CARA OPENS A UNIQUE SERVICE TO CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES

HON. RICHARD D. McCArTHY OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, November 17, 1970

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, in recent years research in agriculture has come of age in all our institutions and organizations. Research, as we gradually, is learning, has no phases for the ill that beset our institutions and society. It has appeared as a component of sound decision-making in the contemporary world.

As with other critical major sectors of society—business, labor, government, academia—our churches are also utilizing research and planning to improve their responses to the needs of their members and of the American community.

Emancipating the growth of this trend within the church, be it CARA—the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate—an independent church-related national Catholic cooperative research center. Established in 1963 as a nonprofit body by more than 200 religious superiors and provincials, Catholic bishops and lay leaders, the center has already made many contributions both to the church and to our national well-being.

With its strong interfaith and ecumenical emphasis, CARA's concerns are at home as clustered for the National Catholic Planning has proved that the vision of its founders was quite correct. The center is meeting a genuine need of both public and private sectors alike.

The center's growth is due to the outstanding board of directors, which has been composed of a cross-section of American leaders. Among those members have been:

Richard Cardinal Cushing, the recently retired Archbishop of Boston, who, in 1960 triggered the establishment of CARA;

John Cardinal Krol, Archbishop of Philadelphia, former president of CARA during the period of most rapid growth; Cardinal Krol is the secretary of the National Council of Catholic Bishops;

Mrs. Missievie Lewis, R.K., vice president of CARA; a former member of the board of directors of the Catholic University of America. Mrs. Lewis is a well known Florida businesswoman and civic leader;

Miss Genevieve Blatt, CARA secretary-treasurer; in 1964 Miss Blatt was the Democratic choice for the delegates from Pennsylvania; a former Assistant Director of the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity, she was also elected for four terms as Pennsylvania's Secretary of Internal Affairs;

Charles M. Grice, CARA's chairman; in 1963 Mr. Grice was named a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre for his many religious activities, and his national leadership in the contemporary field is well known;

The Most Reverend Leo C. Byrne, Coadjutor Archbishop of St. Paul-Minneapolis, who has provided essential leadership for CARA's Campus Ministry Department;

Mr. John G. Poent, president of Community Counseling Service, Inc. of New York; in 1966 Mr. Poent conducted the first study of CARA's financial potential and is great responsibility for CARA's financial success;

Mr. John L. Cushling, dean of Jamestown College, Jamestown, N. Dak.; Dr. Cushling is the representative in CARA of the Knights of Columbus, which has provided a $200,000 five-year grant to the center for campus related research;

Mr. Eugene J. McCarthy, M.A., a former member of the Faculty of the Uni- versity of Dayton, Ohio, and a very active member of CARA's Finance Committee; Mr. McCarthy has made him aware of the need to improve church management;

Mr. John O'Neil, finance chairman of General Tire and Rubber Co.;

The Most Reverend Ernest L. Untertobeck, Bishop of Charleston, S.C.; theologian, economist, and a very active member of CARA's Finance Committee; The Most Reverend John J. Carroll, Archbishop of Miami, whose much-coveted work with Cuban refugees has greatly supported CARA's focus toward the needs of Spanish-speaking Americans;

Mrs. Richard H. Walsh, executive assistant to Reverend of Charleston, S.C., and her active members, and the Director of Developing CARA's Area Department, starting in 1964;

Mr. Harry John, President of De la Salle, Milwaukee, Wis.; Mr. John is the doctorate. He is a fellow of the center's overseas program;

Mr. Paul Naylor, president of Serra International; a body of distinguished Catholic leaders who promote church vocations, Serra has long worked hand-in-hand with CARA;

At the present time CARA's president is John J. Cardinal Carberry, Archbishop of St. Louis. He has encouraged the center to develop its research and planning activities so that the authentic voice of the church and non-Catholic can be incorporated into the church's decision-making machinery. Illustrative of this unique CARA approach to planning is its recent work on the American Bishops' Conference, the effect of which is described in the news story below.

Much credit for CARA's success is due to the combined efforts of the Reverend D. McCarthy, R. S.M., director of the Center for Major Superiors of Men, its executive director, the Reverend Louis L. Lenzil, R. S.V., and development director. Fathers X. McCarthy, and J. C. Klein, Ph.D.

Father Lenzil is a member of the Anthropos Institute, Germany, founded by the world-renowned Father Wilhelm Schmidt, S.V.D., under whom he studied in Fribourg, Switzerland, and received his Ph.D. in the American Anthropological Association and was president of the Anthropological Association—1952-64—and was a Ford Foundation overseas fellow in New Guinea.

Mr. McCarthy's many-sided career has been particularly helpful to the center's public relations and financial development activities. A former research director, Eastern Conference of Teamsters, he also served 3 years in Central America helping the Mission Departmenten up the U.S. program for the Regional Economic Integration Movement, assisted in establishing the framework for the local development of the U.S. program for training human resources and environmental problems, and has been a key convener for several national and state political campaigns.

All present CARA's president has received the Daily News, President, who is entitled to attend the presentations at the center's present conference with the American Bishops' Conference, the effect of which is described in the news story below.

Mr. J. C. Klein, Ph.D.

President Lenzil is a member of the Anthropos Institute, Germany, founded by the world-renowned Father Wilhelm Schmidt, S.V.D., under whom he studied in Fribourg, Switzerland, and received his Ph.D. in the American Anthropological Association and was president of the Anthropological Association—1952-64—and was a Ford Foundation overseas fellow in New Guinea.

Mr. McCarthy's many-sided career has been particularly helpful to the center's public relations and financial development activities. A former research director, Eastern Conference of Teamsters, he also served 3 years in Central America helping the Mission Departmenten up the U.S. program for the Regional Economic Integration Movement, assisted in establishing the framework for the local development of the U.S. program for training human resources and environmental problems, and has been a key convener for several national and state political campaigns.

All present CARA's president has received the Daily News, President, who is entitled to attend the presentations at the center's present conference with the American Bishops' Conference, the effect of which is described in the news story below.

Mr. J. C. Klein, Ph.D.

President Lenzil is a member of the Anthropos Institute, Germany, founded by the world-renowned Father Wilhelm Schmidt, S.V.D., under whom he studied in Fribourg, Switzerland, and received his Ph.D. in the American Anthropological Association and was president of the Anthropological Association—1952-64—and was a Ford Foundation overseas fellow in New Guinea.

Mr. McCarthy's many-sided career has been particularly helpful to the center's public relations and financial development activities. A former research director, Eastern Conference of Teamsters, he also served 3 years in Central America helping the Mission Departmenten up the U.S. program for the Regional Economic Integration Movement, assisted in establishing the framework for the local development of the U.S. program for training human resources and environmental problems, and has been a key convener for several national and state political campaigns.

All present CARA's president has received the Daily News, President, who is entitled to attend the presentations at the center's present conference with the American Bishops' Conference, the effect of which is described in the news story below.

Mr. J. C. Klein, Ph.D.

President Lenzil is a member of the Anthropos Institute, Germany, founded by the world-renowned Father Wilhelm Schmidt, S.V.D., under whom he studied in Fribourg, Switzerland, and received his Ph.D. in the American Anthropological Association and was president of the Anthropological Association—1952-64—and was a Ford Foundation overseas fellow in New Guinea.

Mr. McCarthy's many-sided career has been particularly helpful to the center's public relations and financial development activities. A former research director, Eastern Conference of Teamsters, he also served 3 years in Central America helping the Mission Departmenten up the U.S. program for the Regional Economic Integration Movement, assisted in establishing the framework for the local development of the U.S. program for training human resources and environmental problems, and has been a key convener for several national and state political campaigns.

All present CARA's president has received the Daily News, President, who is entitled to attend the presentations at the center's present conference with the American Bishops' Conference, the effect of which is described in the news story below.

Mr. J. C. Klein, Ph.D.

President Lenzil is a member of the Anthropos Institute, Germany, founded by the world-renowned Father Wilhelm Schmidt, S.V.D., under whom he studied in Fribourg, Switzerland, and received his Ph.D. in the American Anthropological Association and was president of the Anthropological Association—1952-64—and was a Ford Foundation overseas fellow in New Guinea.

Mr. McCarthy's many-sided career has been particularly helpful to the center's public relations and financial development activities. A former research director, Eastern Conference of Teamsters, he also served 3 years in Central America helping the Mission Departmenten up the U.S. program for the Regional Economic Integration Movement, assisted in establishing the framework for the local development of the U.S. program for training human resources and environmental problems, and has been a key convener for several national and state political campaigns.

All present CARA's president has received the Daily News, President, who is entitled to attend the presentations at the center's present conference with the American Bishops' Conference, the effect of which is described in the news story below.

Mr. J. C. Klein, Ph.D.

President Lenzil is a member of the Anthropos Institute, Germany, founded by the world-renowned Father Wilhelm Schmidt, S.V.D., under whom he studied in Fribourg, Switzerland, and received his Ph.D. in the American Anthropological Association and was president of the Anthropological Association—1952-64—and was a Ford Foundation overseas fellow in New Guinea.

Mr. McCarthy's many-sided career has been particularly helpful to the center's public relations and financial development activities. A former research director, Eastern Conference of Teamsters, he also served 3 years in Central America helping the Mission Departmenten up the U.S. program for the Regional Economic Integration Movement, assisted in establishing the framework for the local development of the U.S. program for training human resources and environmental problems, and has been a key convener for several national and state political campaigns.

All present CARA's president has received the Daily News, President, who is entitled to attend the presentations at the center's present conference with the American Bishops' Conference, the effect of which is described in the news story below.

Mr. J. C. Klein, Ph.D.

President Lenzil is a member of the Anthropos Institute, Germany, founded by the world-renowned Father Wilhelm Schmidt, S.V.D., under whom he studied in Fribourg, Switzerland, and received his Ph.D. in the American Anthropological Association and was president of the Anthropological Association—1952-64—and was a Ford Foundation overseas fellow in New Guinea.
As its name indicates, the center focuses not on "pure" research—knowledge for its own sake—but on the application of research findings to the decision-making process.

The center houses a number of departments. These include a church personnel department, which has conducted a number of studies on the recruitment, training and use of church manpower; a department of religious women; a theology department; a "town and country" department concerned with the Church's mission in small town and rural areas; several overseas departments; and a campus ministries department.

SELF-STUDY

The Washington self-study was designed by CARA's department of diocesan services, which also is providing professional staff and consultation for the life of the project. The project director is Father Gerrase Beyer, O.F.M. Conv., while Gilbert A. Lowe, Jr., and Sister Marguerite Moore are research associates.

"Research is an essential component of sound decision-making in today's complicated, fast-changing world," Father Beyer commented recently. "Government and industry have come to recognize this fact, and increasingly the Church does too."

"We at CARA are honored that the Archdiocese of Washington has selected us to provide professional services to its self-study."

VARIED RESEARCH

The center has performed numerous research activities in its five years on behalf of the U.S. bishops, religious orders, dioceses, and other Church organizations. Among these have been developing a model program for training overseas missionaries; a study of the role of parishes in developing vocations; a number of workshops and orientation courses dealing with such subjects as the Church in the inner city, the non-metropolitan apostolate, Africa, and vocations; preparation of a U.S. seminary directory; and a major study of clergy distribution conducted for the bishops.

Currently the center's staff numbers more than 30 and includes sociologists, anthropologists, educators, theologians and specialists in other fields. Its work is carried out under the direction of a board made up of bishops, priests, religious and lay people.

CARA's research director is Father Louis Luzbetak, S.V.D., who has been with the center since its founding. An anthropologist and former Ford Foundation Overseas Research Fellow, he is the author of several works including the prize winning book, "The Church and Cultures: An Applied Anthropology for the Religious Worker."

DYNAMIC ACTION

The center, he says, is "tremendously interested in dynamic action." In line with its emphasis on "applied" research:

"We are concerned with the utilization of knowledge—with steering practical knowledge through channels that will end up in action," he declared.

The agency sets several definite criteria for taking on a research assignment. These include that the research be of "service to the apostolate" and therefore of service to the decision-makers in the Church, especially the hierarchy; that the research be based on sound theology; and that it be carried out according to professional research standards. The center also puts stress on the urgency of issues to be researched, their practicality, and the avoidance of duplication of work being done by others.

According to CARA staff members, the Washington Archdiocesan self-study—a massive undertaking aimed at evaluating the spectrum of apostolic activities here and developing plans for the future—is a major example of the sort of project the center exists to serve and will be a significant model for many other dioceses in the country. It will be, Father Beyer said, "the largest study of its kind ever undertaken by an American diocese."

From CARA's point of view, a particularly noteworthy feature of the Washington project will be its massive grassroots participation.

"We don't propose to bring in a team of researchers who will give the Archdiocese a once-over and come up with packaged solutions," Father Beyer said. "Instead, the plan calls for the people of the Archdiocese themselves to examine the full-range of the Church's programs, evaluate them—their strengths and their weaknesses—and develop plans of action for the future."

"CARA will be helping through this process. But we will not dictate the outcome."

IMPLEMENTATION

In line with the center's emphasis on the use of research findings to further the mission of the Church, CARA staff members already are thinking beyond the completion of the Washington self-study next June to the implementation phase, when plans of action developed during the project will be put into effect. They said it is likely that findings of the self-study will lead to new programs and structures in the Archdiocese, including probably an Archdiocesan-level office of research, plans and programs.

"We're promoting a cause—the mission of the Church," Father Luzbetak said.