

India School Order Protested by Bishop
 Madras, India. (NC) — The unfairness of a Madras provincial government directive tending to strangle the vast Catholic educational program here has been declared by Bishop Thomas Pothacumary of Bangalore in a statement to the press. He acted as spokesman for members of the Catholic hierarchy in Madras province. The bishop's criticism was directed at demands made by Avinashalingam Chettiar, Minister of Education in the Madras province. Mr. Chettiar has issued a directive demanding that all private secondary schools must have an endowment, to be controlled by the government, and must accept governmental "advisory committees" to help run their affairs. Both demands were branded as "unjust and unnecessary" by Bishop Pothacumary.

Scare-Talks on Population Aid Birth Control Leaders

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 the fact that many of the speakers and writers warn that in a few years there "may be" more people than our cropland reserves can support and that we "may" have to import food. A lot of things "may" happen, Dr. Schmiedeler points out, and he adds that the importation of food need not be such a dire fate, because we already import food and have for a long time.

LEAVING OUT of consideration the fact that our population trend is very likely to be downward, rather than upward, in the not too distant future, Dr. Schmiedeler says "our own Department of Agriculture estimates that our food supply could be increased two and three-quarter times over that of 1943, and that is said by one authority to be a modest estimate. In the last five years our agricultural production has increased 30 per cent."

"So much for the prospects in this country. What about the world picture? Let me quote the words of a long-time student of population and world resources, Dr. Oliver E. Baker of the University of Maryland. He states: 'Taking the world's crops as a whole, I am willing to venture the opinion that if peace and the protection of life, liberty and property were established throughout the world, if scientific knowledge were made available to the world's farmers by vigorous and appropriate ex-

ELMIRA CATHOLIC HOUR



Opening "The Elmira Catholic Hour," a weekly program of Station WENY, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. William J. Brien, V.P., pastor of St. Patrick's, Elmira (right) is shown with the Rev. William J. Naughton, pastor of St. Peter and Paul's and moderator of Elmira Deacons Union, Holy Name Society cooperating in the project.

Dutch School-Convert Amsterdam — (NC) — W. H. van de Pol who was originally a member of the Dutch Reformed Church, later joined the Anglican community and finally found the way to the Catholic Church.

He has been named professor of the phenomenology of protestantism at the Catholic University of Nijmegen.

Judge Backs Free Religion Study Class

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 tion prohibited voluntary religious education classes in public schools in its statement that: "No person shall be required to attend or support any ministry or place of worship against his consent, nor shall any preference be given by law to any religious denomination or mode of worship."

In this connection, he said: "Are students required to attend classes when it is voluntary and there is no compulsion? One attends or does not attend as he or his guardian sees fit."

"IT MAY BE urged," he continued, "that inasmuch as public school funds and facilities are used in these classes, some may feel they are unwillingly supporting a 'ministry or place of worship.' Voluntary religious classes are not worship services. They are programs of information designed merely to impart knowledge of general religious subjects."

"To call the classes a ministry or place of worship would be specious reasoning and illogical elaboration of definitions."

The justice then pointed out that the final phrase of the Illinois Constitution in this connection stated that no preference shall be "given by law to any religious denomination or mode of worship."

"INVOLUNTARY religious education classes," he said, "no religious denomination is given precedence over another, nor is there any advocacy of any particular or general mode of worship. Religious education classes are as innocuous as classes in philosophy, economics or political economy."

He went on to say that another section of the Illinois Constitution prohibited the use of public funds in aiding "any church or sectarian purpose."

This section, he said, "does not prevent the establishment of voluntary classes in religious education unless it can be said, as a matter of fact, that this is compelling the taxpayer to aid in supporting a house of worship in violation of the above constitutional provisions."

"How can it reasonably be said," Justice Thompson asked, "that there is an establishment of religion under a plan where voluntary religious education classes are conducted by outside teachers employed by the church organization, composed of Jewish, Catholic and Protestant faiths, without expense to the board of education, conducted in school rooms during current school periods, but not as a part of public school programs, and without interference with regular classes, and attended by pupils whose parents consented thereto, provision being made for pupils who did not participate to continue their studies in other rooms? And how could this violate Constitutional guarantees of religious freedom?"

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ON GUARD
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 floor day the odds seemed all against you.

At the Democratic Convention in Philadelphia they tried to throw you overboard for General Eisenhower. And even when you won your party's nomination and said that you were going to win your best friends refused to believe in you.

For the most part, your friends and the stalwarts of the Democratic Party deserted you. They sat back and let you go it alone in the campaign. Privately they confessed that you did not have a chance.

So you went it alone. With Mrs. Truman and Margaret you campaigned back and forth across the nation. To most people, including those who were going to give their vote, you were a forlorn figure doomed to certain defeat.

The odds against you were terrific. Not only you were up against an able opponent in Governor Dewey but your political flanks were threatened by the Dixiecrats on one side and Mr. Wallace's Communists on the other. The obstacles seemed insurmountable.

But you never gave up the fight. People liked your humble style. They liked it when you said, as you did, after a Senator gave you a flustering introduction in Illinois: "I wish I was half as good as the Senator says I am. I might be able to fill the Presidency half as well as it should be filled and I pray I may be able to fill it."

PEOPLE LIKED it, too, when you bit your teeth into practical issues and talked about housing, labor laws, social security and civil rights.

But election eve found you written off in defeat by all the experts. The poll experts, Mr. Gallup and Mr. Roper, never gave you a chance.

The nation's biggest newspapers, including those of Mc Cormick, Hearst and Gannett, were united against you. Fifty Washington news writers unanimously predicted victory for your opponent.

In the early hours of election night when the first returns were rolling in, cocksure Walter Winchell told us that the gamblers were betting against you 60 to 1, and he informed Democratic leaders that they would have

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