

Aid For All Pupils Democrat Plank Aim

By BURKE WALSH
(Staff Writer, N.O.W.C. NEWS SERVICE)

Chicago—(NC)—Legislation providing health and welfare services "for all school children" is advocated in the platform on which the Democratic Party will stand before the electorate in November.

This is the first time that a major party has spelled out insistence that public funds should be used to give health examinations, free bus transportation and the like to children regardless of whether they attend a public, private or parochial school.

The stand is taken in a plan on "general welfare," which reads in part as follows:

"WE PLEDGE THE Democratic Party to the following:

"(1) Legislation providing Federal financing to assist states and local communities to build schools, and to provide essential health and safety services for all school children;

"(2) Better educational, health and welfare opportunities for children of migratory workers;

"(3) Assistance to programs for training teachers of exceptional children;

"(4) Programs providing for the training of teachers to meet the critical shortage in technical and scientific fields;

"(5) Expansion of the program of student, teacher and cultural exchange with other nations."

THE EDUCATION plank says "every American child, irrespective of race or national origin, economic status or place of residence, has full right under the law and the Constitution without discrimination, to every educational opportunity to develop his potentialities."

It adds that state and local resources are already "strained to the limit," and says that "Federal aid and action should be provided." It stipulates, however, that this aid should be "within the traditional framework of state and local control."

Runyon Fund Aids Notre Dame Study

New York—(NC)—The Damon Runyon Memorial Fund has awarded a \$25,000 cancer research grant to the University of Notre Dame's Lombard Institute, a research center which employs unique germfree animals in several biological and medical research projects.

The grant will support for a seventh year a study on "Germ-free Life as a Biological Tool for Cancer Research."



Father Rigney Gets New Post

Teelny, Ill. — (RNS) — The Very Rev. Harold W. Rigney, American missionary held prisoner by Chinese Communists for four years before his release last September, has been appointed superior of Divine World Missionaries in England, Ireland and Wales. Father Rigney told of his Red prison experiences in a book titled "Four Years in a Red Hell," published in March. It was syndicated in American newspapers including the Catholic Courier Journal.

Canadian Company Assists Colleges

Toronto—(NC)—Nearly 100 Catholic colleges, seminaries and universities were among 140 Canadian institutions of higher learning named as recipients of grants by the International Nickel Company of Canada, Limited.

Announcement of the distribution of \$2,500,000 in grants over a five-year period was made here by John F. Thompson, chairman of the board of directors.

Labor Day Masses Slated In Cities

Washington — (NC) — The fourth annual Labor Day Mass in the nation's capital will be offered by Washington's Archbishop Patrick A. O'Doyle in the Shrine of the Sacred Heart on September 3. The new Mass of St. Joseph the Worker will be celebrated for the first time.

The annual Mass is attended by government officials and labor leaders. The sermon will be preached by Father Benjamin L. Massa, S.J., associate editor of America, national Catholic weekly magazine, who is an authority on labor and social problems.

Detroit — (NC) — His Eminence Edward Cardinal Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit, will preside at the annual Labor Day Mass in when the new Mass of St. Joseph the Worker will be offered for the intention of the prosperity of labor and industry and adherence in both fields to just principles.

Joliet, Ill. — (NC) — The Joliet diocese will again sponsor the annual Labor Day Mass, to be held September 3 in St. Joseph's Church, here. It has been announced.

Covington, Ky. — (NC) — The annual Labor Day Mass, sponsored by the Diocese of Union of Holy Name Societies will be held in St. Thomas Church, Fort Thomas.

Coast Bishop Prays At GOP Opening

San Francisco — (RNS) — Auxiliary Bishop Hugh A. Donohoe of the Archdiocese of San Francisco opened the first session of the Republican National convention with a prayer for recognition of man's need for God's help in reaching political decisions.

Bishop Donohoe invoked divine guidance on "the meaning of the office of the President" in the present world situation. He asked that delegates rule out partisan bitterness and "realize the gravity of the path before them." The prelate prayed that the work of the convention would reflect the national motto, "In God We Trust."



New York—(NC)—On their way to Alaska are these three young women who will work in the Alaska Mission field for a year—without pay. From left are Jacqueline Langlois, of Worcester, Mass.; Shirley Richard, of Springfield, Mass.; and Rosemary Bobka of Clinton, Mass., who said that while they did not feel that they had religious vocations, they were anxious to give part of their lives in the service of God. They will teach at the Copper Valley School, 200 miles east of Anchorage, Alaska.

Girls To Serve In Alaska Missions

Seattle, Wash. — (NC) — Three young women visited here while on their way to Alaska where they will serve for a year, without pay, in the Alaska mission field.

Shirley Richard of Springfield, Mass., Rosemary Bobka of Clinton, Mass., and Jacqueline Langlois of Worcester, Mass., are the young pioneers. Each of the girls is 21.

"WHEN PEOPLE hear what we are going to do," said one, "they think we are crazy, looking for husbands or planning to enter the convent. They are all guessing wrong."

These young women are anxious to give part of their lives in the service of God. They do not feel that they have religious vocations. All have long been interested in Catholic Action and the lay apostolate.

Their destination is Copper Valley School, 200 miles east of Anchorage in the heart of the Alaska wilderness. The completed school may cost as high as \$3,000,000. It is being built under the direction of Father John Buchanan, S.J., entirely by donations of cash, materials and labor from people all over the United States and Canada.

LIKE ALL THE other mission schools and parishes in Alaska, Copper Valley is staffed by Jesuit Fathers from Oregon province. Four Sisters of St. Ann and two Jesuit Brothers form the nucleus of the teaching staff.

About 50 native Alaskan children will attend the school when it opens next month. When the school is finally completed, it will educate 200 children from grade school through high school and college.

THE THREE girls are looking forward to a rough winter in Alaska. They will live in an uncompleted building and their food will be of the plainest. They won't be "going places and meeting people" on weekends. But they said they anticipate their work will be the greatest experience of their lives.

Sister George Edmund of the Sisters of St. Ann, superior of Holy Cross Mission in Alaska for five years, talked with the girls on the idea of volunteering for this lay apostolate. She met them while taking graduate work at Anna Maria College, Paxton, Mass., during the past year.

Sister George Edmund had a successful year. She got her faculty for the school; supplies

for the infirmary and cash donations. In addition, she took a fling at television—and came up a winner. She appeared on the "Strike-It-Rich" program about three months ago and received about \$7,000. Part of this money was used to purchase the girls' plane ticket to Alaska.

Two other young women, Margaret Mannix and Mary Ann Kent, both of Boston, Mass., already in Alaska, complete the group of volunteers who will staff the new Copper Valley School. They were both graduated from Regis College, Weston, Mass., in June.

AT THE END of the year, the girls plan to return to their homes and settle down in more routine patterns of living — including salaries and possibly, a "little later"—husbands.

Volunteer lay teachers will be wanted for other mission schools later, according to Father Edmund A. Anable, in charge of the Seattle headquarters for the Alaska Jesuit Missions. Already a group of college girls have volunteered for next year to replace the group of teachers who will spend this year at Copper Valley.

Only Best Teachers Urged For Religion

Baltimore, Md. — (RNS) — An eminent theologian said here that only the best teachers in Catholic schools should be assigned to conduct classes in religion, because they may directly influence the "eternal destiny" of their pupils.

The Very Rev. Francis J. Connell, C.S.S.R., dean of the School of Sacred Theology at the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., addressed the second annual School Sisters of Notre Dame Educational Conference.

"I have heard that in some Catholic educational institutions the classes in religion are committed to the teachers having the least pedagogical ability on the score that anyone can teach religion," he said. "It is to be hoped that this is not true, for such a loose attitude in choosing those who may have a great influence on the destiny of pupils would be deplorable."

"Since instruction in religion and morality is so important a phase of Catholic education, Catholic educators must regard it as a grave obligation to strive for the very best results in this field of their professional activities."

THE REDEMPTORIST priest, who also is professor of moral theology at Catholic University, told the nuns that "adequate" religious teaching must include full instruction on Catholic doctrine concerning marriage, sex and chastity.

"It is in this field that most moral problems are to be found at the present day," he declared. "A correct idea of sex, of its purpose and of its use must be given in our classrooms."

In this connection, he warned nuns against a tendency to give an "erroneous presentation of the holy state of matrimony."

"BEYOND QUESTION," he said, "there is a danger that those teachers who themselves have chosen the state of consecrated virginity may represent sex as something degrading and marriage as a form of life intended only for those who are unable to observe chastity or who foster an inordinate desire for sexual gratification."

"The religious teacher may and should expound the Catholic doctrine that the state of virginity embraced from a supernatural motive is superior to the conjugal state. But she must add that this does not mean there is anything blameworthy or ignoble in marriage. It is a very noble state and its dignity should be extolled."

Protestants Go To 'Confession' In Germany

Frankfurt, Germany—(NC) — Hundreds of non-Catholics went to "confession" here while attending the Protestant Kirchentag, or church convention.

The meeting attracted a large number of delegations, including some from the Eastern zone of Germany.

Eight Protestant ministers, most of them Lutherans, were available in sacristy rooms to hear "confessions" individually after the Rev. Albert Schoenher of Bradenburg had spoken to an audience of more than 5,000 on the subject of confession.

Dr. Schoenher pointed out that Martin Luther had considered confession, both by the whole community and individually, as "self-understood."

The trend among Protestants favoring the reestablishment of the confessional, now considered a strictly Catholic institution, has been increasing during the past few years not only in Germany but in other European countries.

According to Catholic teaching, penance is one of the seven sacraments of the Church. The matter of the sacrament are the sins and the contrition, confession and satisfaction of the penitent, and its form is the words of absolution. Only a properly-authorized priest or bishop can administer the sacrament.

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Judge's Daughter Joins Religious Life

Xavier, Kans. — (NC) — The daughter of a Missouri State Supreme Court judge pronounced final vows as a Sister of Charity of Leavenworth at the motherhouse in Xavier, Kansas.

She is Sister Frances Cabrini Westhues, daughter of Judge and Mrs. Henry J. Westhues of Jefferson City. Three of the Westhues' seven children have entered the religious life. Father John H. Westhues is Assistant Chancellor of the Archdiocese of St. Louis and Sister Jaon Cordis Westhues is a Maryknoll Sister.

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