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State bishops form Conference to foster welfare of Church

By PAUL G. FOX

The formation of an Indiana Catholic Conference, to promote the general welfare of the five Indiana dioceses, was revealed this week in Indianapolis.

Headquarters for the statewide Conference will be in Indianapolis, where an office will be maintained by a full-time lay executive secretary.

Named to the top post, to represent the state's five Bishops and various diocesan agencies and programs, was James Brennan, 47, former executive officer with the Ohio Education Association in Columbus. He will assume his duties on Monday, Sept. 19, with offices in the Illinois Building in downtown Indianapolis.

Prime purposes of the Conference are to provide a forum for the development of a common viewpoint among the dioceses of the state, and to provide the mechanism for developing this viewpoint through discussion and exchange. Further, the Conference is embodied to present this viewpoint before state departments and agencies, and organizations, including the Legislature, on matters of concern to the Church.

THE GOVERNING board of the Conference will be comprised of the Archbishop of Indianapolis and the Bishops of Evansville, Fort Wayne-South Bend, Gary and Lafayette.

Advising and consulting with the governing board on matters of policies, positions, programs and procedures will be the heads of the departmental units comprising the Conference.

Among the proposed departments are: school office, social services, legal advisory units, and diocesan councils of men and women.

As outlined in the formative stage, the entire Conference would meet during legislative years (of the Indiana General Assembly) to review legislation being proposed which might affect the program and interests of the Church.

Preliminary meetings are envisioned by Conference planners. The Bishops and their Chancellors would meet separately to review legislation affecting their spheres.

Summaries of viewpoints adopted would then be presented to the Bishops for final approval.

IT IS EXPECTED that each department will schedule additional meetings periodically throughout the year and appoint a contact man for liaison with the executive secretary of the Conference.

During non-legislative years, the same sections will probably meet to establish the goals of

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the CRITERION

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MEDIC AIDS WOUNDED G.I.—An Army medic bandages the arm of the wounded G.I. behind a rice paddy dike near Phu Loi, Vietnam, in recent front line action as another soldier holds the injured man's head out of the mud and water. (RNS photo)

COUNCIL AFTERMATH

Pope cautions priests about 'doubt, anxiety'

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy—Pope Paul VI cautioned that "a wave of doubt, embarrassment and anxiety" has invaded the minds of many priests in the wake of the Second Vatican Council. This, he said, "often poses numerous complex and unruly problems which easily reject . . . attitudes of piety and religious customs so far treasured and honored."

The pontiff was speaking to 600 pastors who were delegates to the 16th Italian National Week of Pastoral Reform held in Rome and were received in audience at the papal Summer villa here. He made pointed references to recent articles and books touching on the question of priestly celibacy.

The Pope began by stressing "the indispensable function of the priest, and especially the parish priest, in this new historic period which started for the Church at the Second Vatican Council."

"It is an absolute necessity," he said, "for all those who have authority or any function in the Church to have clear and certain ideas and to act with a firm and generous spirit.

"IT SEEMS very important to us that the mind of our clergy should find its lucidity and its balance again. No one is unaware that a wave of doubt, embarrassment and anxiety have invaded the minds of many priests, often posing numerous complex and unruly problems which easily reject the very respectable attitude of piety and religious customs so far treasured and honored.

"This wave engenders in certain priests an unjustified and depressing sense of disillusion. It turns their minds, as if by compensation, toward temporal realities and toward a humiliating conformism with the profane world.

"It poses troubling questions either by comparing the lay state with the priestly vocation or concerning the primary aim of the priesthood. A literature has sprung up illustrating and, at times, exaggerating this situation, which finds its reassuring answer in the council documents and in the theological, spiritual and canonical traditions of our ecclesiastical life.

"But we must reach answers soon to all these problems so as to avoid what the ferment of ideas brought about by the council could develop in an arbitrary instability of thought and in diminished cohesion to the Church. This is the task that the national episcopal conferences are trying to perform and this is also the task of meetings like yours, whose aim is to

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Catechetical Sunday observance slated

In a pastoral letter read last Sunday Archbishop Schulte called upon Archdiocesan Faithful to observe Catechetical Sunday, Sept. 18, as a "day of prayer and resolve."

He cited the "larger role to be played by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine" in the Archdiocese in view of the current enrollment crisis in some educational institutions.

"IN THIS THE year after the close of Vatican II we feel a particular urgency on the occasion of the annual Catechetical Sunday," he stated. "An urgency that but reflects the council's call to renewal of the Church in all its members. This call for renewal implies beyond the willingness to cooperate with grace a deeper understanding and greater awareness of our Holy Faith in line with the new insights and emphasis resulting from the council's deliberations."

The Archbishop strongly urged "a more formally organized catechetical program for those youth not attending Catholic schools." He reminded parents of their "serious responsibility and grave obligation of having their children attend parish schools of religion."

THE FORMATION of discussion groups among adults to study the documents of the council was endorsed in the pastoral. "There can be no implementation of the council's decrees unless our laity, who were of prime concern in the council's deliberations, come to know and understand more fully the documents of Vatican II."

Two 10-week catechetical training courses for adults will begin in different locations next week.

Introductory courses will be held at Our Lady of Grace Convent, Beech Grove, from 7 to 10 p.m. starting Wednesday, Sept. 21, and at St. Anthony's School, Clarksville, from 7 to 10 p.m. beginning Friday, Sept. 23. An advanced course for introductory certificate holders will also be held simultaneously at the Clarksville location.

Retreats for deaf are scheduled

INDIANAPOLIS — Catholic deaf children from throughout the state will have the opportunity for a retreat September 21, 22 and 24, to be given at the Indiana State School for the Deaf, 1200 E. 42nd St.

Directing the retreat will be Father David Walsh, C.SS.R., of Detroit. He will conduct a second retreat for the adult deaf at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 4610 N. Illinois St., on September 23, 24 and 25.

Father Joseph Dooley, pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas parish, directs the deaf apostolate in the Indianapolis area. Mass in sign language is offered at 10 a.m. every Sunday at St. Thomas.

HOMECOMING FESTIVAL IS SUNDAY—St. Louis Church, in Batesville, will hold its annual Homecoming Festival on Sunday, Sept. 18. Chicken and Beef Dinners will be served in the school cafeteria from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Reservations are advisable, according to Father Stephen Schneider, O.F.M., pastor. Turtle soup and other short orders will be served from 4 p.m. Children's rides, booths and games will be featured. All the booths are to be indoors in the school gymnasium. Shown above displaying some of the special prizes to be awarded during the festival are (seated from left): Mrs. James Fritsch, Mrs. Russell Green and Miss Lydia M. Forthofer. Standing from left are: Mrs. Louis Hoelker, Mrs. Adrian Borchelt, Mrs. James Struewing, Mrs. Al Wernke, Mrs. Dolores Horstman and Father Stephen. Not present for the photo was Mrs. John Doyle. All are officers of the Ladies Society or the Little Flower Society. (Staff photo)

PRELATE, SENATOR

Alert Catholics to urban ills

By MARGARET M. CARLAN

WASHINGTON — Urban social problems are not new, but demand solutions with new urgency in today's society, an archbishop and a United States senator told delegates to the 13th International Conference of Social Work attending special sessions sponsored by Catholic social service organizations.

Catholics were reminded of their special responsibility as Christians to help society find such solutions by Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle of Washington, D.C., and chided for their past failure to assume this responsibility by Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy (D., Minn.).

Archbishop O'Boyle preached at a Mass at St. Matthew's cathedral opening the day-long program (Sept. 8) sponsored by the International Conference of Catholic Charities (ICCC), the Catholic International Union of Social Service (CIUSS), and the National Conference of Catholic Charities, USA (NCCC). Principal concelebrant of the Mass was Cardinal Lawrence Shehan of Baltimore.

"URBANIZATION in itself is not new, as you know so well," the Archbishop told the delegates, "and changes in the patterns of urban living have been presented in every age and in all human societies. But in our times we are witnessing such a hastening of the pace of change that a new and compelling urgency is given to all of us to solve the massive problems of the cities of today."

"Christianity," he continued, "is no stranger to this task before you."

The city was known intimately by Christ in the circumstances of His birth, His public ministry, and His death, the Archbishop said, and the Church must speak for Christ in the city of today.

"As mankind goes about the task of reshaping its habitat, as the modern city takes on a volume that calls for new concepts and new methods, there are certain unchanging truths that must never be overlooked," he continued. "These are the spiritual dimensions of urban development, and they are essential to the creation of a moral climate of peace and order where man can fulfill all that is required of his human destiny.

"The city has been made for man, not man for the city. All of its physical and economic and political dimensions, therefore, must be directed to that larger purpose of promoting the inner and outer life of man, for whom it is made. The city is not primarily a place of business, or industry, or government; it is the living organism for the fullest expression of man's capacities for living and learning, and for serving God."

In reaching such goals for the city, Archbishop O'Boyle said, Catholic social workers must be "in the front line of leadership."

"You possess," he said, "not only the competence of your professional training; you have been given also the spiritual momentum of your faith in God. That faith, which we profess here at this Mass, reminds us that we are all members of the Family of God, and in us the fulness of the Law must be love for one another."

CATHOLICS have not been in the front line of such leadership in the United States, however, the delegates were told by Senator McCarthy who addressed a luncheon [illegible] of the CUSS, at the Sheraton Park Hotel.

"In this century," Senator McCarthy pointed out, "most industrial cities of the northern United States have been subject to political and cultural control or strong influence of Catholics."

"There is little evidence," he continued, "that this control has done more than meet peripheral or superficial problems."

America's cities also show little evidence, he said, of leadership with a vision of the city as the means to provide "a better way of life for men."

"Time has caught up with all of us, particularly with religious and political leaders," he said. "Our many advance positions, previously secure and removed from challenge, have been overrun. Negro leaders are saying: 'The time is now.' The poor are saying: 'There can be no postponement.' The cities are saying: 'We are here and must be recognized.'"

SUCH recognition, he said, calls for new and realistic political structures to govern vast metropolitan complexes which often cross state lines; clear identification of which problems can be best met by federal effort, which must be met by state and regional efforts, and which can be handled by local governmental units; improvement of both rural and urban living conditions; and extension of present efforts to meet special problems such as poverty.

McCarthy called for national re-examination of other spending programs in light of these needs.

He questioned whether urban needs should not outweigh spending "for putting a man on the moon" or improving the nation's highways.

"We have good highways and they are getting better," Senator McCarthy continued, "but

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Holy See, Yugoslavia name envoy

VATICAN CITY — The Holy See has named its first apostolic delegate in Yugoslavia since that communist ruled country broke off relations with it in 1952. He is Archbishop Mario Cagna who at the time of his appointment was apostolic pronuncio in Japan.

(Meanwhile, it was learned in Rome that the new Yugoslav representative at the Holy See will be Vladimir Curlja, former Yugoslav consul in Milan, Italy, and until recently president of the Croatian Republic's Commission on Religious Matters at Zagreb as well as a member of the federal government's Commission on Religious Matters at Belgrade. Croatia is one of the republics of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.)

THIS EXCHANGE of representatives without official diplomatic status, but with diplomatic privileges was provided for in the protocol signed by the Holy See and Yugoslavia on June 25 after two years of negotiations.

Archbishop Cagna was born near Alessandria, Italy, October 8, 1911. He studied at Rome's Gregorian and Lateran Universities and the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy, training school for Vatican diplomats. He received decrees in theology and canon law, and also got a degree in civil law at the University of Rome.

IN 1838 he went to the nunciature in The Netherlands and the following year became an official of the Congregation of the Sacraments.

After World War II, he went to the nunciature in Peru and in 1949 became counselor at the nunciature in Italy. He was named apostolic internuncio to Japan in 1962 and on June 7 of this year was promoted to the rank of pronuncio there.

Britain protests

LONDON — The British government has strongly protested to communist China over the ill treatment inflicted on a British nun, one of eight Franciscan Missionaries of Mary recently expelled from Peking.

Leadership institute plans See City center

A center for the famous Gabriel Richard Institute, designed to develop the "leadership potentials of God-centered people," will be established soon in Indianapolis, The Criterion learned this week.

Father James Moriarty, director of Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House, told The Criterion that representatives of the Detroit-based institute have been invited to conduct a free demonstration class at the retreat house on Tuesday, Sept. 27.

Developed 17 years ago "as a Christian answer to atheistic materialism," the actual course will be composed of nine weekly sessions of three hours each and will be conducted by trained, qualified volunteer leaders from the Detroit area. Theme of the series is "Personality Training for Christian Leadership."

ACCORDING to Father Moriarty, the course will be open to adult men and women, teenagers, priests and Religious. Attendance for each course will be limited to 30 candidates. A nominal fee is charged, which covers all texts, materials and prize awards.

The national director of the institute is Father Thomas J. Bresnaham, a priest of the Detroit archdiocese, who told The Criterion:

"The Richard training uses proven techniques, drills and exercises in public speaking to develop self-confidence. It will give the average Mary or Joe a new, vital personality and an awareness of his place in God's plan. By the completion of the course, the student has learned to speak effectively in public, has a better memory, solves problems more easily, and has re-discovered himself and his purpose.

"LACK OF self-confidence can cripple a personality. The Richard student learns what he is able to do, and how to do it—not by tedious study, but by lively stimulating do-it-now class exercises. The improvement invariably shows up in his home, job and community."

In the 17 years since its formation, the Gabriel Richard Institute has grown to include 31 key cities in the United States and other countries. It is named for a frontier priest who became the only priest to be elected to the U.S. Congress in 1823. He served as a missionary in Illinois, Indiana and Michigan from 1791 until his death in 1832.

Annual Volksfest set at Troy parish

TROY, Ind.—The annual St. Pius Volksfest (people's festival) will be sponsored by St. Pius parish here Saturday, Sept. 17, starting at 4 p.m.

Old German melodies will be played by a German band from Bloomington in a festively decorated beer garden with an old world atmosphere.

The dinner menu includes turtle soup (available by the gallon), Bauernwurst (farmer's sausage) and Broetchen (hard rolls). The packing plant at nearby St. Meinrad Archabbey will supply the sausage, while the abbey's bakery will prepare the rolls according to a recipe recently received from Herr Schmieder, town baker of Boebling, Wurttemberg, Germany.

The street in front of the parish church will be decorated with pennants and colorful banners modeled after the annual festival in Landshut, Bavaria.

A dance is scheduled at 8:30 p.m. in the parish hall for the teen-agers, with music provided by the contemporary "Phantoms" from Troy. A horse-drawn surrey is available to entertain the youngsters.

Drive-in service will also be provided for patrons wishing to buy turtle soup by the gallon.

Pastor of St. Pius parish is Father Eugene Weidman.