

Michigan Puts State Curb On Released Time

Lansing, Mich. — (RNS) — Official cooperation with churches in promoting religious education has been denied to public schools in this state by the Michigan Department of Public Information.

The department's verdict was based on a study of the recent U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Champaign case.

Mrs. Caroline W. Thrun, the department's legal adviser, and Dr. Lee M. Thurston, deputy superintendent of state public instruction, issued the opinion.

"RELIGIOUS training classes may not be conducted in public school buildings, nor can Michigan's compulsory school law be used in any way to enforce attendance at sectarian training classes elsewhere," their statement said.

Mrs. Thrun declared that the Federal tribunal's decision overrules a Michigan attorney general's opinion in 1925 that there are no legal barriers against school boards working with clergymen in a cooperative arrangement to foster religion.

"The decision means," she said, "that there is no way in which a local school board can cooperate with a religious group in making religious education a part of the public school day or using public school buildings for that purpose. The local board is simply without authority to cooperate."

HOWEVER, both Dr. Thurston and Mrs. Thrun believe there can be no objection to reading the Bible in public schools, so long as there is no comment or discussion of a sectarian nature.

Adding that clergymen may continue to take part in school programs so long as they refrain from sectarian discussions, Dr. Thurston commented, "The court indicated that you can't go so far as to remove all evidence of religious thinking from the schools."

Dr. Thurston said the U. S. decision definitely does not put an end to the system of religious education followed in many Michigan school districts where school days are shortened on certain days of the week to permit children to attend religious classes in churches.

The department's opinion claimed that the Supreme Court decision does not upset a long-standing state law allowing children from 12 to 14 years to be excused from school to attend confirmation classes.

Nor, according to Mrs. Thrun, does the court verdict disturb another Michigan statute permitting "limited" transportation of parochial school students on public buses.

Czech Banned Daily's Circulation Booms
Chicago — (NC) — The sudden, dramatic ban imposed by the communist Government of Czechoslovakia upon an American Catholic daily has actually increased the circulation of that newspaper.

Officials of the Bohemian Benedictine Press, which publishes Narod ("News") seven times a week in its own plant here, said that while 1,200 subscribers in the Czech homeland have presumably been deprived of their copies, several times that number have been added in the United States as a result of the ban, among them many non-Catholics.

EDIFICE RAZED BY WINDS



Church of St. John the Baptist, Landeck, Ohio, is completely demolished by the gales which swept Ohio early in the week. Two school boys on their way to the church lost their lives.

2 Ohio Boys Lose Lives As Gale Levels Church

By TOM HUNTER
Landeck, Ohio — (Special) — This tragedy stricken community of 200 persons is thinking today about two school boys, Norbert Bonifas, 11, and Gerald Kill, 10, who didn't get to say their prayers.

The two boys were killed on the front steps of St. John the Baptist Church when a cyclonic gale ripped through this area last Friday and completely destroyed the parish church.

Some think that maybe the boys did pray—in that split-second before the avalanche of brick and masonry descended upon them at the church door.

The 54 families making up the parish of St. John, the Baptist, have a feeling about Norbert and Gerald. And it gives them comfort.

IN THE sacristy at the opposite end of the church, Sister Pasquel must have had a premonition when the wind struck. She heard a noise "like a tree falling against the roof."

Angela Wrasman and Velma Hugel, both 14, who were helping the nun with routine cleaning, ran towards her. She thrust the children ahead of her into a vestment closet and closed the door.

The 46-year-old building trembled. There was a tremendous roar.

When she opened the door the cloud-covered sky had taken the place of the roof. The interior of the church was a shambles and the remaining walls swayed dangerously beneath the buffeting wind. She led her charges to safety through a sacristy door.

ACROSS the street in the school building, 93 pupils were on their knees in the hallways. Sister Henrietta, principal and Sister Bernadine, first grade teacher were kneeling with them. They were praying the rosary.

The solemn intonations and responses were punctuated by the sound of shattering glass as windows in the vacated classrooms crashed before the fury of the storm.

THE ACTION of the nuns undoubtedly saved injury or more death. Floors of the classrooms were littered with glass. The

Mrs. McCollum Denies All-Out Religion Attack

By CLARENCE M. ZENS

Champaign, Ill. — (NC) — In the ninth grade at Champaign Junior High School the students in Miss Mae Chapin's Protestant class were reviewing the life of Paul the Apostle while in another room Father Rander's Catholic students, pursuing the lives of the Saints, had made a beachhead in Moslem Africa, with St. Louis, Crusader King of France.

At Columbia Elementary School, the Protestant 5th grade and her fifth-grade class were in the midst of the second Book of Samuel and its engrossing tale of the relations between Saul and the giant-killer, David.

Then the decision came. Jimmy Pickens, one of the pupils at Columbia, went home and expressed himself in "the terms of a boy of eleven. He was "some" at the United States Supreme Court. "Why did they have to do it," he said, "just when the story was getting good?"

His mother, Mrs. Glen Pickens, who is president of the P-TA group at her son's school, answered him: "It's a shame, son, and I myself can't see why they did put the religion classes out of the schools. But that's the way they ruled and they know the law best."

THERE YOU have, possibly oversimplified but still essentially close to the mark, this community's reaction to the recent U. S. Supreme Court decision outlawing its released-time religious education system in the public schools. Talks with dozens of Champaign parents, educators, city officials, ex-G.I.'s etc., brought the following responses:

1) Disappointment on the part of the school children at the termination of Holy Week of a type of instruction which they had come to enjoy. Religion class attendance had grown steadily from an original total of about 150 to the 1948 figure of more than 1,000 pupils.

2) A feeling of regret that a thing which was "of value to the community," or which was "at least a step in the right direction," or which "helped some, harmed nobody" would have to be discarded.

3) A practically unanimous vote of confidence in the high court of the land, with the seeming view it did the only thing possible for it to do in the case.

A FEW CHAMPAIGN residents reduced the whole thing to the personal plane, and blasted away verbally at Mrs. Vashti McCollum, self-styled at the first wife of a University of Illinois professor, triumphant objector to the Champaign Released-Time Plan.

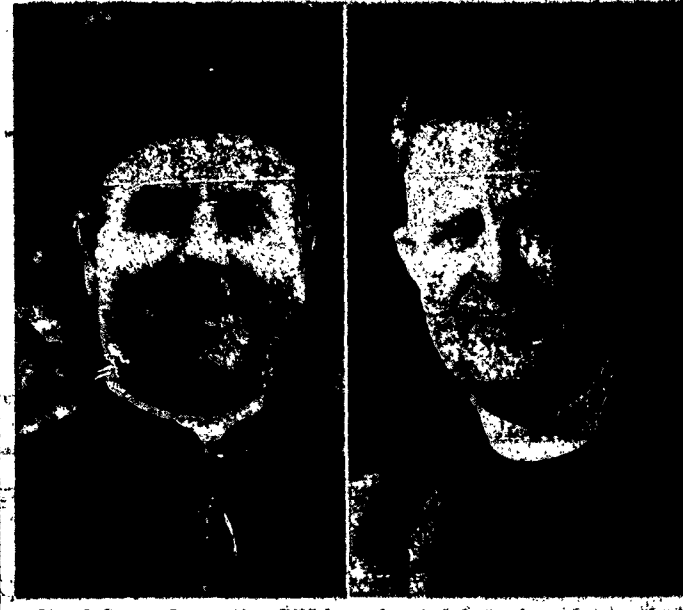
But when I talked with Mrs. McCollum, she seemed a trifle fuzzy about the "principle" she wanted us all to fight for. I asked her if she thought the employment of chaplains by the armed forces and by the two houses of Congress was unconstitutional as a violation of the separation principle.

"Well," she answered, "I don't think the Constitution is particularly clear in one way or another on that. I certainly would not oppose the use of chaplains in the armed forces, especially in times of stress, in view of the solace and comfort they give to some persons. I do think many of our public practices are unconstitutional and unwise, but would not put either in that category."

MRS. McCOLLUM wanted to correct a misapprehension. "I am not on an all-out bent against religion," she said, and told me that her two youngest children, ages 10 and 8, attend a Unitarian Sunday School regularly, even though she doesn't go to church herself. James Terry

(Continued on Page 6)

ELEVATED TO HIERARCHY



His Holiness Pope Pius XII has elevated four American priests to the episcopacy. The appointments were: (top, from left) — Rev. Edward C. Daly, O.F.M., of Cambridge, Mass., a secretary at the Apostolic Delegation since 1925, named Bishop of Des Moines; Rev. John F. Dearden, rector of St. Mary's Seminary, Cleveland, Coadjutor with right of succession to Bishop Hugh C. Boyle of Pittsburgh; (lower, from left) — Rev. Leo John Steck, pastor of St. Gabriel's Church, St. Louis, Auxiliary to Bishop Duane G. Hunt of Salt Lake, Utah; Rev. Leo F. Fabry, pastor, Sacred Heart, Cleveland, Coadjutor with right of succession to Bishop Joseph F. McGrath of Baker City, Oreg. (NO Photos)

4 U. S. Bishops Appointed By The Holy Father

Washington — (NC) — His Holiness Pope Pius XII has elevated four American priests to the episcopacy through appointments announced here by His Excellency Archbishop Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States.

The episcopal appointments are:

The Rev. Edward C. Daly, O.F.M., 53, a secretary at the Apostolic Delegation since 1925, is named Bishop of Des Moines.

The Rev. Leo John Steck, 49, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Hattiesburg, Miss., is named Titular Bishop of Ispus and Coadjutor with right of succession to Bishop Joseph F. McGrath of Baker City, Oreg.

The Rev. John Francis Dearden, 40, rector of St. Mary's Seminary, Cleveland, is named Titular Bishop of Savaya and Coadjutor with right of succession to Bishop Hugh C. Boyle of Pittsburgh.

The Rev. Leo John Steck, 49, pastor of St. Gabriel's Church, St. Louis, is named Titular Bishop of Ispus and Auxiliary to the Most Rev. Duane G. Hunt, Bishop of Salt Lake, Utah.

Bishop-elect Daly, succeeds to the See of Des Moines, in honor of the Most Rev. Gerald T. Bergan, to the Archdiocese of Omaha.

BISHOP ELECT FABRY, attended St. Joseph's Seminary, St. Benedict, La., Kenrick Seminary, Wedderburn, Mo., the North American College in Rome, Italy, and the Sulpician Seminary of the Catholic University of America. He was ordained at St. Louis on May 25, 1934.

Bishop-elect Dearden made his studies for the priesthood at St. Mary's Seminary, Cleveland, and at the North American College in Rome. He was ordained in the Eternal City on December 8, 1932, and did graduate work in theology at the Gregorian University in Rome.

BISHOP ELECT STECK studied first at the St. Louis Preparatory Seminary and then at Kenrick Seminary where he was ordained on June 8, 1934 by the late Cardinal John Gleason of St. Louis.

11-Year Sentence Given Bishop

Berne, Switzerland — (NC) — Greek Orthodox Bishop Vojislav Nastich of the Diocese of Sarajevo and Bosnia in Yugoslavia has been sentenced to 11 years in prison by a Yugoslav "people's court" for activities allegedly detrimental to Yugoslav government, according to reports reaching here.

The American-born Bishop, described as a native of Gary, Ind., has been confined in a prison in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia, where he stood trial, the reports state.

According to underground reports reaching here the court was cleared on one occasion of an audience which cheered the defendant. Reports also stated that the Bishop was not permitted a final defense plea lest it "arouse new terrorists."

New York — (NC) — Prayers were offered in the Serbian Orthodox Cathedral here for Orthodox Bishop Vojislav Nastich in Yugoslavia who has been sentenced to 11 years of imprisonment. The dean of the cathedral charged that the communist court had prejudged the Bishop and related that he was brought to the courtroom in chains.

Fate of Stepinac Scored by Dewey

Brooklyn — (NC) — The persecution of Archbishop Aloysius Stepinac, imprisoned Zagreb prelate, "showed the present regime of Yugoslavia in its true colors," Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York asserted in a message read at a rally for the liberation of Archbishop Stepinac in the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

A crowd of 3,000 attended the meeting, sponsored by the Brooklyn Committee for the Liberation of Archbishop Stepinac. They heard an address by Count Anthony H. O'Brien, intimate friend of the prelate, author of "The Case of Archbishop Stepinac," and now a member of the St. Bonaventure College faculty.

The Governor's message, expressing "profound sympathy" with the cause of the committee, said: "The news of the treatment meted out to that venerable and devoted prelate by the Tito Government provoked the utmost indignation of all decent Americans. The Most Reverend Archbishop Stepinac over a long period showed himself not only a churchman and spiritual leader of great piety and distinction, but a true patriot, a true champion of human liberties and of the dignity of the individual."

Three Lepor Couples Married in Portugal
Lisbon — (NC) — Three lepor couples were married at Coimbra, Portugal, at one of the few leper colonies in Europe. The couples were married by the parish priest at Coimbra and later two adult lepers were baptized. Most of the inmates at the colony are engaged in agricultural work. The colony has a married quarters section. Inmates are frequently visited by friends and there is a flourishing society in Portugal which caters to the needs of lepers.

BOND'S PRE-EASTER HAT SALE

Get a 12.50 spring hat
Get selected fur felt
Get hand-felted edges - and pay only

7.95

You'll know these are expensive hats the minute you see them - those hand-felted edges are the tip-off! We've never seen this luxury feature on any hat under 12.50 (and men who pay \$20 for their hats DEMAND it). It gives you a firm, more shape-retaining brim - you can wear it UP or DOWN! What's more, SELECTED imported fur felt keeps these hats looking fresher longer - their rich, suede-like texture feels like BIG MONEY! And now, during Bond's pre-Easter Sale, you'll save 4.55. So, if you're wise, you'll get here early!

Charge it! Use your 30-day account - or pay cash.

133 E. Main St.

at the CIVIC CENTER . . .

CORRECT VISION MEANS MORE ENJOYMENT

Whether you're relaxing in the newly renovated clubrooms of the K. of C. . . or trying for a "spare" on the bowling alleys—correct vision means more enjoyment at the Civic Center or anywhere. Be sure. Guard your precious eyesight now and always through periodic eye examinations at Bausch's. Phone for a time-saving appointment at either Bausch store.

Bausch
E. E. BAUSCH & SON CO.

6 Main St. E. - Main 2314 • 61 East Ave. - Stone 5277

Phone : 0646
Glenwood

Sam Gottry Carting Co.

47 Parkway

FURNITURE MOVING

LOCAL AND LONG DISTANCE

Agents for CLIPPER VAN LINES National Movers

HEAVY HAULING

MACHINERY
SAWS
ROLLERS

Mopac - Excavator

★ Since 1888 ★