

Prison reformer continues fasting

CINCINNATI (AP) — This again, his white hair drooping to his shoulders, the Rev. Martin McCrackin is in a hospital, where he continues a second hunger strike that began in jail.

Four hours later, Mr. McCrackin was taken to Belmont Hospital and surgery from effects of a fall which began April 11.

MR. McCrackin's condition was reported stable Friday, the 17th day of the fast that began in the Hamilton County Jail.

"I ASSUME by your silence you were seeking to say," Doug said. "The judge then announced that he would be set free May 10 if he did not recede, but recede if he does."

"I'm not the public interest would be served by a reasonable period of incarceration in the new grand jury term. I felt beyond 10 days, or might end the grand jury can

Center becomes church

Continued from page D1 has opened a Christian school in the classroom. There are 10 students in the grades, kindergarten through 12th, and a handful of preschoolers. A few students are black, the children of neighborhood residents, dispelling the idea that the school's purpose is to avoid integration in the nearby public schools.

"IT'S TO AVOID the public school philosophy, which is humanistic and secular," asserts the pastor.

Travis at Shadydale Christian School is \$600 per year, with reduced amounts for families who send more than one child to the school.

Mr. Hedges points with pride to the additional study program which allows pupils to learn at their own ability level.

"Each of the kids is producing," he says. "That gives them a sense of pride in accomplishment. I can tell you from my own and school cover that, in a public school, the kids are not all producing."



Rev. Martin McCrackin, 1974 photo

May 10 would perhaps be reasonable," Doug said.

"I am grateful for Judge Doan's decision," Robert Bowman, one of Mr. McCrackin's court-appointed attorneys, said later, "and this case and this story is going to end with a measure of cooperation."

"Hunger would be a waste of the student's great ability," he would have died in jail rather than have his moral commitment.

Mr. McCrackin was hospitalized in February during a 14-day fast to protest his incarceration. The situation, who has been in jail for his fight against war and segregation, refused to help the court system send prisoners back to Ohio prisons who he called "columbus."

Earlier this week, Mr. McCrackin sent a two-page, handwritten, letter to reporters.

"THEY HAD been served a battle of wills, an irreconcilable force against an immovable object," but he said.

"I wish it might not have been a battle of wills but a meeting of minds. To me, this struggle lies in the realm of ideas, of conviction and of moral issues. For this time, I need to have both sides taken of any kind," Mr. McCrackin said.

Mr. McCrackin said he hoped there would be "more personal communication" with Letts and Doug.

He said his fasting for contempt for refusing to give the grand jury information about the escaped prisoners may accomplish some good.

"There has been a growing public demand for my release. Yet, these demands were ignored.

This should make clear the plight of the poor, the countless and the detriments when the prosecutor's office has determined to get an indictment and conviction against them," he said.

Rev. Fife remembered here

Continued from page D1 "mine," says Joseph Ann David, of Cuyahoga Falls. The young

They have little study at the home," he said. "It's primarily as a possible successor to Mr. Fife in that role."

HEER RESPONSE was to leave her church and her teaching job and to become involved full time in the local ministry and school. The school, housed in a modern, half brick structure, has 70 pupils in all the grades.

"I BELIEVE MY marriage is ordained of God," the elder said. "Now, I'd like my husband to join our group, but I'm not going to leave him because he hasn't."

"THESE DAUGHTERS have been back for visits with my girls," he said. "But nothing was ever said about what was going on up there (in Canada)."

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as a possible successor to Mr. Fife in that role. The Rev. J. Robert Welsh, associate minister for the United Church of Christ Eastern Ohio Association, emphasized the teaching and style of Christian Ministries in 1971, when public concern over the group was at its peak. He came away with two conclusions: the fact that the institutional churches will face "new challenges and decisions regarding the credibility and authority of our teaching" such as Mr. Fife's. He said, "It's the reminder that historically the institutional church has advanced its style of ministry to accommodate the movement of the Holy Spirit after the fact and seldom in anticipation of it."

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