

School aid is target of P.O.A.U. ire

PORTLAND, Ore.—Members of Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State met here for their 13th national conference and spent two days lambasting Catholics.

A principal object of their ire was the suggestion that students in Catholic schools have as much right to share in taxpayer education benefits as do children in public schools.

The meeting was also livened by references to the "religious issue" in the 1960 presidential race.

W. Kenneth Haddock, a Methodist minister from Portsmouth, Va., declared that during the campaign it was "not bigotry for a Roman Catholic voter to support a member of his church, but for any non-Catholic to vote against the Catholic candidate was the depth of gross intolerance."

By contrast with 1958, when Gov. Alfred E. Smith of New York, a Catholic seeking the presidency, "suffered because of the religious issue," President Kennedy's campaign "was strengthened by exploiting that issue," Dr. Haddock said.

Most of the other speakers centered themselves with accusations that Catholics are trying by unconstitutional means to get tax funds for schools and hospitals.

GLENN L. ARCHER, executive director of P.O.A.U., said the problem lies down to "discrimination"—"the use of religious influence for the achievement of political ends."

Mr. Archer said an effort to obtain a share of public taxpayer benefits for private institutions is a "criterial threat" whose impetus comes mainly from the U.S. Catholic Bishops.

"It is quite evident to us that the Catholic drive is part of a worldwide pattern," he said. "It is the entering wedge in a scheme which these leaders quite frankly describe to their own people. Every time we pay a dollar for a Catholic school bus, that payment is used as an argument for the legality of a further tribute."

Mr. Archer said that "another critical problem posed by Catholic Action concerns the use of public funds for hospitals which operate under a sectarian medical code."

"Catholic hospitals purport to serve the public, but in practice they are Catholic institutions, a kind of medical practice directed by priests who are not doctors," he said.

Dr. W. A. Crisswell, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex., said the greatest danger to Church-State separation in the U.S. is the campaign to shift the cost of Roman Catholic schools to the American taxpayer.

"The campaign being easily deflected because it is sought from the government, such as bus (Continued on page 12)

Says '60 campaign changed public image of Church

FARGO, N.D.—The events of the 1960 presidential campaign made radical changes in the public image of the Church, a Catholic editor said here.

Msgr. Francis J. Lally, editor of the Boston archdiocesan newspaper the Pilot, said the campaign changed the thinking of many Americans about the Church.

Previously, he said, Americans regarded Catholicism as an immigrant, non-American religion, which sought to impose its authority outside the moral sphere.

But the behavior of Catholics during the campaign and the discussions of Catholic belief that cropped up helped persuade many that this image of the Church was inaccurate, he added.

Msgr. Lally said that at the moment there is no public image of the Church to take the place of the one which was erased by the campaign.

He urged U.S. Catholics to take this opportunity to show their fellow Americans what the Church really is like.

Jews at Mass for benefactor

JEERUSALEM—A congregation made up mostly of immigrant Polish Jews attended a Requiem Mass at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Ramleh, a country town, for a Catholic patriot who helped to save many Jews from the Gestapo during World War II.

He was Witold Fumekowski, who hailed from the former Polish town of Lutzk, which is now in Soviet territory.

Among those attending his funeral was Abraham Kilder, chairman of the Lutzk Immigrants Association, who recalled that "our late devoted Christian neighbor" had many times helped to save persecuted Jews from the Nazis during the German occupation of Poland at the risk of his own life.

Mr. Fumekowski immigrated to Israel four years ago and settled at Asdalon, where grateful Jewish friends had helped prepare a home for him. However, soon afterwards he contracted an illness to which he finally succumbed.



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COLLEGES ONLY

Church schools omitted in Kennedy's aid plan

WASHINGTON — President Kennedy ruled out any Federal aid to church-related grade and high schools in the administration's proposed aid to education program.

But he called upon Congress to establish a program of grants, scholarships and loans for both public and private colleges and their students. Church-related colleges were not ruled out.

His education message did not raise the question of giving aid directly to nonpublic school pupils or their parents. Nor did it mention auxiliary services.

The Chief Executive's message made a special point of noting the exclusion of aid for nonpublic schools, estimated to enroll about 6.8 million children.

"In accordance with the clear prohibition of the Constitution," he wrote, "no elementary or secondary school funds are allocated for constructing church schools or paying church school teachers' salaries."

The President's proposal would give \$2.3 billion in the next three years to states for public grade and high school construction and for public school teachers' salaries.

President Kennedy said the constitutional bar he sees as prohibiting aid to nonpublic schools means that pupils in these schools are not eligible to be counted in determining the funds to be given each state.

Mr. Kennedy stressed during the 1960 presidential campaign that he was opposed to unconstitutional aid to church-related schools.

A high administration official was asked if the President and his advisers had given thought to so-called indirect aid to private schools, such as a loan program, but he declined to comment.

In the past Congress, an effort was made to establish a program of government loans, with interest, to help nonpublic schools finance construction, but it failed.

Mr. Kennedy voted against it in the Senate.

THE PRESIDENT'S message calls for certain grants to some colleges, in addition to loans and a scholarship program for talented and financially needy students.

These grants would accompany Federal scholarships. Expected to average about \$300 for each scholarship, they are intended to help colleges make up the difference between its cost-of-education and what each Federal scholarship student will pay.

The full Kennedy program, which would cost a total of \$2.7 billion dollars, of which \$2.3 billion will be repaid, is as follows:

1. A three-year program of Federal grants to states which they are free to use for either of both public school construction or teachers' salaries. States would get at least \$15 for each child in average daily attendance at public schools. The total cost is \$2.3 billion.

2. A five-year program of long-term, low-interest loans to colleges, public and private, to help finance construction or renovation of academic facilities, such as classrooms. The cost would be \$1.5 billion. It would be repaid by borrowers.

3. A five-year extension of the present government program of loans to colleges, public and private, to aid in building residential housing. It would cost \$1.3 billion.

4. A five-year program of state-administered scholarships for talented and needy college students. The program would cost up to \$1,000 a year. Students would be free to choose their college. Federal "cost-of-education" grants would be used to pay the balance. The total cost would be \$377.5 million.

PRESIDENT Kennedy's formula for allocating aid will give more to the poorer states, although all states are assured of (Continued on page 12)

Pope urges prayers Vatican Council can be held in '62

ROME—His Holiness Pope John XXIII has exhorted people to pray that the Second Vatican Council can be held in 1962.

He made the appeal at the Church of St. John the Evangelist on the southern outskirts of Rome, which he chose for his first Lenten Sunday visit this year.

As a sign of his sure intention to pray that the preparatory work for the council could be completed successfully to make it possible to hold the council next year.

Although the Pontiff's appeal would mean any sure indication the council will be held next year, it was the first public reference to a specific time when John first announced his plans for an eccumenical council in January of 1959.

TO BE HONORED

WASHINGTON—Mrs. Robert F. Kennedy, wife of the Attorney General, will receive the Christian Excellence Medal of Marymount College in suburban Arlington, Va., in a ceremony March 14.

School bus rides are ruled legal for parochial pupils

Fair housing action urged by Catholics

CHICAGO—The National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice has called for urban Catholic leadership as an indispensable factor in overcoming racial discrimination in large city housing.

In a statement prepared here by the Housing Commission of the NCCIJ, it was stressed that "the injustice of racial discrimination in housing is more and more seen as the number one social problem facing our big cities."

COMMISSION chairman John McDermott declared that housing is a "problem which poses a special challenge for Catholics because we are America's single largest urban group." He stated that Catholics come to the fore in the struggle for racial justice in housing.

Mr. McDermott, who also is head of Chicago's Catholic Interracial Council, said that his NCCIJ group has "as one of its prime purposes to help the Catholic community and Catholic leaders see the opportunity which is uniquely theirs."

The statement asserted that racial discrimination in housing has become a problem of national proportions, "affecting the housing market generally and threatening 'the stability, peace and unity of American civil life.'"

"CITING the 'moral challenge' of housing segregation, it went on further to state that lack of adequate housing for minority groups, and restrictive market practices harm the strength of family life in America."

The report called on Catholic Interracial Council and Catholic parishes throughout the country to develop programs to help solve the housing problem. Catholic parishes and organizations were urged to work with other groups to end the legacy of racism and injustice.

"The NCCIJ is an outgrowth of the Catholic Interracial Council movement founded by Father John LaFarge, noted Jesuit author and former editor-in-chief of America, a national Catholic weekly magazine."

Hit Chicago plan to oust families in redevelopment

CHICAGO — The conservation committee of the Archdiocese of Chicago is disturbed over plans to move thousands of families from the Harrison-Halsted area as asked by the University of Illinois, the Chicago Plan Commission was told here.

Msgr. John J. Egan, chairman of the committee, asked that a survey be made of additional west side areas to be cleared to reach and which would have to be done to secure new homes for the residents.

Also, he asked that consideration be given to redevelopment plans and residential housing in the area south of the university site. This is now regarded as a blighted area.

Immediate plans call for the removal of all families from the first section of the university site to be built, some 43 acres.

The next big movement will come from the 84 acres where two thousand families live.

Msgr. Egan said the population in this area was comprised of mostly Mexican and Puerto Rican families.

Also to be moved are several hundred families in areas which are to be part of the university site.

Msgr. Egan's requests were referred to city officials.

Congolese youths kill Belgian priest

USUMBURA, Ruanda-Urundi—A Belgian Catholic priest, Father Etienne Devos, was slain by a band of rampaging nationalist youths in Bukavu, capital of Kivu province in the Congo, it was learned here.

Word of the outrage was brought by Europeans who fled from the capital to this neighboring Belgian trusteeship territory. The news was confirmed in a telephone call to United Nations headquarters in Bukavu.

The youths also beat ten other priests and nuns and set fire to the Catholic mission in Bukavu. Three of the priests were Congolese and the other two were United Nations troops intervened.



NEW MONSIGNOR HONORED—More than 300 persons attended a reception last Sunday at St. Mary's parish, New Albany, honoring the pastor, Msgr. James Jansen, V.F., who was recently elevated to domestic prelate. A youthful parishioner, Kevin Hornung, greets Monsignor Jansen in the above photograph. Waiting their turn are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hornung. A similar reception was held at Our Lady of Lourdes parish, Indianapolis, for Msgr. James Hickey, who was honored by Pope John XXIII along with Monsignor Jansen.

Southern Bishops cite progress in integration

CHARLESTON, S.C.—The Catholic Church in the U.S. "is moving steadily toward the full Christian solution" of the racial segregation problem, three Catholic bishops of the South asserted in separate statements.

"In justice to our people, we cannot abandon leadership to the extremists whose only creed is fear and hatred," said Bishop Paul J. Hallinan of Charleston in a policy statement issued for his diocese.

The same words were contained in almost identical statements issued by Bishop Francis E. Ryland of Atlanta, Ga., and Sylvania Thomas J. McDonough of Savannah, Ga. The statements were read on the same day at the annual meeting of the Southern Catholic Bishops of the U.S. in Charleston, S.C.

"When changing times have called for fresh application of the eternal God-given principles," the bishops stated, "our loyal people have not wavered. Nor will they waver now."

KEY POINTS in the statements were these:

- "Catholic pupils, regardless of color, will be admitted to Catholic schools as soon as this can be done with safety to the children and the schools..."
- "The Negro school will be continued as long as there is need for them. Their purpose is to reach and teach the Negro, not to segregate him."
- "During 1961 the three dioceses will undertake programs of preparation for their people. Pastoral letters, sermons, study clubs and school instruction will explain the full Catholic teaching on racial justice."

The statements stressed that the affirmation of these points "is not just a minimum approach to full Christian justice."

"In a region where our Catholic population is less than 2 percent, it is an honest effort to influence a way of life that has prevailed for many decades," the statements said. "Millions of people have accepted this way of life in good faith. Now, both whites and Negroes face a tremendous challenge—to live in a community with full Christian justice for both."

The bishops said in their statements "the racial problem does not exist in a vacuum and must be solved in the wider context of our missionary work."

"The bishop, therefore, will prudently judge the appropriate response to the situation."

Lay groups oppose bias in housing

PORTLAND, Ore.—Catholic lay organizations meeting here have adopted a "manifesto of conscience" which urges both minority groups in getting suitable housing.

The manifesto called upon Catholics "to make known their willingness to welcome into their neighborhoods any resident regardless of race, creed or national origin."

MOMENT OF SILENCE—In this striking photograph, taken by a UPI cameraman, Sister Demetria, W.S., raises a finger to her lips to ask for silence as she stands in front of a altar decorated with candles in Rome. She was attending a ceremony in connection with the recent elevation of Cardinal Joseph E. Ritter, Sister Demetria, who is stationed in the African missions, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Smith, of Holy Angels parish, Indianapolis. Mrs. Smith attended the consistory also.



High Court reiterates 1947 stand

WASHINGTON — Tax-paid bus rides for private and parochial school students are permitted under the Federal Constitution, the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled.

The high court dismissed "for want of a Federal question" an appeal seeking reversal of a lower court's ruling which upheld the practice in Connecticut.

Associate Justices Felix Frankfurter and William O. Douglas were in favor of hearing the appeal. The court's other seven members were not.

AT LEAST some private school children ride public school buses in 17 states at present. Supreme courts in six states—California, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Connecticut—have ruled that the practice is permitted under their state constitutions.

In five other states—Delaware, Missouri, Oklahoma, Washington and New York—courts have ruled that the practice is not permitted. But immediately after the New York decision, an amendment to the state constitution was enacted authorizing the practice.

The case on which the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled involved a challenge to a Connecticut law which allows private school children to ride buses free of charge after voters in a community have given their approval by referendum.

Action against the law was begun by an organization known as "Citizens for the Connecticut Constitution, Inc." The group was set up after New York voters approved providing bus rides for children at St. Rose's grade school there.

THE CONNECTICUT Supreme Court of Errors held in July, 1959, that the law violates neither the state nor Federal Constitution. It said the measure "primarily serves the public health, safety and welfare, and fosters education."

In the light of our history and policy, it cannot be said to compel support of any church. . . . It comes up to, but does not breach, the wall of separation between Church and State," the Connecticut court said.

It was this decision which the Supreme Court refused to review on the grounds that the case involved no Federal issue.

The court's action was consistent with its 1947 decision in the (Continued on page 12)