time highs, according to the organization's annual report to the insurance commissioners of the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico.

Made public by Supreme Knight John W. McDevitt at the society's headquarters here, the report shows the total insurance in force amounted to \$1,663,668,480 on Dec. 31.

During the year the assets of the 1,200,000-member society of Catholic men increased to \$328,830,361.35, an increase of 9.85% Total benefits paid in 1967 came to \$8,307,142.09. Dividends to policyholders were \$4,114,082.79.

Try Experimental Project

Pueblo, Colo. — Three Sisters of Charity and one Sister of Mercy of the Union are starting an experimental living unit in a rented house here.

Three of the Sisters work at St. Mary-Corwin hospital here. The fourth is a first grade teacher. They will continue with their regular occupations and receive the regular Sister's salary of \$100 to \$125 a month. They will pay rent, take care of all household expenses and make car payments out of these salaries.

The Sisters will take part in parish and neighborhood projects while living in the house. They will wear religious habits and will say the prayers ordinarily required of them, but they will not attempt to follow their normal convent schedules.

The purpose is "to see whether living a life closer to the ordinary working person's life brings us closer to an awareness of the needs of people," one of the Sisters explained.

New Immigration Rules

Washington — Anticipating a storm of protests from nationality groups which have enjoyed virtually come-when-you-please immigration to this country for years, a top Catholic immigration authority explained new regulations on first-come-first-served immigration which will be effective July 1.

John E. McCarthy, director, Immigration Department, United States Catholic Conference, said the 1920s immigration to the U.S. was controlled by the national origins quota system, by which a person's opportunity to come to this country was determined by the country of his birth.

Greensboro Meet

Fraternity, Communication Spark New Clergy Group Formed in Diocese Area

Greensboro — Sixty-three diocesan and religious community priests formed a priests' association here on Monday, March 11. The priests choose a thirteen member advisory committee.

One of the first formal actions of the association was to inform all the clergy of the diocese of the groups formation and the purposes which promoted the action. The letter announcing the formation of the North Carolina Priests Association was sent by the Reverend Cranor F. Graves, elected vice-president and secretary pro tem.

The Reverend H. Charles Mulholland was elected president. In his letter to the Bishops and priests, Father Graves said that the group agreed that this association is a brotherhood and fellowship of the presbyterate, diocesan and religious priests who freely and responsibly collaborate in the common purpose of advancing collectively, personally and professionally, the human and spiritual fulfillment of all priests. A five point objective was the sum purpose of the foundation of the association. To evidence unity; to form a closer fraternal relationship and communication; to provide an expression for the thought of the group; and to share the responsibilities of the pastoral office and Christian leadership, were accepted by vote.

The association affiliated with the National Federation of Priests' Councils.

Representatives from deaneries were elected to serve on an advisory board. The second meeting will be held on April 29 at the Holiday Inn here.

Man Can Find In Church Destiny; Human, Spiritual

Vatican City — Pope Paul VI resumed his weekly general audiences March 13, after skipping one week while on retreat, and told the thousands present that it is in the Church that man can find a destiny that is "human and superhuman at one and the same time."

The Pope began his talk by speaking of St. Peter's basilica, where the audience was held, and of its significance both as a structure and as a symbol of the unity of the family of Christians.

He said: "Everyone in the Church — we are always moving from the sensible sign of the Church, the material construction, to the spiritual significance of the Church as a community of believers — is the object of love."



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