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Urge Revival In Preaching Word Of God

VATICAN CITY (UPI)—Joseph Cardinal Ritter of St. Louis told the Ecumenical Council today that a revival of "preaching the word of God" is the "indispensable basis" of any other reform of the Roman Catholic Church.

The American prelate, one of the council's liberal group, said that all of the reforms under consideration—such as those in the liturgy and organization of the church—depend on getting back to sound and dynamic preaching of God's word.

He said unfortunately preaching today is often done in a "desultory manner," as if it were incidental to the liturgy.

Augustin Cardinal Bea, head of the secretariat for Christian unity, followed Cardinal Ritter with a plea for more accurate study of biblical texts, which are being cited by council speakers as well as in the document now under debate on the nature of the church.

Bea, former head of the Pontifical Biblical Institute and one of the world's most noted Catholic biblical scholars, strongly implied that some of his colleagues were misquoting or misinterpreting the scripture.

Giacomo Cardinal Lercaro, archbishop of Bologna and one of the four moderators of the council, declared that the "separated brethren" of the Protestant and Orthodox communions are already "incorporated in the church of Christ" by virtue of their baptism.

Emphasizing that he spoke in a personal capacity rather than as a moderator, Cardinal Lercaro voiced the hope that the council will make it very clear in its definition of the church that Christian baptism, even outside the Roman Catholic Church, confers a "second birth" by which an individual is incorporated into the church in a true sense, even though circumstances such as heresy or schism may interfere with his full enjoyment of all the spiritual benefits of the church.

In all, 20 council fathers spoke at today's fourth plenary meeting of the second session. Debate continued on the introduction and first of four chapters in a document entitled "De Ecclesia" (about the church).

The "De Ecclesia" document may become an authoritative source on such topics as the primacy of the Pope, the authority of the bishops and the relation of non-Catholics to the kingdom of God.

Excerpts Of Court Ruling

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI)—Excerpts and comments from the Indiana Supreme Court in its opinion declaring the state sales tax law unconstitutional:

On the merit and expediency of the tax law:

"We have no right to go into

the merits of the proposed tax.

Whether an act is wise or ex-

pedient is a matter for the legis-

lature—not the courts. Those mat-

ters have no bearing on the con-

stitutionality of the legislation. If

the action of the General Assem-

ble... is unwise or imprudent,

the remedy is at the polls on

election day."

On the argument of AFL-CIO President Dallas Sells that there is no expressed authority in the Constitution for enactment of a

sales tax:

"The law in this state is well

settled in that respect. The power

of legislation of the subject of

taxation admits no limitation ex-

cept where specifically imposed

by the Constitution itself. It is

generally recognized that there is

no limitation under the Constitu-

tion as to the number of excise

taxes which may be imposed by

the legislature."

On the argument that the title

of the act is unconstitutional be-

cause it does not specifically con-

tain the words "sales tax":

"A title need not be a complete

index or abstract of the entire

act. The title is sufficient to in-

form both retail merchants and

retail purchasers of the imposition

upon them of an excise tax."

On the manner of enactment in

the Senate when a constitutional

majority of 26 votes was not ob-

tained:

"The proper authentication of

an enrolled act is proof of its

proper enactment, with the excep-

tion that fraud practiced upon the

legislature or its presiding officers

would vitiate the certification. It

is not fraud of that character is charged

in this case."

On the question of double taxation—gross income tax and sales tax on the same income:

"We find nothing in the Constitu-

tion that limits the number of

taxes that the legislature in its

judgment may see fit to enact."

On the argument that failure to

reapportion the legislature is

grounds for nullifying the tax:

"This issue was not raised in

the trial court and hence need not

be considered on appeal."

On the argument that exemptions

in the act were discriminatory

in favor of farmers:

"We feel the classification is

proper since it is not limited

merely to farmers but also to

other persons occupationally en-

gaged in the business of pro-

duction."

On the argument that the act was discriminatory in favor of farmers:

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