



LET US FEED THE HUNGRY—Refugees and exiles throughout the world will benefit by your contribution to the U. S. Bishops' Welfare and Emergency Relief Fund. Victims of war in Korea are pictured receiving some rice from Mr. Hugh McLoone (left), of War Relief Services—N. C. W. C., and Father Harold Henry, of the Columbian Fathers 166th St.

School Bus Bill Killed In Missouri

Jefferson City, Mo.—(NC)—Missouri legislators voted 96 to 40 to send the controversial school transportation bill back to committee. The move is believed by some observers to be equivalent to killing the bill. Passage of the measure had been recommended by one committee of the Missouri House. By the latest vote, the bill would be sent back to the Public Schools Committee. SUPPORTED BY the three Bishops of Missouri dioceses, the bill would provide transportation to school for pupils of both public and private schools. Since its introduction, legislators have received hundreds of telegrams and letters from both supporters and opponents of the measure. The author of the bill, Mrs. Jennie Walsh of St. Louis, moved for consideration of the bill as a special order of business. A substitute motion was then offered that the bill be sent to committee on the ground that the present measure is a substitute for the original one proposed by Mrs. Walsh, and should be reconsidered by a committee before floor debate. This motion carried by the indicated vote.



Bendix Narrates Vocational Film

Los Angeles—(NC)—"Going His Way" is the title of a new vocational film produced by the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity here. Narrated by movie and television star, William Bendix, the film tells the story of the work of the Trinity Missionaries among the needy of the South. Photographed by Father Andrew Lawrence, a Trinitarian missionary, the film's musical score was furnished by Larry Morey, musical director of the Ice Follies.

Vermont Legislature Moves Bus Bill

Montpelier, Vt.—(NC)—The controversial Branon bill, which would provide bus transportation for parochial school pupils at public expense, has been approved by the Senate education committee in the legislature here. On a 4-to-2 vote, the committee recommended passage of the measure after adopting what was described as a "clarifying amendment" which is designed to limit the proposed law to transportation only, excluding boarding of pupils. It had previously been pointed out to the lawmakers that the school districts in this state sometimes pay for the board of a pupil near his school when it is impractical to provide transportation from home in a remote area. Good Friday Milwaukee, Wis.—(RNS)—A message calling people to church on Good Friday will be emblazoned in lights on the Milwaukee city hall and on a 13-foot high cross in MacArthur Square.

Donations Swell University Fund

Scranton, Pa.—(NC)—This city's largest store and the local Clearing House Association have increased the Scranton University Development Fund by \$65,000 with recent donations. The fund's immediate goal is \$1,500,000, of which \$463,000 has been collected. The long-term goal is \$5,000,000. Father John J. Long, S.J., university president, accepted \$50,000 from the Clearing House Association at a meeting here, and several days later, John J. Noble, president of the Globe Store here, presented a \$15,000 check from the firm. Other large gifts have come from Bishop Jerome D. Hannan of Scranton, who gave \$100,000 in February, and Edward J. Lynett, publisher of the Scranton Times, who also gave \$100,000 in that same month.

Vermont Private Schools Seek Loans From State

Concord, N. H.—(RNS)—No opposition was raised at a Senate committee hearing here to a bill providing that private and parochial schools and colleges could borrow money from the state at reduced interest rates to finance construction projects. The measure would establish a \$10,000,000 state fund for the purpose. A spokesman for Catholic Bishop Matthew F. Brady of Manchester told the committee that parochial schools of the diocese are saving taxpayers more than \$4,000,000 a year in the cost of educating grade school pupils, and more than \$1,000,000 a year in educating high school students. The spokesman said that more than 54 per cent of the school children of Manchester are in parochial schools. The legislation also was endorsed by John F. Meek, vice-president and treasurer of Dartmouth College; by Eugene Austin, president-elect of Colby Junior College; and other school representatives. It was brought out at the hearing that under the proposed plan, schools would reduce their interest costs at least two per cent if they were allowed to borrow from the state instead of from private sources. For example, a school which borrowed \$200,000 for construction would save about \$4,000 a year in interest if the state were the lending agency.

Catholic Women Dispute Minister On Bus Issue

Augusta, Me.—(RNS)—A bill permitting public school buses to carry pupils of parochial and private schools was opposed here by a representative of the Maine Council of Churches. The Rev. Harvey F. Ammerman, Protestant clergyman of Augusta, told a Legal Affairs Committee hearing the measure would violate the principal of separation of Church and State. "I DO NOT feel that public funds should be used to educate children in a special way," he said. A group of Catholic women visiting the legislature protested that their children aren't educated in any special way. Several buttonholed the clergyman afterwards to state their views. The women were holding a legislative seminar under the auspices of the Maine Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. Rep. Couture (Leviston), who filed the bill, said the parochial school system in Leviston saved in taxes an amount far outweighing any additional costs for providing bus service to the parochial students. HIS BILL provides for transportation of parochial or private school pupils only over "established school bus routes." Deputy Education Commissioner William O. Bailey was among the opponents. He said it would be discriminatory to carry private school pupils to schools of their choice while public students had to go to whatever school municipal officials decree. Two committee members, Sen. Lessard (D-Leviston) and Rep. Quinn (R-Bangor) supported Mrs. Ellis Hight of Leviston in her argument that such a bill is necessary in order to assure transportation of handicapped children attending special private schools. A similar bill was defeated by the 1953 legislature.

St. Louis Parochial Schools Increase Lay Teachers

St. Louis, Mo.—(NC)—A total of 258 lay teachers, an increase of 400% in eight years, are teaching in the St. Louis archdiocesan grade schools, according to Mrs. James Welch, personnel director of lay teachers. Lay teachers now account for 15 to 16% of the teaching force now as compared to 5% in 1947-8. Mrs. Welch said that indications are that the trend would continue. She added that hiring lay teachers was not a stop-gap measure adopted by the archdiocese but indicated a preference to have a certain number of lay teachers "whatever the number of religious teachers are available." A big obstacle to obtaining properly qualified people is the low salary, she declared. Mrs. Welch added that many of the teachers are recent college graduates who are working for a short time before marrying and are willing to "give part of their time to the Church."

2,000,000 Visit Fatima Shrine

Fatima, Portugal—(NC)—Two million pilgrims representing 24 nationalities visited the shrine of the apparitions of Our Lady here during the Marian Year, according to the annual report of the Fatima sanctuary. Over 10,000 Masses were celebrated, 2,000 of these at the chapel of the Apparitions, and half a million Communions distributed, the report added. These figures do not include those administered in the 17 religious houses here. The report also gave a total of 564 marriages and 56 baptisms performed here. At the coming pilgrimage slated May 12-13, Alfredo Caydina Ottaviani, Pro-Secretary of the Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office, will preside, it was announced. Life of Christ Lisbon, Portugal—(NC)—The Life of Christ arranged and written from the Gospels is being broadcast three times a week as a Lenten feature of the Portuguese National radio network here.

Harvard Professor

State Should Aid All Pupils

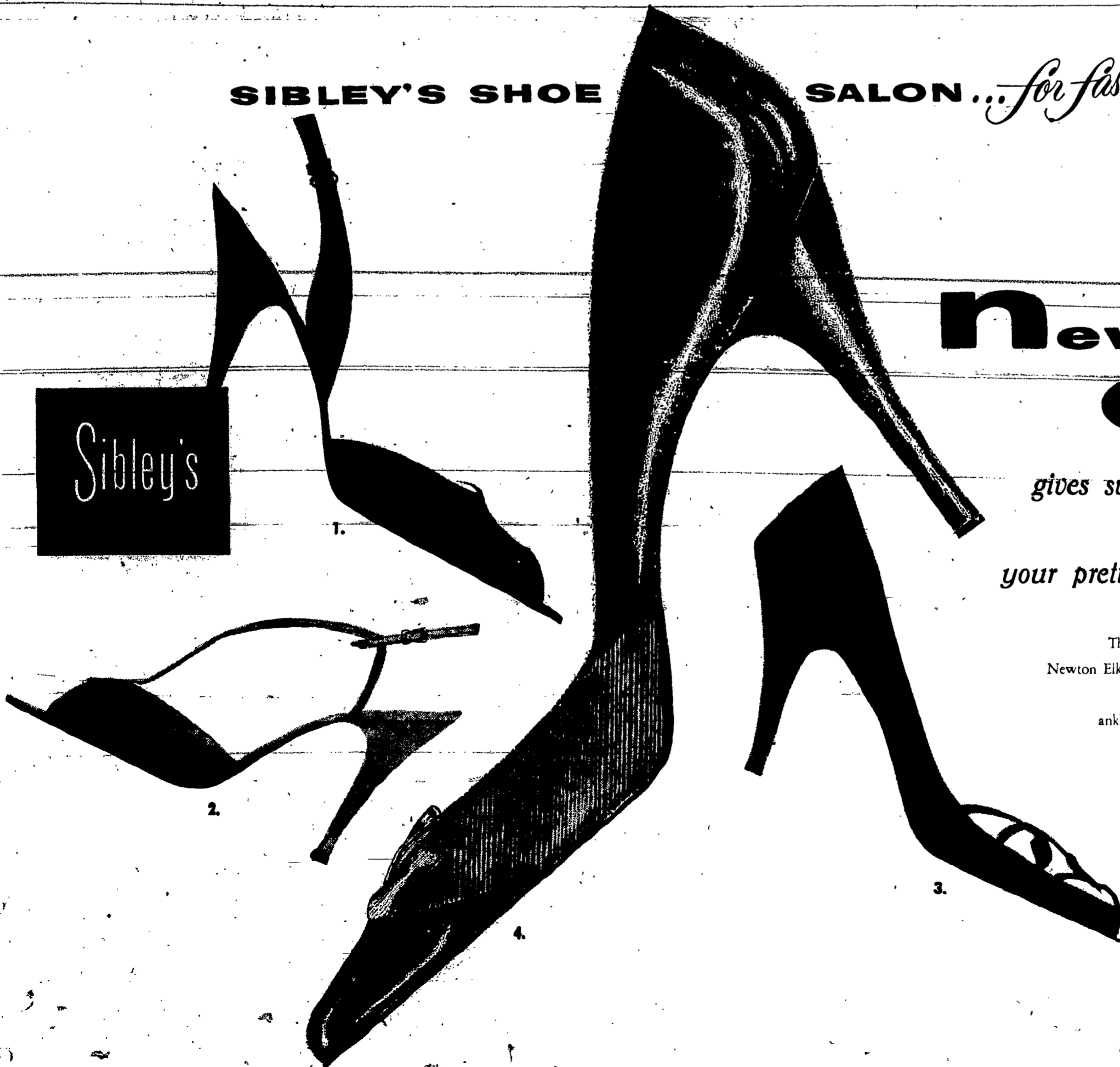
Boston—(NC)—According to American principles, all school children should receive equal assistance from the State, "regardless how the schools which they attend are staffed and governed, and regardless of the religious instruction which they may receive." THIS OPINION was expressed by Prof. George K. Gardner of the Harvard Law School in the journal "Law and Contemporary Problems," which is published by the Duke University School of Law. To those who object that such a system would "subsidize religion" and would be unconstitutional, Professor Gardner replied that "you cannot bring up a child without imparting to it some religion and you cannot subsidize education without subsidizing religion in some way." In addition, he said, "the Constitution does not forbid any State to subsidize religion. It forbids Congress to 'establish' re-

ligion or 'prohibit the free exercise thereof.' "A system under which all school children receive the same measure of support from the taxpayer comes closer to reflecting the spirit of the Declaration of Independence and the First Amendment than a system under which the right to receive any measure of support from the taxpayer is conditioned upon attendance at a municipally controlled school," he said. "One obvious way" in which equal treatment could be given to all American school children, he suggested, "would be for the State to credit each child of school age with a fixed sum of money and to permit the child's parents to apply this money to a school of their own choice." "Congress," he pointed out, "has adopted a similar method in the distribution of GI Educational

funds. There is nothing in the Constitution of the United States nor in any Supreme Court decisions which forbids a State to pursue the like course. On the contrary, this would be a direct application of the principle of religious freedom which the Constitution of the United States affirms." Ecuador Suffers Shortage Of Priests Quito, Ecuador—(NC)—Continued efforts are being made by Catholic leaders in various parts of the country to relieve the scarcity of priests in Ecuador, according to the bulletin of the national secretariate of Catholic Action. Recent statistics show that there are only 1,050 priests in Ecuador, whereas the Catholic population numbers 3,562,000. This is roughly one priest for every 3,400 faithful.

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