

# Dutch laity take control of schools

UTRECHT, The Netherlands—Cardinal Bernard Alfrink of Utrecht announced that Dutch bishops have given up their exclusive responsibility for Catholic education, assigning it to the parents of school-going children, the teachers' unions, and the school boards.

In his address to the 22 members of the Catholic Education Council, Cardinal Alfrink said: "Today your bishops lay the full responsibility for the well being of the Catholic schools on your shoulders, on you, parents; on you, teachers; on you, school boards; who together constitute our faithful, over whom we have been appointed as helpers and whom we wish to serve with our pastoral care."

Tracing the history of Catholic education in the Netherlands, the Dutch cardinal told his audience that thoughts about the nature of episcopal responsibility have quickly changed. In 1859, he recalled, he had himself said that both bishops and lay people were responsible for the Catholic schools. Then responsibility has been transferred to lay people, with the bishops as their helpers.

"According to the conciliar Constitution of the Church, it will always be up to the bishops," the cardinal said, "to preach the word, to sanctify society, and to govern the community. Yet the way in which they do so concretely will also be determined by the circumstances under which society is living, by the extent to which the faithful can bear their own responsibilities, in short, by the extent they have grown up."

"Only thus can it be understood that elsewhere in the world the responsibility for Catholic education is still fully the concern and the tasks of the bishops, as it was in the Netherlands before 1929, when the Catholic schools were not subsidized and had to be paid for by the faithful themselves. In such a situation the bishop had to become the man primarily responsible for Catholic education, not only in the minds of the faithful, but in his own mind."

"Now things have thoroughly changed, with the Catholic schools fully participating in the national school system, fully subsidized by the state and yet fully independent."

In the situation of education in The Netherlands, Catholic schools flourish. All 3,600 parishes in the country have an elementary school. They are attended by more than 1 million children, 44.3% of the total elementary school youth.

The same is true for the nearly 600 Catholic technical and secondary schools, with a total enrollment of 350,000 boys and girls. The two Catholic universities of Nijmegen and Tilburg are also subsidized by the Dutch government.

# Lectures slated for collegians

A summer series of lectures and discussions for college students in the Indianapolis area will be sponsored by the Newman Club of Butler Parish and St. Thomas Aquinas parish starting Sunday, June 28.

"The Church and the Modern World" will serve as the general theme of the series, to be held periodically on Sunday evenings in the air-conditioned conference room at St. Thomas School, 46th and N. Illinois St.

Father Raymond T. Bosler, S.T.D., pastor of Little Flower parish and editor of The Criterion, will launch the program June 28 at 8 p.m. His topic will be "The New Church."

On July 10, Father C. Patrick Smith, of the Marian College theology department, will speak on "The Church and Modern Doubt."

Other topics will include treatment of the Church and communism, Freud, ecumenism, international community and world peace. Speakers will be announced at a later date.

Father William Munshover, Butler Newman chaplain, is arrangements chairman.

**Cool, man...**  
Why not get mother out of the kitchen this week-end for a meal at one of the air-conditioned restaurants in our "Dining Out" series? You'll find it on Page Two.



BYE, BYE, BERTIE!—Bertie is the horse, and it is time for him to go back to the CYO Camp for the coming summer session. Bertie has been the guest and pet of the Santarossa family, 597 Wycombe Lane, Indianapolis, since last fall. Pictured with Bertie are the Santarossa children, left to right: Terry, Pam, Marie, John and David. The camping season for girls opens Sunday at the CYO camps in Brown County. (Details on Page 6)

# PASSES MICHIGAN HOUSE Bill gives tuition aid to college students

LANSING, Mich. — The Michigan House of Representatives gave a lopsided 84-10-17 endorsement to a precedent-setting bill designed to partly equalize the tuition costs for students attending private and public colleges.

Minor changes in the bill are expected to be approved by the Michigan Senate.

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The legislation, sponsored by Michigan's Protestant and Catholic colleges and universities, scheduled to go into effect by September, would provide up to \$800 a year, based on need, to freshmen entering colleges and universities which charge tuition in excess of \$480 a year.

The bill is expected to be approved by the Michigan Senate.

Students attending 22 private non-profit colleges, 17 of them church-related, are expected to be eligible. Of the church-related schools, seven are Catholic and ten are Protestant.

"We adopted a \$220 million higher education appropriation bill that provides from \$800 to \$1,800 assistance per student at public colleges," commented Rep. William A. Ryan of Detroit during debate on the bill. "This bill merely provides some assistance to these students who attend private colleges and universities."

The bill is expected to provide about \$35 million in grants during the first year of operation to an estimated 8,300 students.

Opponents of the bill argued that it would violate the principle of separation of Church and State. Ryan pointed out that it would provide aid to the student, not to the institution. He cited a growing number of examples where public funds have been used to provide services to individuals through private institutions, such as social welfare programs covering hospital services or the tuition payments to veterans under the GI Bill after World War II.

The bill is expected to supplement Michigan's competitive scholarship bill, adopted two years ago, which awards up to \$800 a year to students toward the cost of attending the college of their choice. The awards are based on a ranking drawn up from an examination.

PRIVATE college presidents in Michigan have expressed hope that the scholarship bill would bring a reversal of the decline in the percentage of Michigan students attending private colleges, but this year endorsed the tuition differential grant bill as a necessary additional legislative step to help Michigan college students at private

institutions has dropped from 26 to 18 per cent in the past 20 years.

Rising costs combined with increasing levels of state assistance and public schools have, in effect, meant that necessarily higher tuition at private colleges is beginning to price them out of business, the presidents said. The effect is to set up an economic bar to the constitutional right of freedom of education of schools in obtaining an education, they said.

Supporters of the bill expressed hope that in future years amendments can be made which will provide support for needy students seeking to attend public colleges with less than \$480 tuition.

The tuition differential grant bill would provide assistance to students who are Michigan residents and requires that the institutions comply with the non-discrimination requirements of the federal Civil Rights Act. It would bar grants to students studying for a degree in theology or divinity and to students attending colleges wholly secular in nature.

# ON MITCHELL CHURCH Limestone deposits slow construction

By PAUL G. FOX

MITCHHELL, Ind.—The Lawrence County area of Indiana has long been famous for its limestone deposits, which have made the local economy prosperous.

But Father Meinrad Rouck, 79-year-old pastor of St. Mary's parish here, had not anticipated encountering significant limestone deposits at the site of his new parish church under construction on 11th Street. Difficulties in excavation for footings, however, swells the churchings and the partial basement have delayed the new church schedule by several months.

Father Rouck, who also serves as dean of the Bedford Denary, had hoped the new church, begun last year, would be completed in time for this summer's influx of visitors to nearby Spring Mill State Park, the state's most popular recreation area. According to present plans, however, the building won't be completed for another six months — hopefully by Christmas.

The present St. Mary's, picturesque but deteriorating with the passing of years, has seating accommodations for about 120 persons, the normal size of the permanent congregation. Normal Sunday attendance during vacation months, however, swells the churchings to more than 200, forcing the people into the sacristy and onto the front sidewalk. Father Rouck offers three Masses each Sunday during the "peak" season.

The new church, to be finished inside and out appropriately with Indiana limestone, will



SURVEYS CHURCH CONSTRUCTION—Very Rev. Meinrad Rouck, V.F., pastor of St. Mary's parish, Mitchell, and dean of the Bedford Denary, surveys the progress of construction of his new parish church. Initial efforts were slowed considerably as workmen encountered large chunks of limestone deposits at the building site. Father Rouck hopes for completion of the edifice before the end of the year. The Mitchell parish church draws thousands of vacationers each summer from nearby Spring Mill State Park. (Staff photo)

# Rule Index no longer has the force of law

VATICAN CITY — The Doctrinal Congregation has ruled, with Pope Paul VI's concurrence, that the Index of Forbidden Books "no longer has the force of ecclesiastical law."

But, it said, the Index "preserves its moral force insofar as it teaches the conscience of the Christian faithful to avoid, as the natural law itself demands those writing which can put faith and good morals in danger."

The Doctrinal Congregation "notification" or notice was silenced by its non-act. Cardinal Alfredo Ottaviani and its secretary, Archbishop Pietro Parente. It was issued in reply to many bishops who had asked what status the Index held.

IN A DECREE issued on his initiative, in the papal pro-prio Interese Servandae of December 7, 1965, Pope Paul VI reformed the former Holy Office and gave it the new title of Doctrinal Congregation. The Pope also said the Doctrinal Congregation would examine and if necessary condemn books after consultation with the author. But he made no mention of the Index itself, a list of books condemned for the most part without the author's consent to defend his work or withdraw it.

An article in L'Osservatore Romano, Vatican City daily, explaining the Doctrinal Congregation's notice said the Index "was a part of the Holy Office's structure, and consequently it is to be held that the Index as such will not continue to exist." The article indicated that this consideration had a prompted the Index's clarification in the Index's status.

THE DOCTRINAL Congregation's notice said the Church "trusts in the mature conscience of the faithful, especially in the conscience of Catholic authors and editors and of those who conduct schools for the young."

But the Church puts "its strongest hope" in bishops, individually and in regional conferences, it said. It is their "right and duty" to watch over harmful books, forestall them and if necessary "censure and disapprove" them, the document noted.

The Doctrinal Congregation said it would, if necessary, get in touch with bishops to help them in this work. Universities and institutes of higher studies will also be of help, it added.

L'Osservatore Romano commented: "In that way the Holy See and the episcopate will efficaciously act in a harmony of minds to stem dangers and to promote healthy doctrine."

The daily then asked: "Will there then be no more solemn condemnations such as putting works on the Index as in the past?" It answered itself:

"The notice admonishes that the Holy See, according to the demands of natural law and of divine mandate, reserves for itself the right to condemn publicly a book which offends against faith and morals, but it will do so only after benevolently asking the author to amend his book and if the author refuses to do so."

The Doctrinal Congregation's notice concluded: "Fin" (Continued on page 9)



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# PREFERS GRADUAL APPROACH

# Pope delays action on council decrees

VATICAN CITY — Pope Paul VI has delayed indefinitely the date on which application of the council's various legislation of the Second Vatican Council goes into effect.

In a motu proprio dated June 10 and published the following day he prolonged the "vacatio legis" or the suspension of the legislation's effect beyond the originally established date of June 29.

The Pope said that he was putting into effect the remaining conciliar documents will be published soon, but gradually, rather than on a single date.

HE RECALLED that with the Apostolic Letter "Finis Coelestis" of January 2 he had set up postconciliar commissions to draft norms for practical application of the conciliar documents on bishops, on the Religion, on missions, on Christian education, and on the lay apostolate. These norms have been drafted and submitted to him.

He said that the central postconciliar commission told him that in its opinion—shared by the commissions drafting the norms—it would be opportune to publish the acting decrees gradually.

HE SAID a more important

consideration in the opinion of the central commission was the harmonious and well-ordered application of the council's directives. He pointed out that some of the norms and postconciliar agencies deriving from the council's prescriptions are closely linked with the proposed—and already begun—reform of the Roman Curia.

The central postconciliar commission to which the Pope referred is headed by Cardinal

# Center, left coalition wins election in Rome

ROME—The Vatican backed coalition of center and left won a clear majority in Rome's municipal elections, frustrating a communist bid to take over city hall.

The communists edged forward, however, picking up two seats on the 80-seat municipal council to bring their total to 21.

The Christian Democrats—backbone of the center-left coalition—also picked up two seats. Because of losses and gains by other coalition parties, the coalition as a whole gained only one seat. But this was enough to give it a slim but uncontested majority of 41 seats.

The real losers in the city elections (June 12-13) were the far-rightists who ran under a ticket known as the Italian Social Movement and who lost six of their 13 seats, and Italian Vice Premier Pietro Nenni's Socialists, who lost three of their nine seats.

POLITICAL observers attributed the far-right's losses to the Vatican's repeated appeals for "Catholic unity" which in Italian political terms meant appeals to Catholics to concentrate their votes on the Christian Democrats lest the communists gain the upper hand.

Nenni's Socialists were believed to have yielded their lost votes to the Proletarian Socialists who split away from them two years ago in protest against Nenni's alienation from his one-time communist friends and his participation in Italy's center-left coalition.

Italian President Giuseppe Saragat's Democratic Socialists, who broke away from Nenni's Socialists almost 20 years ago in protest against their affiliation with the Communist party, picked up three seats to bring the Democratic Socialist total to eight.

The fourth member of the coalition, the Republican party, kept its single seat on the city council, but obtained an increased percentage of votes.

THE TOTAL percentage of votes given to the four parties of the coalition came to 49.7%, up 0.5 percentage points from the votes these parties gained in the municipal elections four years ago.

The communists picked up 2.5 points, bringing their share of the votes to 25.3%.

About 4 million of the 4.8 million electors eligible to cast ballots in the local elections took advantage of their right to vote. In Rome the percentage of actual voters edged up almost imperceptibly from previous municipal elections.

# Card. Ritter urges study of papacy

ST. LOUIS—Cardinal Joseph Ritter called on some of the nation's top commentators here to take up a study of one of the "fundamental questions" needing serious dialogue—the Catholic understanding of the papacy.

Addressing some 300 Protestant, Orthodox and Catholic delegates at the National Workshop for Christian Unity here, the archbishop of St. Louis said the papacy is not diminished in this age of ecumenism.

"IT WOULD be an injustice and a deception to suggest otherwise," he said in a dinner address. He noted that the Decree on Ecumenism of Vatican Council II called it "essential" that the doctrine be presented clearly and in its entirety.

"If in this way we Catholics maintain honesty in our ecumenical exchanges," he said, "we will honor the integrity of our fellow Christians and proclaim our own sincerity."

THE CARDINAL said that there has been a "noteworthy reduction of tension in many aspects of the dialogue in recent years."

"Nevertheless," he continued, "there remain some fundamental questions, lingering always on the threshold of ecumenism, which continue to be postponed or alluded to only in passing."

The cardinal told the delegates that the papacy seen in light of the collegiality of the bishops—a doctrine begun by Vatican I and continued in the Second Vatican Council—may provide the threshold of ecumenism that can open the way to Christian unity.



VISITS ARCHBISHOP—Newly-elected Archbishop Gabriel Verkamp of St. Meinrad Archdiocese paid a courtesy call on Archbishop Schulte during a visit to Indianapolis this past week. (Staff photo)