

# Catholics Told To Work For Defeat Of Thomas Aid Bill

Philadelphia — (RNS) — Roman Catholics in this country were urged to work for the defeat of the Thomas aid-to-education bill, now pending before the Senate, in an address given here by the Rev. Allan P. Farrell, S.J., of the University of Detroit.

Speaking before nearly 8,000 educators attending the annual meeting of the National Catholic Educational Association, Father Farrell said the Thomas measure was "unjust" and that it reflected "the current trend in Federal aid legislation which assumes that non-public educational institutions have no right to support."

UNDER THE THOMAS proposal, no Federal money could be paid to parochial schools but it could be spent to provide textbooks and transportation for their pupils. State and other educational agencies would be permitted — but not required — to use part of a \$300,000,000 Federal appropriation to provide facilities such as transportation and textbooks to parochial school pupils where this would not conflict with state constitutions or local laws. Catholic groups want the use of Federal funds for such purposes to be mandatory, while Protestants generally insist it be prohibited.

In his speech, Father Farrell, former education editor of America, national Catholic weekly published in New York, also warned against a companion bill in the House of Representatives which he said would appropriate \$3,000,000 to provide health services but not public welfare services, to all American children.

HE SAID THE second proposal was meant to "lessen if not prevent opposition to the Thomas Bill. The strategy," he added, "shouldn't deceive anybody."

Earlier, at a Pontifical Mass celebrated at the opening of the four-day meeting, Auxiliary Bishop Hugh L. Lamb of Philadelphia preached the sermon. He said it was not religious education but "education without religion" that threatened the future of this country.

"Christianity and secularism are contending for the soul of America, and the battle ground is the school," Bishop Lamb continued. "The bitter fruit of secular education is the several generations of Americans, well trained in secular subjects, but ignorant of the first principles of religion and morality, and who, with the faith of their fathers lost now wander in a fog of spiritual illiteracy."

"THERE IS danger ahead," he warned. "For democracy without God, is an empty word, and morality without religion is an idle dream."

"For more than a century our schools have trained and sent forth legions of loyal, honest, God-fearing citizens, who have proved by their daily lives that a good Catholic is always a good American."

Cardinal Stritch, archbishop of Chicago, urged Roman Catholics to take the lead in fighting "the dividing of society into racial segments" which he denounced as "a shocking thing" contrary to Christian teaching.

THE CARDINAL, himself a native of Tennessee, spoke sharply at the Catholic Interracial Council communion breakfast here against "men who try to find apology for their ugly bigotry and their petty prejudices, which actually destroy the unity of mankind."

Labeling racism as a "Nazi ideology and philosophy," the cardinal said Catholics must "point out the fundamental teachings of our faith that all men are brothers of Christ and must live together as brothers."



Conferring at the opening sessions of the 46th annual convention of the National Catholic Educational Association in Philadelphia are: Rev. Robert I. Gannon, S.J., president emeritus of Fordham University; Bishop Hugh L. Lamb, Auxiliary of Philadelphia; Sister Mary Hildegard, Holy Trinity School, Syracuse, member of the New York State Curriculum Committee. (NCPEA).

# Jesuit Exposes Danger Of Federal Education Control

Philadelphia — (RNS) — The Very Rev. Robert I. Gannon, S.J., president emeritus of Fordham University, New York, sounded a warning against Federal control of education at the National Education Association Convention here.

"In a dozen different ways," Father Gannon said, "Washington is moving in on the people. Some of these advances are inevitable and beneficial. Some planning most certainly is a proper activity of the government, but the people should be made to realize that a point can be reached in planning where they begin to surrender essential liberties."

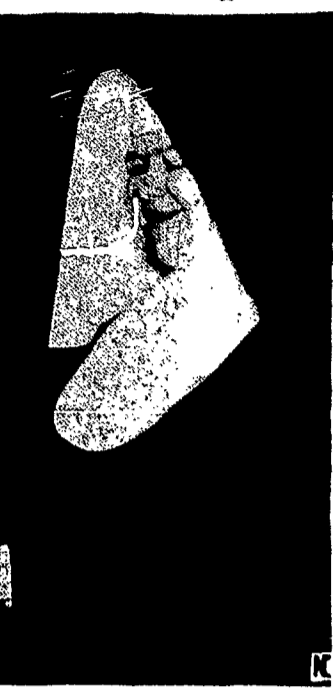
TAKING ISSUE with some of the recommendations made by the President's Commission on Higher Education, which urged wide expansion of educational facilities, the Jesuit declared:

"What the Commission advised was a liberal watering of the educational stock. As a panacea for the intellectual and moral crisis through which the country is passing, it advised more and more advanced schooling, even though it is inferior."

"PRIVATE COLLEGES and universities would be rocked to their foundations if Washington set its paternal heart on having everybody in the United States dressed in a cap and gown in situations apt to march into the Federal pocket would establish a standard of extravagant operation which other wealthy institutions would find hard to rival and would inevitably wreck the colleges that depend upon private support."

"We regret therefore that prominent educators like Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Methodist Bishop of New York; Dr. Wilbur D. Givens and Dr. Charles Williams, both officials of the National Education Association, have associated themselves with Protestants' United."

# Teachers Meet At Philadelphia



Fr. McManus

# Lay Teachers Day At Hand, Says Priest

Philadelphia — (RNS) — A warning that the shortage of staff Roman Catholic schools in this country would soon reach "alarming proportions" was sounded before the National Catholic Educational Association at its four-day meeting here.

Father McManus said an intensified program to spur religious vocations was needed immediately, but added that it could no longer be expected that religious teachers would carry the entire teaching load.

"THE DAY OF the lay teacher is at hand," he told the delegates, about 80 per cent of them priests, nuns and brothers. "The manner in which these lay teachers are assimilated into our system," he continued, "will be a crucial test of our readiness to see the advantages of the lay apostolate in Catholic education."

Moreover, Father McManus said, lay teachers "can be effective emissaries of good will, and a help in good public relations. Their employment will help dispel the notion that our schools are merely catechetical institutions for the indoctrination of children by priests and nuns."

# Teachers Meet At Philadelphia

Philadelphia — (RNS) — A charge that Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State was "exploiting religious differences to raise a million-dollar war chest" was leveled here by the Rev. William E. McManus, assistant director of the National Catholic Welfare Conference education department.

FATHER McMANUS told nearly 8,000 delegates to the annual convention of the National Catholic Educational Association that it might be "fervently wished that the 'funds in the POAU' war chest might be transferred to the National Conference of Christians and Jews or the Committee on Religious and Public Education of the American Council on Education that they might carry on more effectively their programs to promote understanding and good will among all groups in the United States."

Saying that Catholic educators wanted to maintain the "pleasant and cordial relationships" now existing between Catholic and public schools, Father McManus declared:

"We regret therefore that prominent educators like Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, Methodist Bishop of New York; Dr. Wilbur D. Givens and Dr. Charles Williams, both officials of the National Education Association, have associated themselves with Protestants' United."

# Parochial School Attack Condemned

Philadelphia — (RNS) — Parents of all faiths were urged here by Archbishop John T. McNicholas of Cincinnati to unite against the "shocking attack" now being made on religious education in this country.

In an address read in his absence by Msgr. Clarence G. Issemann, Vicar General of the Cincinnati Archdiocese, Archbishop McNicholas told the 46th annual convention of the National Catholic Educational Association that there was a drive under way to create an education monopoly that might be followed by a "dictatorship of education."

THE PRELATE said the U. S. Supreme Court, federal and state courts, various legislators and "professional educators" were all contributing to the "defilement of the state" in the educational sphere.

"If our freedom of education be abridged, frustrated or abolished," he warned, "all our freedoms will be undermined and eventually destroyed. Monopoly of schools under state control inevitably destroys freedom of education. This freedom, the champions of freedom of speech, of the press, of religion, or assembly."

DECLARING THAT "very clever promoters" were publicizing the "false position and the unsound principle that the state is supreme in matters of education," Archbishop McNicholas warned that if these efforts went unchecked he will see "an educational system of the slave state" in the U. S.

"Thinking and fair-minded people," he went on, "should recognize the procedure, the tactics and the intrigues of those favoring monopoly of education. They should study the tragic history of the monopoly of education in many countries. There should be a chorus cry in every home in our land demanding that America maintain freedom of education. Persons and groups of all faiths should unite in this cry."

ARCHBISHOP McNICHOLAS said the state was "not constituted by nature" to set itself up as "the equal of parents in educating their children."

Moreover, he said, the right of parents to educate their children "is from nature and from God."

He also said that attempts to "starve Catholic schools out of existence" were, indirectly, attacks on "all religion" in this country.

# Busmen Suggest Way To Solve School Problem

Madison, Wis. (RNS) — Recognizing school bus operators as contractor motor carriers and giving them a vested right in their operating routes would provide a solution "once and for all" to the problem of transporting parochial school pupils.

L. F. Feltenz of Fond du Lac argued before a legislative committee for a bill that would give school bus operators permanent operating rights, by determination of the Public Service Commission, over transportation routes as laid out by the department of public instruction.

Under such a system, he explained, the operator could contract separately with public and parochial schools for the carriage of children to their respective schools.

Today they are employed by single school districts, and are not allowed to transport parochial students, he said, because of constitutional prohibitions against the use of public funds for sectarian purposes.

# Church-State Separation Talk Said 'Political'

Chicago — (RNS) — "Absolute separation" of Church and State was described here as "a political slogan adopted by people in this country who are more afraid that the Catholic Church will prosper than that irreligion and even Communism will sweep over" the nation.

The Rev. Robert C. Hartnett, S.J., editor of America, national Roman Catholic weekly published in New York, told an audience in the Shell School of Social Science here that the American Constitution "nowhere requires absolute separation of Church and State." He said it merely forbade "the giving of legal preference to one religion over another."

FATHER HARTNETT described absolute separation of Church and State as "no more than a political slogan" after declaring that it "is not a Protestant doctrine at all."

"It is not taught as a Protestant doctrine by Protestant authorities in Europe. It is not even a religious principle," he said.

Expanding on his contention that the Constitution forbids only the giving of legal preference to one religion over another, he said:

"THE SUPREME Court in the McCollum decision did not even try to interpret our Constitution. It substituted for the 'no establishment of religion' clause, which is in the Constitution, a quite different and very extreme slogan of its own called the separation of Church and State," and it interpreted this slogan in an altogether unprecedented and arbitrary and tyrannical way."

In the McCollum case the high court outlawed the teaching of religion in the public schools of Chicago, Ill.

Father Hartnett said "no democracy in the world, outside of the United States, regards the teaching of religion by 'sectarian' groups, in the public schools and during school hours, as a threat to religious freedom, as the country which has best carried out the principle of absolute separation of Church and State to its logical conclusion is Soviet Russia," he said.

# Woman Doctor Joins Ladies of Charity

New Orleans — (NC) — A Filipino woman doctor is the newest aspirant to the Hotel Dieu unit of the Ladies of Charity. She is Dr. Natividad G. Nazareno, a graduate of Santo Tomas University, Manila, now studying at Tulane University here for a master's degree in public health.

She plans to make a career of public health work in the Philippines. During the war she set up a temporary hospital in a Philippine convent and cared for 800 civilians. As a Lady of Charity she will visit the homes of the poor.

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