

Senate Includes Catholic Pupils In Health Bill

Washington (NC)—The physical health of the children in America's parochial schools is a matter of concern to all the nation's taxpayers. The United States Senate so decided here as it passed \$35,000,000-per-year Federal school health bill by a voice vote and without notable opposition in debate.

THE BILL would benefit all children, whether in public or non-public schools, following the pattern of the school lunch act in States where there are constitutional bars to spending tax money in private institutions, a Federal agency will handle the disbursements, which will be primarily for medical and dental examinations.

The bill had the unanimous support of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee. Meanwhile, the Senate moved into debate on the Thomas Federal aid to education measure. This bill rejects the school lunch act formula in favor of a provision which, Catholic leaders hold, counts parochial pupils in at one point but counts them out of its transportation, textbook and other school service benefits.

DURING THE debate on the health legislation, Senator Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts pointed out that "this aid is to go to every boy and girl in the States, regardless of whether he or she is attending a public, private, or any other type of school."

Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio, who has consistently fought against the use of the school lunch act formula in the general Federal educational aid measure, urged its use in this instance so that the coverage under the act would be "complete."

THE CONDITION of Federal aid (in this bill) is that it be extended to all schools, private schools, parochial schools, wherever children are in school," he declared, "so that there is no distinction whatever and the coverage is complete."

Under the bill, as adopted by the Senate, the States would have to make contributions to the total fund amounting to one-fourth of the Federal grant in the poorer States up to an equal amount in the wealthiest. It is estimated that full State participation would require them to spend about \$25,000,000, thus making a total annual health outlay of \$60,000,000.

'Song of Bernadette' Shown in Japan

Tokyo (NC)—Some 1,200 Japanese attended the first showing of the film of Franz Werfel's "The Song of Bernadette" which was sponsored by the Catholic Women's Club of Tokyo to raise funds for relief work among Japanese repatriates. Members of the Imperial family were among the guests.

CATHOLIC MOTHER OF 1949 Mother Raised Ten Children On Less Than \$35 A Week

South Euclid, O. (NC)—A 71-year-old mother who successfully reared and managed a household of ten children though, as a grocery clerk, her husband's peak earnings were only \$35 a week has been chosen as the 1949 Catholic Mother.

SHE IS MRS. Richard Loeffler, of Sacred Heart parish, Weymouth, Mass. Announcement of the award was made by Miss Mary Callahan of Notre Dame College here. Miss Callahan is president of the National Catholic Conference on Family Life, which annually bestows the honor.

Mrs. Loeffler is the mother of 12 children, ten living, five of them are priests, and one a nun. One child died in infancy and another was killed in an automobile accident.

THE FIVE PRIESTS, all her living sons, are: the Revs. James D. Loeffler, S.J., professor at Boston College; Richard A. Loeffler, C.M., pastor at Our Lady of Lebanon parish, Niagara Falls, N.Y.; Vincent C. Loeffler, C.M., Vicar General of the Diocese of Kanchow, China; Charles M. Loeffler, S.J., professor at Baghdad College, Iraq; and Paul J. Loeffler, C.M., pastor at Tangkiang, Kiangsi, China.

The nun is Sister Theresa of the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, stationed at St. Joseph's Villa, Norfolk, Va. The other living children are Catherine, prevented by ill health from entering a convent; Mrs. Joseph James, Weymouth; Mrs. Alexander Healey, Weymouth; and Mrs. Charles Schill, Syracuse, N.Y.

MRS. LOEFFLER'S husband is still living and the couple plan to celebrate their golden marriage jubilee in August, 1950.

Born Catherine Anna Tucker at South Boston, Mrs. Loeffler worked in an architect's office in Boston before her marriage.

Father James Loeffler, the object of the children, relates that life for the Loefflers was marked by a constant struggle with poverty. "At mother's insistence," he writes, "dad asked for and got raises in pay as the babies came, one or two dollars at a time, until, when there were ten children and skyrocketing prices during the first World War, he was making the magnificent sum of \$25 per week."

In a household utterly without labor saving devices, he continues, "mother always managed to keep us clean and well-dressed, doing huge piles of washing, mending and darning, baking all our own bread—at least 13 huge loaves and biscuits twice a week—cooking big, whole-some meals regularly three times a day, doing all her own housework and cleaning." She kept at her never-ending tasks, he recalls, despite the fact that she was "a frail little woman, not well when married and frequently



Mrs. Richard A. Loeffler, of Sacred Heart parish, Weymouth, Mass., 71-year-old mother of 12 children, who has been named the Catholic Mother of 1949 by the National Catholic Conference on Family Life. Of her ten living children, five are priests and one a nun, Sister Theresa of St. Joseph's Villa, Norfolk, Va. The priest-sons pictured are: Rev. James D. Loeffler, S.J., of Boston College; Richard A. Loeffler, pastor, Our Lady of Lebanon parish, Niagara Falls, N.Y.; Vincent C. Loeffler, C.M., Vicar General of the Diocese of Kanchow, China; Charles M. Loeffler, S.J., professor at Baghdad College, Iraq; and Paul J. Loeffler, C.M., pastor, Tangkiang, Kiangsi, China. (NC Photos).



came to collect wages due them from the contractor. The Rev. William D. Keenan, pastor at Sacred Heart Church, says that Mrs. Loeffler, a member of the Third Order of St. Francis, is "an enthusiastic and ardent supporter of parish activities." "Each morning, at the parish Mass, Mrs. Loeffler, usually accompanied by her husband, is a daily communicant," he states.

Cologne Cardinal Organizes Catholic Employers Group

Cologne (NC)—Catholic employers should consider their workers "as brothers and sisters in Christ," and recognize the greater responsibility they carry because of their knowledge of Christian social doctrine, according to the Federation of Catholic Employers just established here under the sponsorship of His Eminence Josef Cardinal Frings, Archbishop of Cologne.

AT THE CONSTITUENT meeting, attended by 150 employers, it was pointed out that the federation was not being planned to promote the joint economic interests of the members, but rather to enlighten them on their obligation, as Christians and Catholics, to contribute toward the establishment of a just social order.

Other principles laid down at the opening session were: that the creative employer serves his task, not his capital; that opportunities of establishing small businesses should be promoted and large enterprises be reduced in size; that the workers should be given a share in decisions affecting their own welfare as well as the general conduct of the business; and that both workers and employers enjoy equal rights in order to forestall governmental bureaucracy and a domination of free enterprise by the state.

600 East-Rite Priests Jailed In Red Rumania

New York (NC)—About 600 Byzantine-Rite Catholic priests are now in prison in Rumania for refusing to join the schismatic Orthodox church, according to a Vatican radio broadcast heard in this country. The broadcast quoted from an interview granted by a Professor Mararu, recently arrived from Rumania, to the Italian weekly, L'Ora Dell'Azona.

ALL THE Byzantine-Rite Catholic Bishops, imprisoned last October, are now being held at the Orthodox monastery of Drago Siopena, where the Patriarch Justinian, head of the Rumanian Orthodox church, is personally bringing pressure on them to apostatize, the Vatican radio said.

Persecution of the clergy, the broadcast stated, has also hit the Latin-Rite Catholic priests and many Orthodox clergymen. Several Latin-Rite priests have been forced to flee or were arrested and their rectories have been turned into centers for Marxist culture, it said.

HUNDREDS OF Orthodox priests have been arrested for their opposition to communism, the radio said, adding that at Alud alone 200 were seized. Orthodox priests are compelled to attend a three-month Marxist course if they wish to retain their office, the Vatican radio quoted Professor Mararu as saying.

The majority of them are against the forced apostasy of the Byzantine-Rite Catholics and are sympathetic with a movement for reunion with Rome, according to the professor. He added that the Orthodox hierarchy are even more inclined to reunion with Rome than the clergy, and expressed the belief that Rumania's liberation from the communist yoke would be followed by a reunion with the Church of Rome.

Prelate Scores 'Social Drinking'

Antigonish, Nova Scotia (RNS)—A drive against "social drinking" has been launched by Coadjutor Bishop John R. MacDonald of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Antigonish.

Bishop MacDonald said liquor sales within the geographical limits of the diocese had reached the "appalling and humiliating" total of \$8,325,000 in 1948.

Declaring 1949 should be devoted to self-sacrifice, the bishop asked that individuals halt the practice of treating others to a drink. He added that such sacrifices could be offered "for the conversion of Russia and for peace."

"It is one way we can do our part in making a better world and in responding to the request of the Mother of God in her appearance at Fatima," he said.

CARDINAL GREET'S CADETS



A member of the West Point cadet choir is shown as a kbsed Cardinal Spellman's ring after the cadets had sung and assisted at the Solemn Pontifical Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral. After the Mass, the Cardinal met the cadets and presented them with a guide book of the Cathedral. (NC Photos)

Fifth Native Son Becomes Priest in Guam Ordination

Agana, Guam (NC)—Guam's fifth native son was raised to the dignity of the priesthood when Bishop Apollinaris Baumgartner, O.F.M., Cap., Vicar Apostolic of Guam, ordained the Rev. Filiberto Flores in the cathedral here.

The other native priests are Monsignor Palomo, who died 20 years ago, the Rev. Jesus Basa Duenas, who was beheaded by the Japanese during the war for his loyalty to the American cause, Father Manibusan who was ordained in the Philippines and died there and Msgr. Oscar L. Calvo, who until Father Flores' ordination was the only surviving native priest.

THE CAUSE of Father Duenas, who died a hero's death, was given prominence in the United States because of charges, later fully disproved, made by a U. S. navy officer that the priest had betrayed the seal of confession and made known to the Japanese his hiding place while the officer was hunted on the island.

The accusations were made by Lt. George Ray Tweed, in his wartime book "Robinson Crusoe, USN." They were later disproved by affidavits furnished by the Navy.

Cardinal Quins Hospital (London, NC) His Eminence Bernard Cardinal Griffin has left the St. John and St. Elizabeth Hospital for a period of convalescence. Cardinal Griffin has been in the hospital for 14 weeks following a collapse from a stroke.

Saturnia Has 18 Prelates On Rome Voyage

NCWC NEWS SERVICE Almost a score of United States and Canadian Archbishops and Bishops have sailed last week from New York on the S.S. Saturnia to make their ad limina visits to His Holiness Pope Pius XII. The liner is due to dock at Naples on May 9.

Sailing with the U.S. contingent were Bishop Walter A. Foery of Syracuse and Bishop James E. Kearney of Rochester, who plan to sail back from Naples on the same liner and reach New York on May 23.

Also aboard was Archbishop Robert E. Lucey of San Antonio, who, after other stops in Italy will be in Rome from May 11 to May 22, during which time he will make his call on the Holy Father. Visits to Spain and France will follow, and in the latter country the Archbishop will visit Lourdes, Paris and Lisieux.

SAILING ON the Saturnia were Canadian Archbishops John H. McDonald of Edmonton, William M. Duke of Vancouver and Joseph A. O'Sullivan of Kingston, Ont. The other Canadian prelates on the liner were Bishops Joseph F. Ryan of Hamilton, Francis P. Carroll of Calgary, James Boyle of Charlottetown, John M. O'Neil of Harbor Grace, Michael O'Reilly of St. George's and John P. Macdonald, Coadjutor of Antigonish.

Accompanying Archbishop Lucey during the entire trip was Bishop M. S. Garriga of Corpus Christi, who expects to return to his see about July 6. Also on the Saturnia were Bishops Joseph M. Gilmore of Helena, Vincent J. Ryan of Bismarck, Ralph L. Hayes of Davenport, George J. Leech of Harrisburg, and Michael J. Ready of Columbus.

Nicaraguan Bishops Plan New Seminary

Managua, Nicaragua (NC)—To meet the pressing need of diocesan priests the Bishops of Nicaragua have decided to establish an inter-diocesan seminary.

A joint pastoral announcing this decision said in part: "If the number of Catholics in Nicaragua, 1,380,287 according to the census of 1940, is divided by 100, which is the number of diocesan priests it becomes clear that the number of Catholics under the pastoral care of each priest is 13,802, whereas the number of faithful to be cared for by one priest should not exceed 4,000."

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