LUTHERANS CONVENE PARLEY IN HELSINKI; WILL REVIEW TENETS

By WERNER WISKARI

Special to The New York Times

HELSINKI, Filand — The Lutheran World Federation, which represents nearly 52,000,000 of the world's 72,000,000 Lutherans, began its fourth assembly here.

The assembly has as its theme "Christ Today." This reflects what federation officials have set as the chief task of the meeting — a discussion of the relevance in the Atomic Age of Lutheran doctrines that are four centuries old.

There will be a re-examination of Martin Luther's so-called teaching of "justification by faith." With this doctrine, Luther rejected Roman Catholic insistence on deeds as the means of salvation and held that the Bible prescribed only a belief in Christ's atonement for the sins of mankind.

A federation spokesman said there would be attempts during the discussions here to restate Lutheran tenets in modern terms and a re-evaluation of the Lutheran decision to forsake Catholicism.

Assembly Gets Report

In a report to the assembly, the federation's commission on theology says Lutherans can no longer "take it for granted that the reformers were right and their opponents totally wrong."

"We cannot today casually dismiss the theological teaching of the Roman Church as patently false, unbiblical and unevangelical," the report added.

At a news conference, the two Roman Catholic observers attending the assembly agreed that their presence implied a recognition of Lutheranism as a "true church" of Jesus Christ.

The Rev. John Witte, professor of Protestant and ecumenical theology at the Gregorian University of Rome, denied, however, that the Lutheran Church was "on the same level" as Roman Catholicism.

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NOW!

PENN STATION SOUTH POWER BACK AFTER $100,000 FIRE

All electric power except that required to operate air-conditioning equipment was restored on a temporary basis to Penn Station South, the 2,820-apartment development on the West Side.

A spectacular fire in a power switchboard building had cut off electricity to the 10 buildings.

Abraham Kazan, president of the United Housing Foundation, which built and is operating the 10,000-resident cooperative between 23rd and 29th Streets and Eighth and Ninth Avenues, said that damage was estimated at more than $100,000.

He added that the loss was covered by insurance and that a manufacturer already was at work building a new switchboard. Construction and installation of this equipment—which distributes to the buildings power from four transformers—will take about six weeks. Until then, emergency equipment will be used, and no air conditioning will be available.

Editor's Note: Psalm 91:7 "A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee."

Although we were in the center, of the above mentioned $100,000 fire, praise the Lord, it did not come nigh us.

'NUTS' SUIT STANDS

NEW YORK (AP) — A judge refused to dismiss a $250,000 libel suit brought by one lawyer against another lawyer who called him "nuts."

One of the important aspects of the Outdoor Gospel Crusade meetings is talking to individuals and then leaving the printed word with them in the form of tracts and messages of God's Word. Here Dr. Little approached a man with a tract and was told that he had aready received one several hours earlier and had read it.

ROMAN CATHOLICS AND BIRTH CONTROL

It is still too glibly assumed that the Roman Catholic Church is a rigidly authoritarian institution, whose members are loath to speak on any issue until the pulpit gives the cue. Evidence of how fatuous it is to talk of "the Church attitude" as something either monolithic or frozen is abundant in the vast range of Catholic opinion on birth control, as reflected in The Times survey.

The crisis created in many countries by the enormous expansion of population and the resulting misery for hundreds of millions of men, women and children has prompted a widespread reappraisal of traditional positions, both as to methods of limiting births without violating the Church's basic beliefs and as to the formulation of public policy on the dissemination of knowledge about birth control.

There is among Church authorities an increasing recognition that in a pluralistic society the moral views of all groups must be respected and that birth control has a necessary place in any multi-part solution of the population problem. It is not for the Catholic to impose his morality about method on the non-Catholic; it is not for the non-Catholic to insist that the Catholic accept birth preventives offensive to his religion.

A worldwide ferment is going on in all institutions. The Church's readiness to keep its own thinking under constant re-examination has been demonstrated in many fields by Popes John XXIII and Paul VI. Out of the exchanges of viewpoint this approach encourages on birth control come hopes for a better reconciliation of the ideas of Catholics and non-Catholics on a community and world problem both should be working in joint conscience to solve.

NEGRO EVANGELISTS REBUKE DR. GRAHAM ON INTEGRATION

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A group of Negro evangelists has taken the white evangelist, the Rev. Dr. Billy Graham to task for saying "Forced integration will never work."

Dr. Graham, conducting a month-long religious rally in Los Angeles said that integration "must come from the heart if it is to be successful."

Dr. Graham said that he was alarmed at efforts to push integration too quickly.

Marvil L. Prentis, spokesman for the National Negro Evangelical Association, said in a statement:

"Dr. Graham consistently fails to appreciate the intensity of this great social dilemma which cries out to be met head-on."

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEIGH INTEGRATION

LAFAYETTE, La. (AP) — Parochial schools in the Diocese of Lafayette — which has more Negro Catholics than any other diocese in the nation — will be integrated when public schools in southwestern Louisiana are desegregated, it was announced,

The Most Rev. Maurice Schexnayder, bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese, said a desegregation plan had not been determined yet.

No public schools in the diocese, which has the highest percentage of Catholics of any diocese in the United States, are now integrated. Suits to integrate state-operated trade schools are pending in Federal court.

The New Orleans Archdiocese integrated its schools in 1961. The diocese of Baton Rouge announced that it would start integration in 1964 in the 11th and 12th grades. The state's other Catholic subdivision, the Alexandria diocese, has made no announcement.

There are 74,227 Negro Catholics in the Lafayette Diocese, which is composed of 13 civil parishes. It has 338,703 Catholics out of a population of 637,361.

The diocese has 69 Negro Catholic churches and 19 parochial schools with an enrollment of 5,613.

CATHOLICS TO STUDY EFFECT OF PAROCHIAL EDUCATION

CHICAGO (UPI)—A nationwide survey was begun to measure the effect of parochial education on Roman Catholics in the United States.

The Rev. Andrew M. Greeley, a member of the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago, said that the survey would seek to determine "whether there is a special moral and value flavor which is imparted to parochial school pupils."

The study, financed by a $136,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation, will focus on 2,000 Catholic families and 500 non-Catholic families.

Catholics who attended public schools will be compared with those who attended parochial schools to learn what differences exist between the two groups in religious practices, occupational achievement, attitudes toward education, opinions on nonreligious public issues and integration into the larger community.

QUOTE AND UNQUOTE

STAUNTON STAR-TIMES, of Ill.: "Many a molehill can be made into a mountain by constantly adding some dirt."