

Housing Bill Support Urged On Truman

Washington (NC) — Led by Messrs. John O'Grady, secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Charities, spokesmen for 33 national organizations met with President Harry S. Truman here urging support of the Wagner-Blender-Taft General Housing Bill.

Mrs. Ruth Craven, executive secretary of the National Council of Catholic Women, was a member of the group.

The conferees stated their support of sound emergency housing programs, favored materials allocation and price control, and called for bold national leadership in solving the critical housing problem.

Specific recommendations for an immediate as well as a long-term housing program included:

- (1) Liberalized FHA insurance terms through lower interest rates;
- (2) Longer periods of amortization;
- (3) Reduced down-payments for homes costing less than \$5,000;
- (4) Insurance for mutual home-ownership and cooperative associations on more liberal terms;
- (5) Consumer protection through the issuance of a builder's warranty guaranteeing against structural defects;
- (6) Provision for caring for aged persons who are unable to support themselves.

President Truman's leadership in the housing field was praised and he was congratulated on the appointment of Wilson Wyatt as Housing Expediter, but he was urged to clarify his position promptly on behalf of the creation of a permanent National Housing Agency.

Organizations represented at the meeting included veterans, labor, and educational groups, the largest of the country's women's clubs, farm groups, health and welfare agencies, Negro organizations, and mayors' and city hall associations.

Shacks Help Manila's Housing Problem

St. Columban, Neb. (NC) — With its own housing problem, Manila is one of the major production centers in the Philippines. Manila is being helped with shacks by the St. Columban Fathers, who are reaching here from St. Louis, Mo. The Rev. Gerald M. Cogan, pastor of the Malate mission church of the St. Columban Fathers, is the one in charge.

Social Action Office Organized at Havana

Havana (NC) — Plans for the establishment of an International Office of Catholic Social Action were approved by the delegates of the International Conference of Catholic Social Action, which met here last week. The office will be organized in Havana, Cuba, and will be headed by the Rev. Fr. John J. O'Grady, S.J., of the University of Notre Dame, La Jolla, Calif. The office will be a permanent one and will be a part of the International Office of Catholic Social Action, which is being organized in Havana, Cuba.

A Jubilee Sans Jubilation Catholic Family Life Leader Assesses 25 Year Ruin of Birth Curb Promotion

(The author of the following article is Director of the Family Life Bureau of the National Catholic Welfare Conference and a nationally known lecturer and writer on family and social problems.)

BY THE REV. DR. EDGAR SCHMIEDLKE

Word had it for some time that the old Birth Control Federation of America is to hold its 25th annual meeting this week.

Normally a jubilee is an occasion for rejoicing. But assuredly one looks in vain for reasons to rejoice on this particular 25th anniversary. On the contrary one can find a multiplicity of reasons for keenest regret.

Never in the history of our nation has such a damaging organization been spawned within its confines. Never in the history of any nation has so strong and vigorous a country been brought so rapidly face to face with the threat of decline and the certainty of decay from a movement sponsored within its own borders.

Sty and frantic efforts to hoodwink the public, to hide the dreadful effects of the organization's 25 years of encouragement of uncontrol are of no avail. The facts are too plainly evident to all who will not deliberately close their eyes to them: a flood of sex immorality unleashed upon the land; promiscuity made rampant, even among the young; incredible numbers of American married women deliberately childless; the moral fibre of the nation badly shattered.

The Federation's jubilee program speaks of children. "What children?" one is forced to ask. "Rachel's? Those that are not?"

To feign interest in children after working feverishly for a quarter century to prevent their coming into existence can only be a token for what it is—a hollow pretense!

The jubilee program also mentions religion. One of the major purposes of religion has always been to promote moral living. The doctrine and practice of birth control has greatly fostered immorality. It has proved itself to be just what all unbiased moralists know it would be: a vicious debilitating cancer eating away the moral fiber of the people.

How clear is this country, after 25 years of birth control propaganda and all the rackets that have accomplished it, is the meaning of the words of Jesus: "A society that claims to be civilized and yet allows the sex instinct free play is inoculating itself with a virus of cor-

ruption which sooner or later will destroy it."

Among other features of the jubilee program is an address on milestones of the birth control movement. Presumably the latest milestone has been the teaching, if not encouraging, of the practice among the millions of American soldiers, and dogging them into their homes with it after their return.

Perhaps the most tangible and obvious of the results of 25 years of uncontrol, which are being topped off with a banquet honoring Margaret Sanger, is the unmistakable effect on the country's population growth. Except for certain poorer groups among laborers and ruralists, practically no classes in the United States are today reproducing themselves. Their hardy virtues are gone. There are more deaths among them than births. Our large cities generally have approximately one-third more deaths than births. Some classes, such as professional people, have almost twice as many deaths as births.

Approximately half the married women of our cities have no children whatever. And these are largely from the better-fixed middle class. Planning indeed!

Such are at least some of the results of 25 years of uncontrol. Hardly a jubilee to be jubilant about!

ONTARIO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS DEMAND EQUAL RIGHTS

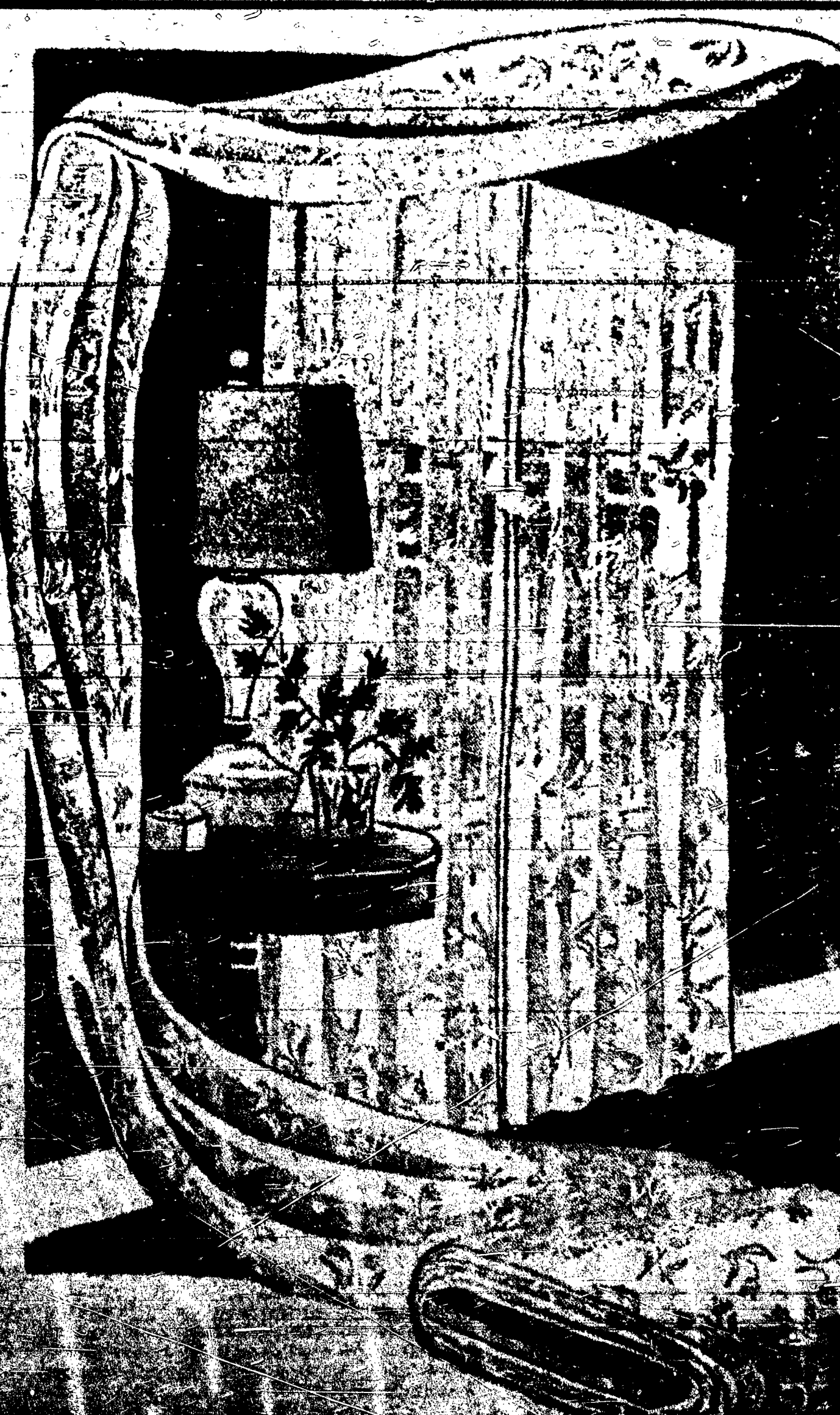
Toronto, Ont. (NC) — Presenting an appeal "for equality of educational opportunity for all children, according to their capacity," spokesmen for the separate (Catholic) schools of Ontario pointed to existing inequalities with regard to school assessments and grants.

The appeal, presented on behalf of the Ontario Catholic Education Council before the Royal Commission on Education, said in part:

"Children in separate schools in Ontario are not given equal opportunity with the children of public (non-sectarian) schools.

"With one-fifth the total attendance of elementary grade children in Ontario, the separate schools receive only one-eighth of the total revenue, the separate school teachers are one-fifth of the total number of teachers, but they receive only one-seventh of the total salaries."

Statistics were presented to show that in Windsor, for instance, the cost per pupil for public schools is \$110 and the government grant is \$33 per capita. On the other hand, the cost per pupil in separate schools is \$52 and the grant amounts to \$15.60. Under the present law, school taxes paid by big corporations and public utilities go entirely to the public schools and the separate schools get no share whatever.



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