

The Anglican Congregations

A 76-YEAR-OLD EPISCOPAL PRIEST who has been called "the father of America's space program" has decided to leave the Episcopal Church and join the Anglican Catholic Church.

The Rev. John Bruce Medaris, retired former Army major general, headed the nation's space program at Redstone Arsenal and Cape Canaveral when the U.S. launched its first satel-

lite more than 20 years ago.

Since his retirement from the Army in 1960, Fr. Medaris has lived in Maitland, Fla. After a cure from bone cancer eight years ago, he became a priest, and has been serving as associate rector of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Maitland.

In announcing his decision, Fr. Medaris was quoted by the AP as saying

he was "not going to tailor the scriptures to suit people's beliefs. I am committed to the faith as it has always been believed . . . It just seems everything is going the way of secular humanism. We've been accommodating the church to the world instead of accommodating the world to the church. And that's not what the Lord said we should do."

Fr. Medaris said he intends "to see what can be done to open up a new congregation here."

A DEANERY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA has been established by the Anglican Catholic Interparish Council of that area with the intention of developing it into a diocese of the Anglican Catholic Church in a few years. All the Anglican congregations, except one, are presently a part of the Diocese of the Holy Trinity. The Church of the Holy Apostles, Glendale, Calif., which is a part of the Diocese of Christ the King, will participate in the Deanery with voice and vote, but will not be a member.

"THE FOUR SEPARATED PARISHES have decided to appeal the decision rendered against them last June 21 by Superior Court Judge J. Wesley Reed in their property dispute with the diocese," THE EPISCOPAL NEWS (Diocese of Los Angeles) reported in its January issue.

Judge Reed ruled last June "that individuals who have left the Episcopal Church have no claim to property originally dedicated to the Church . . ." and an accompanying injunction required the parishes to surrender title, possession and control of all property to the diocese.

"When the appeal was filed, Judge Reed ruled that each of the four congregations could continue to use the property during the appeal period providing they posted an appeal bond and kept the property fully insured. The appeal bonds set were quite low, and each parish has posted the required bond: St. Mary of the Angels, Hollywood, \$30,000; St. Matthias, Sun Valley, \$5,000; Holy Apostles, Glendale, \$20,000; and Church of Our Saviour, Los Angeles, \$10,000."

Litigation in the case is at least a year away, and the appeal period may last substantially longer.

THE REV. DWAIN A. JENISTA, who resigned as rector of All Saints'

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Episcopal Church in late 1978 to become rector of St. Francis' Anglican Church in Fort Scott, Kansas, died on January 15 of cancer.

Fr. Jenista, at the time of his death, had been under inhibition by the Rt. Rev. Arthur A. Vogel, Episcopal Bishop of West Missouri, for about two months, and presumably would have been deposed if he had lived until May. His medical and life insurance poli-

cies, held through the Diocese of West Missouri, had also been cancelled.

He is survived by his wife, Kay, and three children.

Individuals wishing to offer financial help to the family of Fr. Jenista may send tax-exempt contributions to the Foundation for Christian Theology, P. O. Box 2624, Victoria, TX 77901, and these should be earmarked "For the Family of the Rev. Dwain A. Jenista."

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Christian faith has to be reshaped," when "the message must be reshaped, as it has been done in past ages by St. Augustine, Thomas Aquinas and more recently Pierre Teilhard de Chardin." Through his studies, he concluded that "the clues for modernizing the Christian message lie in Judaism. The deeper I got into it, the more my faith was strengthened."

In reaction to Bishop Spong's election as bishop coadjutor of Newark in 1976, a large group of Episcopal priests and laymen from 35 dioceses issued an open letter to all diocesan bishops, expressing their concern as to the Rev. Mr. Spong's theological soundness.

The letter noted specifically statements excerpted from his book, *THIS IS THE NEW TESTAMENT*, "which are on their face unorthodox," and a "public state-

ment he made in 1974 which appeared to deny the Church's teaching that Christ is divine."

"JAMES E. GROPPi, the radical Roman Catholic priest who was a leading civil rights demonstrator during the 1960's, has accepted a parish position in Detroit with St. Andrew's Memorial Episcopal Church," according to THE DETROIT NEWS.

"The 47-year-old cleric recently completed a year's study in the Episcopal religion at Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria. Groppi's effort to transfer to the Episcopal Church last year in Milwaukee was rejected because of what he terms 'an under-the-table agreement' in Wisconsin that neither denomination will accept a transferred priest from the other church." He was then accepted by the Rt. Rev. H. Coleman McGehee, Episcopal Bishop of

Michigan, who was quoted as saying he had "a couple of positions in mind" for Groppi, including working with the parish outreach program and organizing in a poverty area where church membership has been declining.

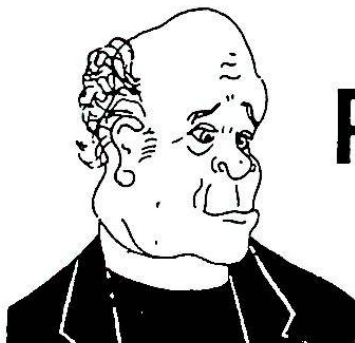
"THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH will be asked at its forthcoming General Convention to adopt a new ecumenical posture to replace the historic Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral as the basis on which our communion would agree to negotiate church unity with other communions," the Nov.-Dec., 1978, issue of CHURCH LIFE (Diocese of Ohio) reported.

The proposal was one of several to come from a National Ecumenical Consultation held in Farmington, Mich., in early November. The meeting was attended by 75 "especially invited (by Presiding Bishop John M. Allin) bishops, priests and laypeople," and Bishop John Burt of Ohio served as general chairman of the Consultation in his role as chairman of the Standing Commission on Ecumenical Relations of the Episcopal Church.

"The 'Denver Quadrilateral,' as the new unity formula is already being called (in anticipation of next fall's General Convention in that city), differs

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FATHER ABSURDIUS



Pecusa's Ad Vantage

Various denominations, including PECUSA, have had very little trouble getting attention from the media of late. This has not been an unmixed blessing, for, while we like everyone to know that we are alive, the usual stories do not indicate that we are very well. We do not read, "Church saves 3 millions in 1979." That is too hard to document, dull copy and much too abstract. It is the sociological battles which grab the headlines: Women priests, gay rights, guerilla warfare financed by the WCC. It is clearly time for the churches to strike back with a media blitz of their own. This point was brought home to me by my friend, Dwight Wash, who works for a prestigious Madison Avenue firm.

"You realize that the Church has become much too controversial," Dwight informed me over a dinner of hot dogs and apple pie. "People don't like that. They come to church

to be told how good they are if they're conceited, and how bad they are if they have a guilt complex. They want to be consoled, not upset. You never see a large American corporation running a really thought-provoking commercial or sponsoring some controversial documentary that is likely to rile up the American Rifle Association or some other big interest group, do you?

"Sure, I know that in real life you don't see happy customers dancing their way through a supermarket or McDonald's. Most people aren't as attractive as our models — they don't smile as much, aren't as concerned with the way they smell, and don't live in houses as big as the ones we use as sets. But that doesn't bother the viewer. Your typical ad watcher likes to think that he or she is just like the people we show them. We sell the image; that's what people really buy. When someone lights up a cigarette, he wants to picture himself riding a horse through Marlborough country, or flexing his muscles on the beach, not lying in a hospital bed coughing his lungs out. Ads give people faith in a better life. That's what the Church is for too. That's why the Church needs us now."

I have given a great deal of thought to what Dwight said, and, in particular, how his ideas might be applied to St. Benjamin's to stimulate our dwindling congregation. I will report on the results of my experiments in the near future.

*Fr. J. Overley Absurdus
St. Benjamin's-on-the-Brink*

The Anglican Congregations

THE CONGREGATION OF THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, West Palm Beach, Fla., has been ordered by a Circuit Judge to find another place to worship. According to the PALM BEACH TIMES, Judge William Rutter issued a 13-page opinion on Feb. 21, saying the property belongs to the Episcopal Diocese of Southeast Florida, and the Anglican congregation must relinquish their use of it by March 3, although the Rt. Rev. Peter Francis Watterson, rector of the parish and Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of the Southeastern U.S., indicated that Holy Spirit will appeal the ruling.

The Rt. Rev. James Duncan, Episcopal Bishop of Southeast Florida, was quoted by the TIMES as saying there are only 15 or 16 members remaining in the original West Palm Beach congregation, which now has the right to return to the church. He said the "loyalist members" have been worshipping at St. Christopher's Church in West Palm Beach since October, 1977, when the Holy Spirit congregation voted 185-14 to withdraw from the Episcopal Church.

Bishop Duncan was quoted as saying: "In 1975 there were about 600 people

in the congregation, and when the vote came to leave the Church, there were only 204 who were eligible to vote. Everybody else had been purged. I want to find out where the 400 have gone and what's happened to them."

THE MIAMI HERALD reported that Bishop Duncan "held out a peace offering to Watterson and his dissidents, saying he will suggest that the two feuding groups try to use the same Allendale Road facilities for 'a reasonable time,' perhaps until the splinter group can find a new home.

"Watterson, however, dismissed the idea, saying simply: 'I don't think so.'" He indicated "that his congregation of about 100 will leave the contested property peacefully."

A NEW ECCLESIAL BODY has been formed in Canada, with the avowed aims of becoming a diocese of the Anglican Catholic Church and electing a bishop as soon as possible. At the present, fourteen clergy and nine congregations are involved in the effort, but at least two more Anglican congregations will be established in the near future.

Officers of the new organization include the Rev. Carmino J. deCatanzaro,

rector of the Parish of the Annunciation, Ottawa, who serves as chairman; Mr. Colin Grant of Edmonton, Alberta, who is vice-chairman; and the Rev. David Belden, rector of St. Athanasius' Parish, Montreal, secretary.

THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF CHRIST THE KING, meeting in synod at the Church of the Holy Nativity in Payson, Arizona, on January 30-31, failed to consider ratification of the proposed Constitution for the Anglican Catholic Church. The document was developed and provisionally adopted at a Constitutional Assembly held last October in Dallas.

The proposed Constitution will become effective after it has been ratified by four dioceses of the ACC, after which time a Provincial Synod will be called to complete consideration of those articles not deliberated at the Dallas meeting.

The Anglican Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic, meeting in early January, was the first diocese to ratify.

THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF THE RESURRECTION, which includes congregations in New York, New Jersey and a part of Pennsylvania, became the second ACC diocese to ratify the proposed Constitution when it met in



THE GOOD SHEPHERDS FUND HAS HAD A BUSY YEAR

Established a year ago by the Foundation for Christian Theology, the Fund was intended to help meet the financial needs of priests who had broken their ties with the Episcopal Church and moved out on faith in order to establish new Anglican congregations.

Most of these men have not had an easy time of it, since they had no financial guarantee of any kind from a parish or a diocese. The Fund has tried to help when they have asked — to pay moving expenses, to catch up on family bills, to pay rent, to pay on medical insurance, and even to help one man stay in seminary so he can, one day, become a priest in the Continuing Church.

But we'd like to do even more — and that will be possible only if you are willing to help. Won't you please send a special Easter contribution, earmarked for the Good Shepherds Fund, to:

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special synod on Feb. 24.

THE CONGREGATION OF ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN PARISH, Sewanee, Tenn., recently was denied use of the chapel at the University of the South Hospital for their worship. In a meeting with the Rt. Rev. John M. Allin, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church and Chancellor of the University, a committee from St. Stephen's was also refused permission to rent, buy, lease or use anything on the 10,000-acre domain of the University, although a Roman Catholic congregation is allowed the use of St. Luke's Chapel, which is part of the University's School of Theology.

Members of St. Stephen's are now holding 11:30 A.M. Sunday services in the Sewanee Cumberland Presbyterian Church, which is located near the property belonging to the University of the South.

ALTHOUGH IT WAS FORMED only a few months ago, St. James' Anglican Church, in the Kansas City area, has grown so fast that the congregation found it necessary to move its worship from a private home to larger facilities.

The parish began with only a half-dozen members who met in a private home starting last November. By January, the more than 60 members of St. James had to re-locate, and the congregation is presently holding services at the Prairie Village Community Center, 2900 W. 79th St. According to the Rev. James Krehemker, deacon-in-charge who resigned from All Saints' Episcopal Church and the Diocese of West Missouri on Nov. 20, the congregation is now seeking a permanent location.

THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY, Howell, is the newest Anglican congregation to be formed in the State of Michigan. It was incorporated on Feb. 10, with the Rev. David P. Sprunk as rector.

Fr. Sprunk resigned as rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, Howell, effective on March 10, continuing to serve both congregations during that period. The new Anglican parish is presently holding worship at the Southeast Elementary School gymnasium in Howell.

THE REV. LARRY A SNYDER, rector of St. Paul's Anglican Church, Shocton, Ohio, has accepted a call to

become the rector of St. Alban's Anglican Church, State College, Pa. Fr. Snyder, who has also been serving as Archdeacon of the Anglican Diocese of the Midwest, is expected to assume his new duties shortly after Easter.

THE REV. FREDERICK E. PREUSS II, rector of the Anglican Church of the Incarnation, Northfield, Vermont, has become the rector of St. Dunstan's Anglican Church, Franklin, Tenn., near Nashville.

The Rev. Stephen Springer will serve the Vermont congregation as deacon-in-charge.

ST. BOTOLPH'S CHURCH has been formed in Boston, Mass., as a mission of the Anglican Church of St. Alban, Harvard, Mass., according to the rector, the Rev. C. David Burt.

St. Botolph, a Saxon monk and abbot who established a Benedictine monastery in the marshy wilderness about 100 miles northeast of London during the 8th Century, was known for his gentle and kindly leadership. As evidence of the great respect felt for him, more than 60 churches in east central England were named for him, including the church in Boston, England. "Boston" was the contraction which came to be used instead of St. Botolph's Town.

Boston, Mass., was named for St. Botolph, but it is believed that this is the first mission or church in that city to be named for him since an Episcopal Church disbanded in 1851.

The new Anglican congregation is now holding services on Sunday afternoon in the Swedenborgian Church of the New Jerusalem, 140 Bowdoin St., Boston.

DAVID H. MARION-DAVIS, a member of the Anglican Church of St. Edward the Confessor, Houston, TX., has become the first deacon in the Anglican Diocese of the Southwest. Mr. Marion-Davis, who is a public relations executive and a graduate of General Theological Seminary, New York, was ordained to the diaconate on Feb. 24 by the Rt. Rev. C. Dale David Doren, Episcopal Visitor to the diocese, at a service held in the Chapel of the Bellaire United Methodist Church, Bellaire (Houston).

THE REV. RICHARD E. THURMSTON of San Diego, Calif., has

become the first rector of St. Edward the Confessor Anglican Church, Houston. Fr. Thurmston resigned his rectorship of St. Andrew's-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, San Diego, last October.

THE REV. WILLIAM L. BUCK has become the rector of St. Mary's Anglican Church, Plano, Texas. Fr. Buck once served on the staff of St. Matthew's Cathedral in Dallas for a four-year period, and was rector of Our Saviour Episcopal Church in Dallas for two years. From 1959-60, he was Professor of Moral Theology at the Episcopal Seminary in Haiti.

More recently, Fr. Buck has served St. Paul's Anglican Church, Central City, Colo., and Calvary Anglican Church, Idaho Springs, Colo. He was a presenter of Bishop James O. Mote at the first ACC consecration, held in Denver in Jan., 1978.

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Service Book, expected to appear in 1980."

THE FIRST LAY PRESIDENT of the Council for the Faith in Canada is also its first woman president. She is Mrs. Jeannette Mynett of Wilkie, Saskatchewan, who has been a lay leader in the Diocese of Saskatoon for many years.

Mrs. Mynett served on the Executive Council of the diocese from 1973-1976. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Allegheny College, Meadville, Pa., and her Master of Arts in Christian Education from Seabury-Western Theological Seminary. Mrs. Mynett was elected during the recent annual meeting of the Council for the Faith, held in Regina, Sask.

"TO EXPRESS ITS DISSATISFACTION with the World Council of Churches' support of terrorist groups, the Presbyterian Church of Southern Africa has decided to retain its membership but to use its membership fees to help 'WCC victims,'" THE PRESBYTERIAN JOURNAL has reported.

The General Assembly, meeting in Pretoria, adopted a resolution to express in strongest terms its disapproval of such grants, urging the WCC to "show its compassion, true Christian intent and witness by making appropriate financial

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realm."

"MORE THAN 30 MILLION LEGAL ABORTIONS are performed worldwide each year, with more than 1 million of them in the U.S., according to a report by the Alan Guttmacher Institute, an affiliate of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America," Religious News Service has reported.

Since the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court ruling liberalizing abortion, more than 5 million U.S. women have obtained legal abortions, and the number of these increased from about 745,000 in 1973 to 1.3 million in 1977. It is estimated that U.S. women have terminated almost 3 out of 10 pregnancies by abortion in recent years.

According to statistics for 1977 re-

leased by the District of Columbia Department of Human Resources, for the second year in a row there were more abortions than live births in the nation's capital. In 1977, a total of 12,718 women in the Washington area had abortions, while D.C. hospitals reported a total of 9,885 live births. Some 53% of all D.C. babies were born out of wedlock during the same period.

The Anglican Congregations

THE REV. ALAN V. CAREFULL, Warden and Administrator of the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, Walsingham, England, completed a tour in late June of Anglican Catholic parishes throughout the United States.

Fr. Carefull visited congregations in Boston, Newark, Toronto, Ottawa, Cleveland, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Des Moines, Dallas, Albuquerque, Denver and Salt Lake City. His last stop before returning to England was Los Angeles, where he was a guest of the Southern California Deanery of the Diocese of the Holy Trinity.

A CALIFORNIA STATE Supreme Court decision on May 28 could have a direct bearing on property cases now pending in the California courts between former parishes of the Episcopal Church and the dioceses from which they separated.

The California Supreme Court sustained an opinion by the California District Court of Appeals, which ruled unanimously in favor of the Community Presbyterian Church of Palm Springs, rather than its Presbytery, regarding ownership of the congregation's property.

Since the decision of the Appellate Court is now the law of the State of California, the case may now be used as a precedent in similar court hearings.

AN AMENDMENT to the Canon laws of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles was passed at the recent diocesan convention, in a move to prevent any future efforts by Episcopal parishes to sever their relations with the diocese and claim ownership of the parish property.

Added to the canon pertaining to the parish corporation were the following words: "No parish shall elect to dis-... or essentially dispose of all of its assets... except with the prior writ-

ten approval of the Ecclesiastical Authority as defined in Article IV of the Constitution of the Diocese."

THE RIGHT OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH to use the buildings of St. Stephen's Church, Plainfield, N.J., was affirmed by a New Jersey state appeals court in a recent decision. The Appellate Division of Superior Court upheld a ruling by a lower court that all property owned by St. Stephen's be placed in the hands of the Trustees of Church Property of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey.

The appeal was brought by a group of parishioners of St. Stephen's who formally severed their ties with the diocese in April, 1977. Presumably the case will now go to the State Supreme Court.

VACATION VISITORS to Estes Park (Colo.) and Rocky Mountain National Park area have been able to worship this summer at St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Catholic Church, Estes Park, every Tuesday afternoon.

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS has been formed in Phoenix, Ariz., and is presently holding services at the Seventh Day Adventist Church, 5902 East Camelback Road. On the first, second and fourth Sundays of each month, a service of Morning Prayer is held at 11 A.M. under the direction of Frederick J. Starr, Lay Reader and Junior Warden. On the third Sunday of each month, there is a 5:30 P.M. service of Holy Communion, with the Rev. Robert P. Donovan, rector of Holy Nativity Church, Payson, as the celebrant.

ALL SAINTS' ANGLICAN CHURCH, Pensacola, Fla., has recently purchased a church building that was formerly used by the local Church of Christ congregation. Having sat idle for

seven years, the building was in need of much repair, all of which was done by members of the parish.

The baptismal tank was floored over, providing a space for the altar. An iron railing was installed around the altar and fitted with kneelers. The interior of the building was painted and the floor carpeted.

Attached to the church is a long room that has been converted into a parish hall with an office for the rector at one end.



ST. PETER'S CHURCH, Flemington, N.J., recently voted to divide, with the majority of the congregation choosing to follow the rector, the Rev. Gerardo Machado, into the Antiochian Orthodox Church, and changing the name of the parish to St. Peter's Orthodox Church.

Those members wishing to remain within the Anglican Catholic Church have retained the original parish name, St. Peter's Anglican Church, and are now holding services at Cyrus Masonic Lodge in Pennington, N.J. The Rev. Dr. Donald B. Rice is priest-in-charge.

BY A VOTE OF 40 in favor, 8 against, and 7 abstentions, the congregation of Christ Church (Anglican), Columbus, Ohio, separated itself from the Anglican Diocese of the Midwest at a parish meeting in early June. According to the COLUMBUS DISPATCH, the parish has 150 members.

The Rev. G. Wayne Craig, rector of the parish, was quoted as saying he had

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FATHER ABSURDIUS

The Ten Suggestions

"Moses!"

"Yes, Lord."

"Did you bring the Commandments I gave you yesterday to my people?"

"Yes, I did, Lord, and, frankly, I think we have a problem."

"You mean they didn't like them?"

"Well, it wasn't quite that. It's just that they think they're a little too . . . well, too categorical, if you know what I mean. You have to realize that nobody likes to be told what to do, and they did have those Egyptians giving them orders all those years. It takes time to get over that sort of ethnic disadvantage. But most of all they definitely think there ought to be exceptions."

"Exceptions? To my Commandments?"

"Look, Lord, nothing personal, but you don't have to live down here. Remember what a storm you caused when you said that I was the only one who could come up this mountain? Five real estate developers and three tour guides were in court the next day asking for an injunction. Take a look at some of your Commandments and see if you think they're fair. How about 'Honor thy Father and thy Mother'? Kids today think they're every bit as sophisticated and smart as their parents. Their parents didn't have all the sources of news that the kids do today. Why should they be forced to obey parents who could be wrong? And that Sixth Commandment! You should have heard the complaints about that one! Most everybody was set to pack up and go back to Egypt if that's what the Promised Land means. You have to recognize that, in this enlightened age, sometimes sex outside of marriage is OK. You just can't make a pronouncement like that at the same time you're telling everybody to love one another."

"I guess I see what you mean, Moses. I might have had my head too much in the clouds when I gave you those. What do you recommend now?"

"Well, the statements are well-written and not bad as general guidelines, but you have to let people decide for themselves when and how to apply them. What if we just let them stand, but call them the Ten Suggestions?"

*Fr. J. Overley Absurdus
St. Benjamin's-on-the-Brink*

According to the Papers

A Brief Look At Current Religious News

"STATE COURTS DO NOT necessarily have to defer to church law when resolving disputes between different factions claiming the same church property, the Supreme Court ruled in a case that a court minority said probably will increase the involvement of civil courts in church controversy," according to Religious News Service.

By a 5-4 margin, the high Court concluded that Georgia state courts must now decide which faction of a divided Presbyterian congregation in Macon may claim the property, the majority faction of the Vineville Presbyterian Church or the minority group which is "loyal" to the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

The Supreme Court decision "is expected to have a profound effect on the civil suit" brought by the Episcopal Diocese of Newark against St. Mark's Church, West Orange, N.J., which voted

to secede from the Diocese in 1977, according to St. Mark's attorney Bruce Shoulson. A report in the WEST ORANGE CHRONICLE quoted Shoulson as saying the Georgia case "specifically meets head-on the underlying premise in our case."

The Diocese of Newark has maintained that the property and the endowment funds at St. Mark's have been held in trust, but Shoulson has contended that St. Mark's never relinquished control.

A PROPOSAL TO PERMIT women priests visiting from other Churches in the Anglican Communion to function as priests in English parish churches was defeated by delegates to the recent General Synod of the Church of England — but only because the majority of the clergy voted against the measure.

With about 100 persons not voting at

all, the final tally showed 26 Bishops in favor and 10 against; 87 clergy in favor and 113 against; and 110 laity in favor with 65 opposed. It was also the House of Clergy that prevented passage of a proposal to the General Synod, last November, to permit women to be ordained to the priesthood.

"SERIOUS PROBLEMS have yet to be resolved within the Anglican Communion as the result of the action of some member churches . . . to ordain women to the priesthood, according to a report of the Anglican Consultative Council," said a recent article in THE CANADIAN CHURCHMAN.

Council members requested that steps be taken to initiate inter-Anglican dialogue on the issue, although Bishop John Howe, ACC secretary-general, pointed out that such a venture would be costly.

"The internal difficulties are in addition to the ecumenical ones which have surfaced in inter-church dialogues, particularly in relationships with the Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches. The report acknowledges the fact that some Anglican dioceses and provinces do not recognize women priests who are in good standing in their own diocese and prevent them from exercising a sacramental ministry.

"These facts seriously call into ques-

diocese "eschew further constitutions and canons until the whole Continuing Church can, unitedly, participate in the same," and that, if the Hot Springs, Ark., synod takes place, "it devote itself to the daily recitation of the Litany from the Book of Common Prayer, with suitable meditations upon the great danger we are in by our unhappy divisions."

The Statement also asked that the diocese "remain in unity with the whole Continuing Church, thereby permitting St. Anselm's Parish to remain in unity with the Diocese of Christ the King."

It concluded with the request that "more time be spent upon people and parishes, by means of increased visitations, and improved communications with all parish leaders" because "in our view, the potential for growth lies at the parish level, not at university levels or other supra-parish levels."

"THREE LONG DAYS OF TESTIMONY in the trial for control of Ascension Church" in Amherst, Va., ended on Aug. 9, and hearings will not be resumed until late September with no decision expected from the court until October, according to the AMHERST NEW ERA-PROGRESS.

The final witness was William E. Sandidge, an Ascension trustee for almost 43 years, who told Judge Lawrence Koontz that he thought both the Episcopalians and the Anglicans own the church, and that the church is open for anyone's use and is available to members who remained with the Episcopal Church but now worship at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Clifford, Va.

According to the Amherst paper, the Anglicans have contended they are willing to share the church building and property with the Episcopalians.

The Lynchburg, Va., DAILY ADVOCATE reported that S. Strother Smith, attorney for the Anglicans, said the church is owned by the trustees and not the Protestant Episcopal Church, as argued by attorneys for the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia. Smith brought two Anglican canonists to the witness stand in an effort to show that, under a canon law passed in 1793, the trustees of Episcopal churches in Virginia are in charge of church property. F. Andrew Stahl of Ontario, Canada, a senior canonist and judicial vicar of the Anglican Catholic Church, was quoted as saying that when the deed to the church was recorded in 1847, under canon law at that time, the property

belonged to the church's vestry and trustees.

E.J.M. LaRoque of Baltimore, identified as an assistant Anglican canonist, testified that the breakaway group still belongs to the Episcopal Church. He was quoted by the Lynchburg paper as saying, "We consider ourselves as somewhat more faithful members of the Church. We can't support those that contradict our historic teachings."

News reports of the trial indicate that much time was devoted to testimony on canon law and, at one point, Judge Koontz, a Presbyterian, remarked, "I'm in the midst of Episcopalians. You all know what you're talking about. I don't."

ST. ANDREW'S ANGLICAN CHURCH has been organized in Alexandria, Va., by a group of former members of the Anglican Parish of St. Margaret of Scotland who want to remain within the Anglican Catholic Church. St. Margaret's was recently accepted into the Diocese for the Southeastern U.S., which has not ratified the constitution of the ACC.

More than 50 persons were present for the first service at St. Andrew's, which is presently using the facilities of a United Methodist Church of the same name. Donald Baldwin is Senior Warden and the Rev. A. Fraser MacCammond is priest-in-charge.

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD has been organized in Oklahoma City by a group of former members of Holy Cross Anglican Church who want to remain within the Anglican Catholic Church. Holy Cross parish is a part of the Diocese of Christ the King, which has not yet ratified the ACC constitution.

Hale Bicknell, Jr., is serving the new congregation as lay reader.

ST. ANSELM'S CHURCH, Sequim, Wash., may be the only Anglican congregation in the U.S. or Canada to be worshipping at an altar given to them by an Episcopal Church congregation — in this case, St. Stephen's, Longview, Wash.

The altar was recently put in place in the living room of a private home at 152 W. Maple St. belonging to a member of St. Anselm's and now converted into a chapel for the congregation. Over protest of "environmentalists" in the neighborhood, the Sequim City Plan-

ning Commission and City Council gave permission for St. Anselm's to hold worship in a residential area.

ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH has been organized in Jackson, Miss., and is presently meeting for worship at 430 Meadowbrook Drive at 9:30 A.M. each Sunday. The Senior Warden is John E. Holmes.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, Austin, TX, delayed by six days the celebration of its Patronal Festival (Aug. 28), so that it could be conducted by the Rt. Rev. Dale David Doren in their newly-acquired church building, formerly St. Elizabeth's Roman Catholic Church, Pflugerville, TX., located a few miles north of the Austin city limits. Bishop Doren, who is Ordinary of the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic States, is also Episcopal Visitor to the Diocese of the Southwest.

The Pflugerville structure was built about 50 years ago, and is a white frame "country church" which, according to members of St. Augustine's, will need "work and a great deal of loving repair." Included in the purchase were 24 pews, a lectern, prie-dieu and a vestment case. Eventually, the congregation hopes to move the building to an Austin location.

ST. CHARLES THE MARTYR Anglican Church has been formed in Mobile/Fairhope, Ala., by former members of St. Peter's Anglican Church, Fairhope, who decided to remain within the Anglican Catholic Church after delegates to the synod of the Diocese for the Southeastern U.S. voted to reject ratification of the proposed constitution of the ACC.

Services are being held at 11 A.M. each Sunday at 3925 Airport Blvd., Mobile, with a Holy Communion service each fourth Sunday of the month. The congregation is a part of the Patrimony established by the ACC College of Bishops under the direction of the Rt. Rev. William F. Burns, Vicar General.

A NEW ENGLAND FRANCISCAN FELLOWSHIP has been organized to support the members of the three Franciscan groups that have been established in the Anglican Catholic Church — the Third Order of the Franciscans of the Southwest, P. O. Box 36096, Dallas, TX 75235; the American Greyfriars, P. O.

(See ANGLICAN, Next Page)

The Anglican Congregations

THE NEW JERSEY State Supreme Court refused on Sept. 20 to issue an order allowing the Rt. Rev. William F. Burns, Bishop of the Diocese of the Resurrection of the Anglican Catholic Church, to conduct services for his congregation in St. Mark's Church in West Orange.

According to the Newark STAR-LEDGER, the seven justices turned down a request by Bishop Burns for a stay of Superior Court Judge Arthur Dwyer's ruling which ordered the bishop to vacate the church. Dwyer had decided a week before that Bishop Burns had no legal right to remain as rector of St. Mark's, and he would have to find another location to conduct services for his congregation. Under the terms of Judge Dwyer's ruling, Bishop Burns can remain in the rectory until the end of November. The St. Mark's congregation is now holding services at the Swedenborgian Church of the New Testament, 36 Essex Ave., Orange, N.J.

The judge said the church belongs to the St. Mark's Corp., but in order to be part of that corporation and serve as its leader, a person must be a member of the Episcopal Church. He found that Bishop Burns, who left the Episcopal Church in 1977 with 180 members of

St. Mark's parish, is not qualified to be a member of St. Mark's Corp. since he was deposed by his former Episcopal bishop, the Rt. Rev. George Rath of the Diocese of Newark.

Bishop Burns told the STAR-LEDGER the case will be appealed.

THE ANGLICAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE of Canada held its first synod on Sept. 21-22 in Winnipeg, Ontario, and reconfirmed its election of the Rev. C.J. deCatanzaro as bishop-elect. Delegates from the 12 congregations also adopted diocesan constitution and canons.

A late November date has been tentatively selected for the consecration of Fr. deCatanzaro.

THE FIRST ANGLICAN CATHOLIC Priest to be ordained in the Diocese of the Southwest is the Rev. David H. Marion-Davis, who was ordained on September 8 in Houston by the Rt. Rev. Dale David Doren, Bishop of the Mid-Atlantic States and Episcopal Visitor to the Diocese of the Southwest.

The service was held in Salem Lutheran Church with most of the clergy of the diocese in attendance and participating. Fr. Marion-Davis was ordained to the diaconate last February

by Bishop Doren. He is presently priest-in-charge of St. Bartholomew's Anglican Catholic Church in Beaumont, Texas.

A SYNOD OF THE PATRIMONY established in June by the Anglican Catholic College of Bishops was held on September 28-29 in Atlanta with delegates from 13 congregations present. The patrimony, which is under the direction of the Rt. Rev. William F. Burns as Vicar-General, was set up in response to growing requests for Episcopal oversight from congregations located in dioceses that had not ratified the constitution of the Anglican Catholic Church, but whose members wanted to be a part of the ACC.

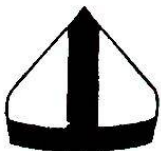
Ten delegations represented congregations that were formerly in the Diocese for the Southeastern United States or congregations that had been formed as a result of divisions in such parishes. Two delegations represented parishes that were formerly a part of the Diocese of Christ the King, and one delegation came from a newly-formed parish that resulted from a division in another parish in the same diocese.

After ratifying the ACC Constitution and proposed canons, the delegates elected 11 delegates and 11 alternate delegates to represent the patrimony at the October 18-20 Provincial Synod in Indianapolis.

NOTICE TO ALL SUPPORTERS OF THE FCT: We have been advised by Postal Officials that all financial statements to contributors must be sent by first class mail, rather than by non-profit mail as they have in the past. Because of this large cost increase, we will, henceforth, mail out financial statements only once a year. We hope our contributors will understand the necessity of this decision and will accept their cancelled checks as receipts until such time as the financial statements are mailed.

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