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Miss Laura Charles receives the Leslie Woodward Memorial Bursary



only excelled academically, but also participated in the school's gymnastic, volleyball, and track-and-field teams.

Her hobbies include mountain skiing, water skiing, canoeing, swimming and art. Along with two friends, she helped to run the *Ros-*

Opinion from youth delegate

"An experience I will never forget!"



by Susan Bowers

Recently, I had the honour of attending one of the most interesting, and probably the most historical, synods ever held in this Diocese of Algoma.

In my opinion, the most controversial matter before the Synod was that of the **Ordination of Women.** It was moved *"that this synod accept on principle, the ordination of women to the priesthood, and agrees to its introduction when circumstances so require it".*

We, the youth delegates of Algoma, were definitely in favour of the ordination of women; however, we took great exception to the latter part of the motion, which stated that women be admited to the priesthood ONLY when circumstances so require it. We agreed that any person who feels that he or she has been called to serve the Lord must be able to do so, regardless of sex!

I am not a supporter of the *Women's Liberation Movement,* but I feel that women are capable of serving the Lord in this manner —equally as well as men.

Is it because women are not as capable of the undying love and devotion to our Lord as men? Is it because after praying to His Father for 40 days and 40 nights, Christ went out into the world and chose 12 MEN instead of women as apostles? These are some of the thought-provoking questions that were debated before the motion was put to a vote, and carried by a strong majority of 102 to 51. I only hope that each person who voted in favour of this motion gave it much serious thought, so as not to instill false hopes in any woman who might plan to enter the priesthood.

The Church in the North was a matter that was the subject of much debate, and some very interesting facts and views were presented by the Rt. Rev. J. A. Watton, Bishop of the Diocese of Moosonee. The "James Bay Hydro Project" was the main topic for discussion. *(See this month's edition of the* CANADIAN CHURCHMAN *for detailed reports.)* If this project goes through, it will mean the removal of livelihood for the Indian and Eskimo peoples, along with their sacred burial grounds and other historical places.

Some very interesting solutions to this perplexing problem were presented. Of these, one of the most controversial was the disposal of Quebec Hydro bonds as a symbol of our protest. After a very heated discussion, this motion was defeated 94 to 33, on the grounds that this could incur a definite loss of $2,500 to the Diocese. Furthermore, these bonds are held as part of an estate, and our position as to their disposal was not clear.

We, the youth delegates, presented a suggestion to the effect *"that this synod critically examine its investments and compile a report for next synod".* This suggestion was filed as a notion of motion for the next synod.



Mr. Michael Eldred of Trinity College listens while the Rev. Canon George Doolan speaks about *'Abortion'*.

It was also unanimously carried that each parish should give particular attention to the support and extension of the Church in the North as a mission project.

The subject of Abortion was brought up late Tuesday afternoon of Synod, and because of the lack of time, there was not the expected lengthy debate. We did, however, hear speakers opposed to and in favour of abortion.

Dr. David Gould presented us with a report on the medical aspect of abortion; this was, in part, the report which he presented to the last General Synod. Mr. Michael Eldred, a second-year divinity student at Trinity College in Toronto, presented an interesting, albeit somewhat gruesome brief, in heavy opposition to abortion.

Although the grisly pictures he presented, as he accounted some of his experiences in an abortion ward were not pretty, neither are the pictures of starving, unloved, unwanted, and battered children.

I feel that there are so many missing pieces in this puzzle, that each delegate should await the final outcome and report of the *Task Force on Human Life* so that open minds might preclude any rash or hasty decisions.

The following motion was unanimously carried: that *"this Synod awaits the final report of the Task Force on Human Life prior to deciding on any change in the position of the Church from the 1967 brief to government; within this interim we believe that the Church has a special obligation to support family life education and family planning by assisting community endeavours".*

In closing, I can only say that it was indeed an honour to be elected as one of the first youth delegates to Diocesan Synod. Moreover, the fact that it marked our Archbishop's last Synod, and that it was our *Centennial Year,* made it an experience that I will never forget.

(Ed. Note. Susan is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. Bowers of 100 Parkdale Drive in Sault Ste. Marie. A 16-year old delegate to Synod, Susan gave a report to St. Luke's Cathedral about her impressions of Synod '73.)