



Urges Marshall Plan Type Aid

Dayton, Ohio — (NC) — A massive government program similar to that undertaken in Europe through the Marshall Plan is necessary to solve the problems of America's urban ghettos, Archbishop Karl J. Alter of Cincinnati said here.

Speaking at a Mass opening the Dayton series of the archdiocese's Project Commitment, the archbishop called on the some 1,000 parish leaders present to give the government "your support, influence and votes" to bring about such a program.

New Montreal Archbishop

Ottawa, Ont. — (NC) — Bishop Paul Gregoire, 56, a strong supporter of the ecumenical movement, has been named by Pope Paul VI to be archbishop of Montreal to succeed Cardinal Leger, who left Montreal last Dec. 11 and is now doing missionary work among lepers in Africa. Since the Cardinal's departure, Bishop Gregoire has been serving as administrator of the archdiocese, largest in Canada.

'Unity Is Christ's Will': Pope

Vatican City — (NC) — To an ecumenical pilgrimage on its way to the Holy Land, Pope Paul VI recalled the words he spoke on his own pilgrimage there in 1964: that unity is "the will of Christ."

He said that it was with "particular pleasure that we welcome this ecumenical pilgrimage from the United Kingdom to the Holy Land. You are about to follow in the footsteps of God made man in the country of His birth, His mission and His blessed death 'for us men and for our salvation' (Nicene Creed).

"Your visit calls to mind our own unforgettable pilgrimage to the Holy Places. From the grotto of Bethlehem, we then declared: 'It now appears clearly to all that the problem of unity cannot be eluded. Today, this will of Christ is imposed upon our minds and demands that we undertake, with wisdom and love, every possible way of bringing all Christians to enjoy the great benefit and supreme honor of the unity of the Church.'"

Elect New Catholic University Trustees

St. Louis — A new and vastly changed board of trustees for the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., was elected here and provides broader representation of the national community it serves.

Non-Catholic, Negroes, women, and members of the clergy outside the hierarchy are represented for the first time. Total membership is now limited to 30, with at least 15 being laymen.

Following the final meeting of the outgoing

trustees at the Chase-Park Plaza Hotel, Cardinal O'Boyle of Washington, chancellor of the university, announced (April 21) election of the new board, including persons nationally known in finance, government, the arts and sciences, education, the professions and industry.

The acting rector said they are seeking almost double the financing which the university now is receiving. Specifically, he said, they are seeking \$4.5 million a year, which compares with approximately \$2.4 million the university now is getting.

There has been "slow growth in diocesan collections" for the university, Father Whalen said. He noted that around 1953 this annual nationwide collection represented 32% of the university's operating budget, but now it represents only 11%.

Film of Meeting Available

New York — (NC) — A filmstrip of the historic meeting between Pope Paul VI and Patriarch Athenagoras in Istanbul on July 25, 1967, is available through the Greek Orthodox archdioceses of North and South America offices here. The film, entitled "Day of Destiny," includes a tape recording and scenes from ceremonies in the Patriarchal church and the Catholic cathedral in Istanbul.

Urges Biblical Studies

Vatican City — (NC) — Pope Paul VI has urged biblical scholars to utilize "all the resources furnished by modern technique—in the literary historical and archeological domains."

Speaking to Old Testament scholars from 25 nations and all major Christian religions, he declared that their work is "of the greatest worth for bringing back the very highest values into modern society."

His audience of 150 Catholic, Jewish, Orthodox and Protestant scholars had been participating in the fifth International Congress of Old Testament Scholars. The papal audience was given on the final day (April 19th of the five-day congress, which met in Rome's Biblical Institute under the chairmanship of the Institute's rector, Father Rodrick Mackenzie, S.J.

The Pope, speaking in French, pointed out that the "three great families, Jewish, Protestant and Catholic," hold the Old Testament "in equally high honor."

He continued, "They can then study and venerate these holy books together. We say more: they can pray over the same texts. And what prayer is more deeply religious, more universal in its object, more moving in its accents than that of the Psalms?"

The Catholic Church, he said, "intends to be neither the last nor the least active" in the study of the Old Testament.

At Convention

U.S. Commissioner of Education Challenges Catholic Schools

San Francisco — U.S. Commissioner of Education Harold Howe, in a speech delivered to 12,000 participants in the National Catholic Education Association's 65th annual convention here (April 18), challenged Catholic educators to take a long, close look at Catholic schools and their role in American society.

Outlining the problems faced by education in the U.S., the 49-year-old Howe suggested that Catholic schools have a unique opportunity to bail out American education, if only they will take some chances. This opportunity, he said, grows from three special characteristics of the Catholic school system:

—First, the Catholic educational system is mainly metropolitan, and so is especially well suited to dealing with the problems of the city.

—Second, Catholic schools are free of the political considerations that often clog the administration of public education.

—Third, the diocesan boundaries of the Catholic school system include both cities and suburbs, and so allow Catholic educators to operate on a regional basis while public school educators are limited by city governments and localized school boards.

Mutual Services

"These three characteristics," Commissioner Howe said, "fit the Catholic educational system to join the public system in improving urban education, and they give it some possibilities for elements of leadership. . . .

"You," he told the Catholic

educators gathered here, "can mount experimental programs without the slow process of seeking formal public approval; you can reach for desegregation without fearing retaliation at the ballot box — though you may encounter it in the collection basket.

"Indeed, you can seek new adventures of cooperation with public schools, if you can locate school leaders who are unafraid to challenge some of the unconstructive assumptions of traditional Church-state separation. Leaders of this character are emerging in at least a few cities.

Why Tackle Problems?

"In response to such a suggestion from a public official, Catholic education officials might well ask, 'why?'" Commissioner Howe continued: "Why should Catholic education, which received precious little help from the public sector on its own financial problems, expect its resources to accomplish a social redemption that may properly be called the responsibility of public agencies?"

"Why should the Catholic parent, who supports his own parish school and at the same time supports public education with his taxes, dig even deeper in his pocket to educate non-Catholic children in the ghetto?"

"Catholic education emerged partly as a defense against a public education that was clearly Protestant, even anti-Catholic in nature. The public schools did not merely ignore the Catholic belief of some of their students; they were positively hostile to it.

"That time has passed."

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