

NEWS FROM AND FOR THE GENERALATES

1- M o S . C : Meeting of General Conference Oct, 5tho The General Conference is composed of the General Council and the Provincials and Provincial Administrators.
The meeting takes place at the O o M o I, Scholasticate, Via Gioacchino Ventura 60, and is to last circa 2 weeks,

M.S.o.C. Bishops' Meeting; The General Council has invited all the Bishops of the Congregation for a meeting coinciding with the meeting of the General Conference, The two bodies will meet separately and together to discuss matters of common interest, 21 Bishops and 2 Prefects Apostolic will be present. Six other Prelates are unable to attend.

F. J- Westhoff, M.S.C,

2. SMA decisions^ of the 1971 Extraordinary Council, From the "Special SMA Newsletter" we reproduce some of the resolutions of the Extraordinary Council held at Oosterbeek May 11-17* 1971 » as they may be of general interest;

- I) It was recommended that Provincial councillors pass through Rome on their return from visits to the Missions in order to keep the Generalate up to date on the mission situation in those territories visited,
- IV) It was decided that the Superior General or one of his Councillors will visit Poland to determine on the spot the possibilities of re-establishing the S,M-A- in the country,
- VII) It was decided to create the post of Society Historian and to appoint Father Patrick Gantly to this post,
- VIII) It was decided to appoint Father Noel Douau to the post of General Archivist to succeed Father Bernard Eerden upon the latter's retirement,
- XI) It was decided that the Provinces will send to the Generalate once a year for publication all pertinent information on projects on the Missions,

3. The SMA Extraordinary General Council will begin on 25 April 1972 in Tenafly, U.S.Ao
The General Assembly of SMA will be held In April-May 1973»

P, L, Bano, fscj

DOCUMENTATION SERVICES; A PROPOSALReport on Meeting of Documentalists, 16 September 1971 to 1600, at the SJ Curia.

An informal meeting of Documentalists and other interested persons from SEDOS member institutes took place on 16 September 1971 to 1600, at the SJ Curia,
Present were;

Sr. C. Blanger sa; Fr. G. Bertolini msc; Sr. R. Biskoping ssps; Sr. C. Brandt icmj
 Sr. M. DeLellis Brucker ssnd; Fr. J. Buhlmann ofm-cap; Sr. J. Burke snd-n;
 Fr. S. Calvia fscj; Sr. M. Carmel rscm; Sr. A. Cornely, shcj; Fr. G. Cussac mep;
 Fr. P. Denis ofm-cap; Fr. P. Douau sma; Sr. C. Gerritse scmm-t; Sr. A. Gilles sds
 (representing Sr. Aloysia Ilterake sds); Fr. A. Gilli fscj; Fr. P. Henzmann cm;
 Sr. M.H. Hoene ssnd; Fr. C. Jacaves pa; Fr. R. Lammel fsc; Fr. L. Laurendeau sj;
 Sr. M.F. Maeder snd-n; Fr. R. Mathieu omi; Fr. V. Mertens sj; Fr. B. Meyer pa;
 Fr. J. Micheis cicm; Fr. Moore cssp; Bro. J. Otegin fsc; Sr. Agnetta Pionkowski sspsj
 Fr. V. Poggi sj; Fr. F. Purcell ssc; Sr. F. Schelleman scmm-t; Sr. S. Soetens icm;
 Sr. M.E. Tarpay snd-n; Fr. C. Tescaroli fscj; Sr. G. de Thelin rscj; Fr. P. Westhoff mgc;
 Fr. G. de Vlierik msc.

Chairman; Fr. Th. Van Asten pa, President
 From SEDOS; Fr. B. Tonna, Executive Secretary
 Fr. L. Bano fscj
 Fr. A. Ibba sx
 A. Fernandez
 G. Tierney

(Additional translating; English to French - Fr. B. Meyer pa; French to English - Fr. B. Tonna) | .
 /

1. Fr. Van Asten opened the meeting with a reminder that the primary purpose of SEDOS - according to the Statutes - is to ensure collaboration between the various missionary-sending Institutes to serve the Church more effectively in their missionary activities. To achieve this goal, SEDOS proposes to cooperate in joint projects designed to serve the Generalates by means of information, documentation and studies about missionary activity, and the sharing of this information. SSDOS is now providing this service, but it is clear that there is probably a considerable amount of information - about which we are not aware - in the documentation centers or Secretariats of the various Generalates. Until this information is accessible SEDOS cannot carry out this part of their responsibility to the Generalates. Fr. Van Asten then read from Page 7 of Joint Venture 2;

"Information deals with facts as facts, experiments as experiments, events as events. It tells us what is being done, what the needs, the resources, the expectations are. It helps us chart our course.

"Our job is information, to tell you what your missionary colleagues and their associates are thinking and doing elsewhere. Then you can select, adopt or adapt, experiment and report back on your conclusions."

2. Fr. Van Asten stated the aim of the meeting - to determine together to what extent we can share the documents and information available at the various generalates of the member institutes. What kind of documents exist in these various institutes and how; this information can be communicated to others? SEDOS can render a greater service when these questions are answered.

The second aim of the meeting is to put the people responsible for this function in contact with one another to help further ensure close collaboration.

3. As part of the aims described above, Fr. Van Asten suggested the (4) following questions as a frame of reference, pointing out that these are merely "suggestions" and open for discussion and changes:

- a) ~~What~~ kind of documentation exists in the various Generalates?
- b) What kind of information or documents existing in the various Generalates could be communicated to other members of SEDOS? (For example, the sort of information we are seeking includes:
 - i. Current areas of emphasis in the policies the Congregation follows.
 - ii. Names and addresses of key informants in the field,
 - iii. Most significant projects in the pastoral, socio-economic fields, on-going training facilities, and any specialized documentation that exists, - e.g. certain congregations emphasize Mass Media, while others may not maintain information of this kind; information on particular countries such as Africa, Latin America, etc.)

Fr. Van Asten noted that the type of information which was considered "confidential" would not, of course, be considered as part of this proposal, but again mentioned the likelihood of the large amount of information which could be shared.

- c) Would it be advisable for each Generalate to send a monthly report to the SEDOS Secretariat covering the aforementioned points - or any other items which might be decided upon - in duplicate, giving the Congregation's reference number? (SEDOS could then enter its catalog reference number for each item and return one copy.)
- d) Would it be advantageous to have period meetings - formal or informal - of Documentalists, etc. for an exchange of information?

This proposal was then presented for discussion by the participants.

4. The suggestion was made by one member that it might be well for SEDOS to suggest the various areas and the documentalists could respond - rather than leaving it to the individual documentalist - i.e. specialization in countries and fields.

5. It was mentioned that the Vatican had already asked each Congregation for information on South Africa which might be a guide for this type of documentation. However, after discussion, it appeared that no information on this specific point was available from those present.

6. It was pointed out from the floor that it would be important to make a distinction between "history" and "current" information, since all archives possessed both types. This was agreed upon as an important point.

7. Another member concurred with the point of distinction and suggested going further as to specifying the types of documents: a) Major works, books, theses; b) Periodicals, reviews - especially those coming from the field; c) Working papers - such as those published by the Social Action Center of the Philippines and d) certain types of on-going correspondence.

8... Fr. Tonna then described the primary categories used by the SSDOS Documentation Section; that is, books, periodicals and working papers, as well as special correspondence which is kept in its files.

9.. In response to Fr. Van Asten's question to the floor as to accepting these specific categories, one member indicated that it might be more effective if SEDOS send a questionnaire to each participant. This questionnaire would be a practical way to provide guidelines for the report. For example, it could contain a listing of geographical areas and requests as to where information is available - as well as different sectors of mission work. This listing would help the documentalists as a start and they could later make other suggestions.

ia. Following further discussion, it was decided that SEDOS will circulate a questionnaire in which each would be asked to provide information on the types of documents available^ according to items listed,

11. Fr. Van Asten asked if it would be necessary to form a small committee of expert archivists to assist in drawing up the questionnaire. At this point, a member suggested that a formal committee would not be necessary to begin with if the questionnaire includes major points, the responses will provide orientation -- and if it includes a request for the names of key people in the Generalates from whom information can be obtained, this would solve the overall problem.

12- A raise of hands was requested on the decision that SEDOS would draw up a questionnaire listing the main items and requesting names of people working in specific areas at the various generalates. This was agreed upon by the group.

13^It was asked from the floor - before leaving the matter of a questionnaire - that not only general information be included, but specialized information.

14- Another member pointed out that the questionnaire should also include a request for information on any special research on any problem - as in the case where Working Papers are not available, but the work is in progress. It was also agreed that the information provided would cover documents in all languages.

15. At this point, a participant interjected that he would be interested in having complete information on the recent Mission Week in Namur, since it would focus on a number of major issues of today. Fr. Tonna advised that he is currently working on the conclusions of this meeting by contacting some of the people who attended, and it would be published in our Weekly Bulletin in the near future, (Fr. Tonna will contact Bro.Lammelín fsc for collaboration.)

16. After the matter of the questionnaire v/as settled,- Fr, Van Asten asked the group's opinion on sending a monthly report to SEDOS? listing the documents in various categories and the catalog reference members, with a copy to be cross-referenced in the SEDOS system and returned to the Generalate, This would provide a central source on current documentation available.

It was decided, following discussion, that those Generalates which have sufficient new information to. furnish monthly, do so - whereas with the others, a tri-monthly report could be submitted.

17. It was requested from the floor that in addition to providing this specific service that SEDOS - as a long-term project - also use this information to compile a long-term survey of Mission work in the last 10 years, as well as future prospects. Further, could SSDOS arrange for the meeting of people with special interests. Fr. Van Asten, responding to the second point, mentioned that SEDOS has been doing this in the past, and v/ill continue this service. The Generalates need only advise SEDOS and such meetings v/ould be organized if enough interest is *sho\m*. As to the first point, he pointed out that the long-term study v;ould naturally depend on the success of SEDOS receiving the information from the Generalates. He stated that these two functions would clearly not exclude the specific one covered by this meeting.

18. The point was then brought up that in order to ensure "regularity", it might be well for SEDOS to design a form to be sent out as a "reminder" to the Documentalists and also to ensure that all responses have been received- This was agreed upon.

19. Fr. Van Asten asked - in the interest'of making certain that the forms and questionnaires would not go astray - if they could be directed to those present. The members agreed.

20. Fr. Tonna was asked by Fr. Van Asten if it would be helpful to him to have advice from 3 or 4 members present on the design of the questionnaire and forms, Fr. Tonna indicated that this would be most appreciated, and the follow/ing people acceptedt Fr. Bertolini msc. Sr. M. Florine Maeder snd-n and Fr, B. Meyer pa. (A meeting v/ill be arranged with this small group in the near future.)

21. The final question as to the value of having periodic meetings of Documentalists for an information exchange was brought up again by Fr. Van Asten. After a brief discussion, it v/as decided that the SEDOS Secretariat would call these meetings as it deemed necessary.

22. After thanking Sr. Agnetta ssps for her excellent v;ork as the SEDOS librarian and Fr. Poggi sj for his kind assistance as host, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

G. Tierney

SERVICE DE DOCUMENTATION t Proposition

Rapport de la reunion des "DOCUMENTALISTES" qui s'est tenue le 16 Septembre au Generalat des Jesuites, Borgo So Spirito n° 50

president: Rev. P. Theo Van Asten,,

Membres presents: voir liste du rapport anglais=

A) Le P. Van Asten rappelait quel etait le But de SEDOS comme indique dans les Statuts:

- Collaboration entre Instituts Missionnaires pour assurer une plus grande coordination entre les Generalats, en-vue d'un service plus efficace,

B) SEDOS propose comme moyen pour atteindre ce but, une collaboration sur le plan de l'information, documentation et etudes des activites Missionnaires, Collaboration en vue des

- Informer les Generalats sur la politique a etabli
- Partager les informations et documentations qui existent
- Eviter les doublures inutiles'
- Laisser profiter les autres des facilites disponibles,

C) Un service de Documentation existe dej. au Secretariat de SEDOS, Mais il y a probablement un grand nombre d'informations disponibles pour communication, qui reste ignore de SEDOS, cache ou enseveli dans des Secretariats, centre de Documentation et Archives des differents generalats

Le President citait en reference le Joint Venture n°2, page 7i

- "L'Information rapporte les faits comme faits, des experiences comme experiences, des evenements comme evenement. Elle nous renseigne sur ce qui est fait, sur les besoins, les ressources, sur les esperances, Elle nous aide, a suivre notre ligne. Combien de projets, fruits d'annees d'observation et d'experience, dont on n'a jamais parle ! Combien de repetitions inutiles dans les efforts ! Que de fois, un element juge banal dans un Continent pourrait etre source de dynamisme dans un autre ! De combien de facons une transfusion peut-etre benefique ! Car dans de nombreux secteurs de mission, nous avons besoin d'un sang nouveau*"

D) Le But de notre reunion d'aujourd'hui est:

- a) Voir ensemble dans quelle mesure nous pouvons partager davantage la Documentation existante au niveau des Generalats SEDOS pourra assurer un service plus efficace dans la mesure ou les Instituts membres seront pręts k partager.
- b) Un autre but; Mettre en contact des documentalistes des differents Instituts, poiAT etablir de meilleures relations en vue d'une plus grande collaboration entre les Generalats

Le P're Van Asten soumettait ^ l'etude les questions suivantes:

1. Quel genre de Documentation existe dans chaque Generalat ?
- 2o Quel genre d'Information, pourriez-vous communiquer par SEDOS ?
 - Les points les plus marquants de votre politique de Gouvernement
 - Noms et adresses des principaux Informateurs en Mission^
 - Les projets les plus valables sur le plan; Pastoral, socio-economique, Formation continueo
 - Documentation specialisee, par ex; sur une matiere comme: Mass Media'ou Inf» sur l'Afrique, l'Asie, l'Amerique Latine»,<, ou autres problđmes particuliers,
- 3« Pourriez-vous envoyer au Secretariat de SEDOS, un bref rapport mensuel sur les sujets mentionnes precedemment en faisant reference a la classification adoptee dans votre Generalat ?

SEDOS•retournerait une copie de ce rapport, en vous donnant reference ^ son catalogue,
- ^» Y aurait-il avantage k avoir periodiquement une reunion de documentalistes Secretaires, pour partager l'Information, reunion formelle ou officieuse ?

Ces quatre questions amendent aux conclusions suivantes;

a) Un groupe de 3 Documentalistes:

Sr Florinne, sdn - Fr Bertolini, msc - Fr Meyer, pb
se chargera d'etablir avec le Secretariat de SEDOS;

1, Un questionnaire sur les sources les plus precieuses de documentations en toutes les langues: ouvrages, theses ou etudes, des revues publiques pour differentes regions, bulletins, documents de travail plus specialises publies par des centres sociaux ou Centres de Communications.

26 Un formulaire sera envoye reguli^rement par le Secretariat de SEDOS pour centraliseir 1* Information Actuelle. II sera rempli tous les mois par chaque Documentalists, en double exemplaires (voir parag. 3), et renvoye au Secretariat de SEDOS, qui communiquera les references de 1*Index central,

Ce questionnaire et ce formulaire seront envoyes aux Documentalistes»

b) Des reunions occasionnelles des Documentalistes seront organisees par SEDOS qui soumettra les dates k leur approbation.

Antoinette FERNANDEZ.

DEVELOPMEM?

The first meeting of the SEDOS DWG after the summer "break took place on Monday 13th September 1971 at SEDOS at

Present were:	Fr» Jo Blanes	m.sc	Bro, Vo Gottwald	fsc
	Bro, Ho Boyle	cfx	Fr, Fo Moody	pa
	Pr» Jo Brossard	omi	Fr, A, McCormack	mhm
	Fr, Vc Pocher	svd		

In the Chair was Fr, Feoher

Present from SEDOS were Pr, Tonna and Miss Ashford

The Chairjman started off the meeting by referring to a few points from the previous meeting held in June,

1 IMDES JESUIT CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

Fr, Brossard of Agrimissio was asked if it was still possible to obtain free sample sets of booklets on the Agricultural Course of the Jesuit Missionaries of Inades - Abidjan, There are still some sets available as gifts to interested generalates, (See Sedos Bulletin 18th June 1971? page 71/4440

2. TRAINING LEADERS FOR DEVELOPMENT

Upon request, Fr, Brossard further explained the project of the Dutch Central Mission Commission - training leaders for development by means of a manual and a correspondence course followed by three to four months' intensive training, Bro, Gottwald thought that Misereor, if applied to, would probably be willing to consider helping the project financially. He and Fr, Brossard were asked to meet the Project Leader on his visit to Rome in October,

The draft of the project is now being corrected and will be sent to SEDOS DWG as soon as it is ready. The group were reminded that the scheme needed the collaboration of missionaries in the field to act as channels of communication and as prospective trainees in development.

SEDOS/MISEREOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

Ero, Gottwald was welcomed "back from his "globe-trotting" and he presented the group with the conclusions of his meeting in Germany with the Misereor representatives. The funding programme has now assumed much broader lines, though the initial stipulations still hold: a) that the candidate have a local, ecclesiastical sponsor guaranteeing his commitment to development and b) that he return for a minimum period to work in the developing country after his studies,

4, EVALUATION OF JOINT VENTURE

The Sedos Executive Committee at its meeting on 10th September 1971 decided to ask the DWG for an evaluation of the content of Joint Venture, The group were unanimous in their approval of the publication and strongly recommended its continuing to serve the missionary cause. They stressed its utility: apart from the weekly bulletin of information and documentation circulated among and for the Generalates here in Rome, Sedos has no contact with the missionary in the field, nor with the outside world. Though its content is limited budget-wise, Joint Venture is a valuable means of communicating thought content to the missionaries in the field; hence the wish was expressed that Joint Venture serve as a vehicle to communicate useful items of information to such missionaries: for instance, the projects reported under numbers 1,2, and 3 of these same minutes. It need not, of course, deal exclusively with development issues,

5, CREDIT UNION SEMINAR: FOLLOW-UP MEETING

The group was asked to nominate a representative for the coming Credit Union meeting to be held at SEDOS on October 25-26, Fr, McNulty and others were mentioned, and Fr, Tonna agreed to take care of the matter,

60 GROUP STUDY OF URBANISATION - Form and Procedure

This project was further discussed and a method of procedure decided on. It was also agreed to leave the finding of material and background research work to the Sedos Secretariate, guiding them in the programme to be followed and informing them which people to contact for information. The basic findings would be summarised and distributed to the DWG members, who would then study the topic along the three following lines:

- a) It was agreed to first present a general picture of the problem backed up by statistics:- its dimensions, location and aspects. From this initial survey the group would see what particular countries and areas merited detailed study; it was also felt that such a survey would underscore the importance and timeliness of the entire question for the missions^

- b) The study would then pass on to stage two - the problem seen from the human angle, with all its consequences; both material and spiritual, for the individual - eg, overcrowding in cities can lead to loss of faith and morals as well as to material misery,
- c) The group would attempt to identify the task of the Church in urbanisation from the pastoral angle: that is, both on the spiritual and material levels. They would try to find out what solutions have been tried in various places and with what success. Conclusions could then be drawn and perhaps some suggestions could be made.

The whole purpose of the study is to alert the Generalates to the problem *with* all its implications for pastoral work in both the spiritual and the material sense of our mission. In addition, it now seems that this study with its findings and recommendations could be put to Propaganda Fide at its next meeting a year from now, the topic of which will be "A Survey of the Mission",

Immediate Steps

- 1) The Secretariate would begin at once to collect material and circulate it to the group members before the end of October,
- 2) It was agreed to do some research into what the WCC Urban Mission has been doing and producing,
- 3) A list of on-spot correspondents would be necessary. Member Institutes could be asked to give names and addresses of Superiors and Major Superiors in Asia, Africa and Latin America, A letter could then be sent asking who is working in the relevant cities and if they would agree to correspond with the group. Perhaps too, the WCC in Geneva could be asked for a list of correspondents, Fr, Blanes promised to supply addresses of men in Argentina, - and Pr, McCormack could get information as well.

To SPOTLIGHT SERIES

It was agreed to continue with this series though not necessarily as a regular feature. There would doubtless be some articles relating to urbanisation which would merit printing, though the series should not deal exclusively with this topic,

8, DATE OP M:XT MEBTIUG

This was set for Friday November 5th at SEDOS at 4,PM,

(Ann Ashford)

THE SITUATION: THE POPULATION PROBLEM TODAY

The following paper is condensed by Fr. Mc Cormack mhm from his forth-coming pamphlet, on Population Problems and the Missionary, Fr, McCormack who belongs to the Sedos Development Group, has also written a longer pamphlet The Population Explosion - A Christian Concern (English International Justice and Peace Commission). This is available at Sedos,

His book The Population Problem, after supply delays, is now available from SEDOS (special price Lire 4,000).

We hope to publish another situation paper: What the Missionary Can. Do about Population Problems.

THE POPULATION EXPLOSION AND THE CHURCH; Reasons why the Population Expansion is not realised sufficiently,

by Arthur McCormack

1. The "population explosion" is one of the main concerns of the world today. Yet inside the Church, and this applies also to the members of missionary sending societies and indigenous clergy in mission territories, it receives very little attention. In the communications media, almost every week there are warnings about the problems caused by excessive population growth, some couched in very lurid and pessimistic terms; other moderate in tone but grave in their assessment of the situation. Yet in the Church there is almost a conspiracy of silence on the subject; for example there are only a few words about it in the Synod document on Justice in the World, This causes people outside the Church to wonder if the Church is sincere in its statement that "the griefs and anxieties of mankind" are also the "griefs and anxieties of the Church" (Gaudium et Spes), Pope Paul indeed, four years ago, drew attention in grave terms to the problem, in his Encyclical The Development of Peoples, but this lead does not seem to have been followed up, except in a few circles in the Church, There are many reasons for this lack of concern about what is one of the most serious problems of the day, some of which are not peculiar to the Church,
2. There are those v/ho for nationalistic or political reasons do not want to know about it. Others with a reliance on a false notion of Providence think - or perhaps "feel" would be a better word - that God will provide . no matter what happens, that we should not look too far into the future,

that population projections may turn out to be wrong in the future as they have been in the past (in the Thirties, for example, population experts gave us the great scare of depopulation and race suicide).

- 3» Religious and ideological reasons have also prevented the study and action about the problem in keeping with its gravity and urgency. Catholics have not been inclined to stress the dangers of population increase for inevitably they would be asked what means they had to cope with the situation and would at once be plunged into a doctrinal controversy, all the more difficult and bitter since *Humanae Vitae*,
4. A more cogent reason for not considering the problem seriously was the instinctive reaction of more moderate people against the extremist propaganda and the, brash, not to say fanatical, approach of some dedicated birth control advocates? the lack of sensitivity to the ideals and social mores of other cultures, the lack of respect for the individual-
- 5o There is also the tendency among those who simplistically and erroneously reduce poverty and hunger in the world to questions of justice and injustice, exploited and exploiters, not to consider, a factor, population increase, that cannot be reduced to this simple formula.
- 6c The above attitudes and others have made many people adopt an attitude which can be summarised thus: "Don't tell me the facts: they stop me thinking., "o .
7. Many missionaries do not realise the seriousness of the situation because they work in countries which are underpopulated. They may well believe that the country they work in needs more people not less. And they are right, for example, with regard to most African countries. But even there J^^pidity of the rate of population increase causes great problems.
8. There is another reason for lack of interest within missionary societies and local Churches^ It is that there are very few experts in population matters belonging to the Church or even those who have made a serious study of the subject. This is not said in a spirit of criticism; because after all there are so many calls on the Church's manpower in the mission territories, especially now that even to spare one of the personnel at the disposal of the local Church, either clerical or lay, for such work is very difficult.
- 9c Perhaps the most common reason for lack of concern is conflicting views on the subject of population and the publicity given to extreme opinions.

Population Perspective

- 10, Nevertheless, I maintain that it is our duty to examine the facts and consequences of them for our missionary work. The purpose of this article is to sketch the dimensions and seriousness of the population explosion, to let the facts speak for themselves
- 11, First I would like to put the problem in perspective. Too often this one aspect, the population explosion, is used as a scapegoat for lack of development traceable to other causes. Family planning is then pursued with crusading zeal as if it were a panacea. It is necessary to be aware that the population explosion is one very important factor, but only one factor, in the problem of development. A balance must be kept. Positive measures to overcome the other causes of poverty are absolutely essential* Any population policy must be integrated in an inter-disciplinary manner with these positive measures to promote economic and social progress. To concentrate on population policies and neglect positive measures such as improvements in agriculture, reform of social structures, land reform and so on, is as wrong and unrealistic as to concentrate on positive measures and ignore the population problem. It will be some time before population policies begin to have a significant impact on the broad front. This does not mean that they should be down-graded. But it does make it all the more important to intensify efforts to hasten the economic and social progress of the developing countries,
- 12, There are many serious consequences of rapid population increase which I have described in a World Justice Article, These are on the whole complications of existing problems: some of these specifically engage the attention of the missionary, others are rather beyond his competence. One thing seems very clear: the population increase makes more urgent the missionary's concern for relief measures and for socio-economic development and for social justice and liberation from social injustice,
2. Population Increase
- 13, Although some people have been reluctant to face them, the facts have become widely known. It is amazing at times how much argument is based on ignorance in this field or on old-fashioned data. And events in the population field moved so rapidly in the last decade, and especially in the last five years of the decade, that only really up-to-date facts will help.

(1) "Population" World Justice, Louvain, Vol, 11, No, 3,1970-71

Elsewhere ^{^^'^^} given at length the facts and statistics of the population explosion , so I will merely summarise them here»

140 The population of the world and especially of the developing countries is increasing at such a high rate that it is without precedent in history* The lessons of the past in this field are not reliable or adequate guides» The increase at present is about 70 million per year, much more than the total population of Great Britain, or France or Italy or West Germany- Every day there are 185,000 more mouths to feed. Every minute there are 130 more units added to the human sum. Every second there are two more people on earths. "Each week there are over one million more people in the worldo By 1975 the world will have added a billion people to its population in only 15 years* The most threatening bomb in our global village is world population. It grows faster than we can imagine." (Sister Jane Gates)*

15" It is also true that at the present rate of increase of 2% man would rapidly come up against the barriers of time and space with regard to population. By the middle of the 21st century, less than a hundred years from now, the population of the world will be 25 billion. It will be 50 billion, which even the most optimistic experts regard as the limit of the world's population due to space, by the beginning of the 22nd century, in other words, the same distance from us now as the reign of Queen Victoria.

160 The most serious aspect is that the population increase of the second half of this century, is taking place mainly in the developing countries. These countries are in need of economic and social development for their present populations. For it is in these countries that the bulk of the poor, the hungry, the illiterate, the sick and diseased without medical facilities, the ill-housed, the unemployed or imder-employed live. Out of the world population increase of 70 million per year, nearly 50 go to swell the ranks of the poverty-stricken millions. By the end of this century, Asia will have as many inhabitants as the world has now, and 75% of the world's population will be in lands now known as less developed.

(1) See pamphlet already mentioned. Also The Population Explosion - A Christian Concern - published by English Justice & Peace Commission Oct, 1971 " And my book: The Population Problem, Crowell, New York'70.

Need for a Twofold Policy

- 17» U Thant, considering all these facts has said: "The most urgent conflict confronting the world today is not between nations or ideologies, but between the pace of growth of the human race and the insufficient increase in resources necessary to support mankind in peace and prosperity and dignity." This sober statement, backed up by statements of the Special Agencies of the United Nations such as Food and Agriculture Organisation, World Health Organisation, and International Labour Office, and by the clear majority of population experts, brings home the need for action: first to increase food supplies and positively to work for the development of the developing countries. Second, to ensure that the population increase is moderated by the practice of responsible parenthood.
18. It is important to stress that although the statistics I have given, from the demographic-point of view, are unreliable because the rate of 2% may not be maintained, nevertheless it will not go down automatically and by natural means. Sometime, somewhere, somehow population restriction measures of an effective kind will have to be adopted and be successful. For, the study of global population problems brings out the mathematical certainty that the birth rate cannot remain high with low death rates for a long period, unless one can contemplate mass migration of populations amounting to billions to planets as yet undiscovered to be capable of supporting human, life.
19. Mathematically speaking, there is no choice: either the birth rate must be reduced or the death rate will rise. Humanly speaking, the choice is between a voluntary, dignified restriction of fertility, which respects fully human development and moral values, or the harsh means of famine, wars and futile bloody revolutions or the "Orwellian" measures for compulsory control of fertility, which are already being advocated as a policy of despair. Some people reckon that there is only about ten years left at the most for voluntary measures to succeed; otherwise they will be followed by compulsory measures whether they are humane or not, whether they are moral or not.

^

Fr. A. McCormack mhm

(September, 1971)

Documrs OF SPECIAL INTEREST

SPECIAL GENERAL CHAPTER OF THE CONGREGATION OF MARIANHILL MISSIONARIES

- 1970

^

New Constitutional Framework

The main theme of the Chapter was one of reform. It has become especially obvious now from modern anthropology and the results of Vatican II that religious life cannot be separated from everyday life. Many members of the Society were discontent or uncertain about the mission task of their congregation; they saw their religious life in its too traditional framework conflicting with their missionary aims and activities. The society was losing its younger and its most active members. The big question was whether missionary institutes in their present-day form have a future. The last General Chapter of 1967 had set up a Central Committee to study necessary changes in the life of the Society, and to work out the outlines of a new constitutional framework.

Report of Findings

This Committee worked closely with three Vienna sociologists. It based its findings on a questionnaire which revealed that only 21,5% Priests and 2,9% Brothers could be considered active missionaries. The Committee then attempted to analyse the whys and the wherefores of this "estrangement" from the mission task, and it proposed the basic outlines for new statutes for the Society,

Some Failings of the Present Structures

It was urgently necessary to spell out clearly the missionary task and aim of the Society. The planning and coordination between the home province and the mission field were unsatisfactory. Contact and communication from the home province to the field and vice versa as also among the missionaries themselves were lacking, of members in the field felt insufficiently prepared for their task.

Some of the Proposals

Communications needed to be improved between Superiors and members, the home provinces and the mission field, and to be extended from province to province and missionary to missionary. Closer cooperation with the Bishops, lay missionaries and other congregations was called for.

Communities - The trend in favour of small communities and teamwork was apparent.

Promotion - More could be done to meet the outside world and promote missionary vocations. More could be done, too, in scholasticates and schools to present a clearer image of the missionary task.

Formation - There should be more specialisation and greater preparation for the mission field: eg, familiarisation with the local mentality, customs and language. As early as during vocational training men should have the opportunity to specialise and gain experience in certain branches of the mission task, without encroaching on their basic theological and philosophical training. Further missionary training together with other missionary institutes should be encouraged.

Experiments - Organisation within the Society should be less centralised and more pluriform. Planning and the carrying out of projects should be more on regional and local levels to allow for the differences of country and situation.

Brothers should be allowed more scope, more opportunity for professional training, and the chance to acquire alternative specialisation. More duties in the pastoral and catechetical fields could be given over to them.

Vows - There should be the opportunity for other members to join the Society under temporary vows, with life or temporary commitment.

Some Resolutions Passed

Novices should be offered alternative conditions apart from perpetual vows. During their novitiate they should be given the opportunity to work in some special field of the mission task. The duration of the novitiate need not be 12 months, but left to the discretion of the province,

A solemn promise should be binding to the community and have all the rights and duties of temporary vows. Each home province should be given the responsibility of its temporary members.

All tasks not directly concerned with priestly work should be extended to the Brothers,

(Ann Ashford)

ASSEMBLY OF GENERALS

A. EDUCATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA

About 250 delegates from Southeast Asia and the Pacific met in Kyoto, Japan, for an Educators' Social Action Workshop (EOSAW) - August 1-28, 1971, Sedos has received brief reports from two representatives -

- Sr, Francesco Marianti (Tan), OSU - Indonesian Government Representative
- Broa Henry D, Pang, FSC - International Chairman on Primary Education and Principal of La Salle Primary School, Kowloon, Hong Kong

General Conclusions

The conference proved of great value* The delegates became aware that they shared the same problems, and they were able to work out together improved policies for the future.

- " ESAW has made the Hong Kong delegation more fully aware that the education given in schools and colleges fails, in many ways, to face up to the realities of life in the late twentieth century, and to the problem facing society."

- " ... I realized that the Nations of Asia and the Pacific are in a genuine crisis of development. Now I am fully aware that many educational systems in Indonesia have little or no relevance to the real needs of the people, because instead of helping prepare the student to participate by living a fully human life in his own environment, they often uproot him and make him something of a stranger in his own society. There is an increase in the gap between the student and his own society.

Besides this, educational systems seem almost exclusively aimed at preparing the student for examination, college and university work. But the vast majority of students in the area cannot or do not go on to college, or university. They consequently suffer from a sort of built-in sense of frustration, confusion and dissatisfaction in their own environment. Often these graduates drop-outs cannot make a living in their environment. They are not prepared to take a positive and constructive part in the political life of their own nation, because they have not been trained to think for themselves."

Future Policies

The Hong Kong delegates felt that - "...in educating their students, teachers should make them aware of the ills of society, of the poverty and unfairness and of the inequitable distribution not only of wealth but

of, -the opportunities for personal developmento They should encourage in their students a sense of responsibility for helping overcome these ills.** The deep concern for a just society must be inculcated in our children throughout their school years, if socia,! conditions are to show a real improvement and if social behaviour is not to deterioratoo.«. The problem in Hong Kong is made still worse by the large numbers of teachers who have no professional training whatever,. What is needed, therefore, is not only to improve the training given so as to include social awareness, but to expand the training facilities as rapidly as possible, giving this high priority."

Sister from Indonesia became convinced that-a reorientation of'education must *take* place in Indonesia. Fortunately the Government has plsjoined the SEKOLAH PEMBANGUNAllir, a Development School with a socio-economic-development oriented programme. Here, too, teachers needed to become more conscious of their society and its needs before,-being capable of inspiring and advising youth.

Proposals regarding the actual programmes and subject matter used in schools were made, calling for more group work and the participation of students in social action projects etc«

Concrete Action

The Hong Kong delegates plan to hold regular meetings and seminars for teachers, education policy-makers and administrators, and for this purpose they hope to set up a permanent body actively interested in education for social action*

The Indonesian delegates plan to publish 15 booklets to be circulated among toachors, and government and education policy-makers. Also, since they came from different cities in Indonesia, they agreed that they should continue to exchange information ideas amongst themselves.

Other national groups attending the Workshop formed similar plans. At the conference, therefore, it was generally agreed that there should be a continuing exchange of information and ideas between the educators of the various countries which were represented.

(Ann Ashf ord)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - 1,1-71 to 25-9,71

I T E M S	I N C O M E		E X P E N D I T U R E		REMARKS
	BUDGET 71	ACTUAL	BUDGET 71	ACTUAL	
Sent, Heat, Elect.			1.000e-		
Telephone		126.44	1,000.-	533.48	
Postage			800.-	554,39	
Maintenance Clean.			400.-	289.39	
Petty Cash			50.-		
Public relations			300.-	243.09	
Stationery			500.-	841,22	
Supplies			500,-	294.78	
Printing & Photo.			400.-	616.84	
Displacement			800,-	553.46	
Travel			1,000.-	365.92	
Health Services		. 159.04	300.-	94.46	
PERSONNEL					
Salaries			19.225.-	11.335.03	
SoG. Securities		44.25	2.775-	1.067.99	
OTHER ITEMS					
Consultations			200.-		
Fees and Subscript.			500,-	433.19	
Equip, and Books			500.-	1.477^51	
Miscellaneous		614.59	1,330.-	269.43	
Separation Fund			400.-	277.34	
Service Geneva			120,-		
Spiritus		98.56	600.-	1.245-34	
Simultaneous Translation			300,-	137.60	
Joint Venture		8.-	1,200,-	803.98	
P V G Project		2.500.-	2.500.-		
Membership Fees	30-000.-	28.953,60			
Fees for Services	200.-				
Adventist Project	3.200.-			1.178.73	
Catholic Media		38,24			
Mission Theology		1.205-41		1.831.-	
TOTALS	33.400.-	33.748,13	36,700,-	24,444.17	

Excess Income over Expenditure;! 9.303.96.-

Balance at White Fathers: 17.512.93

Prepared by A, FERNANDEZ

D I A R Y

SEDOS 71/616

- Monday, 20 September 1971: A visit to SEDOS is made by Fr. James Belzer SSC, who has been assigned the responsibility of setting up an information system for the SSC at the Bishop Ford Center, Hong Kong. Fr. Belzer is planning to soon start a Bulletin for his congregation and discussed with Fr. Tonna the details (and "pitfalls") of such an endeavor.
- Tuesday, 21 September 1971: Fr. Rink of Caritas stopped by to bring SEDOS up to date on his latest project - a study of UN structures set up to activate the development process.
- Sr. Mary Ann Panevska - a long-time friend of SEDOS - visits Fr. Tonna to discuss her plans for work in "Mass Media for Human Development", and meets the new members of the staff.
- HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY TO MALTA!
- Wednesday, 22 September 1971: Fr. Tonna sees Bro. Gottwald at FSC to get current information on MISEREOR programs.
- The problems of budget, financial statements and the like are the topics of a meeting by Fr. Tonna and Miss Fernandez with Bro. Schnepf.
- Thursday 23 September 1971: Sr. Joan Burke and Sr. M. Maeder, S.N.D., spend some time at SEDOS - Sr. Burke to do further research for her forthcoming trip to Africa, and Sr. Maeder to become more familiar with the Documentation System.
- Fr. Tonna sees Sr. Avonts SA at Frascati to discuss the Nemur Mission session.
- Friday, 24 September 1971: Fr. Tonna visits Fr. Cuskelly, Superior General and Fr. Vesthoff, SEDOS Delegate, at MSC. The ES comes back with valuable new information on current missionary policies, orientations, initiatives and documentation needs - and more follow-up work for us!

G. Tierney