

# Parents May Get Tax Break On College Tuition

Strong bipartisan support seems to be taking shape in the New York State Legislature to allow parents an \$800 income tax deduction for each child they have in college.

Present tax laws permit parents to deduct \$400. The new proposal would double that amount.

The proposed tax deduction would mean a state wide program amounting to 10 million dollars to aid students and their parents meet the rising costs of college education.

The state Board of Regents and Governor Harriman previously had proposed similar relief measures.

Coupled with the tax relief proposal are plans to increase the number of state scholarships for high school students of high scholastic achievement.

The over-all program is geared to meet the financial needs of high school students who have the mental ability but lack the funds to continue their education at a college level.

More and more college trained citizens are needed to fill responsible civic and industrial positions. Board of Regents officials pointed out, and depriving competent high school graduates of college training simply due to their financial condition means a loss to the community itself.

The present and proposed tax relief and scholarship laws permit students to attend any approved college and thereby, qualify for tax relief to aid in their college expenses.

Many citizens wish this tax relief could also be extended to parents who have children attending tuition operated high schools.

Taxpayers who exercise their democratic freedom to select a privately-run school for their children are faced with the "double tax" of supporting the public schools which their children do not attend and at the same time pay tuition to the school where their children are actually in attendance.

These parents are faced with this double burden precisely at a time when they can least afford it, when their children are still young and unable to earn any substantial income of their own. College students, on the contrary, are frequently able to find part or even full time employment and it is to these parents that the tax relief is given.

American laws are seldom written on the basis of choice, but "what is good for the goose is good for the gander too." If parents of college students are given tax relief, why can't parents of high school students be given it too?

# Father William Ayers

The courage to continue his sacred work despite the handicap of recurring illness is one great fact in the life of Father William J. Ayers, Churchville pastor, who died suddenly Wednesday morning.

His twenty eight years of priesthood brought him into contact with Catholics in Rochester, Stanley, Rushville, Aurora, Union Springs, Churchville—a cross-section of the Rochester Diocese—and his parishioners have always been quick to remark about the "big heart of their little priest."

Illness dogged his life but he fought it courageously until it at last forced him to retire in 1953. A two years' rest restored sufficient strength that he asked to resume active duties. Assigned to St. Vincent de Paul parish in Churchville, he served there a year to the day of his death.

The parish patron, St. Vincent de Paul, was noted during his life for his immense love for the sick and needy. Father Ayers knowing first hand the pain and discouragement of illness found this saint an inspiration to use the cross of suffering as a spur to a patient and zealous priestly apostolate.

May St. Vincent, the patron of the sick, now win by his prayers an eternal reward for the soul of Father Ayers.

# Cross Out Poland

While Mr. Eisenhower in his inaugural address pledged his efforts to thwart "international communism," Poland's voters heard reports of their so-called first free election there under Gomulka's new liberal communist regime.

THE POLISH premier had warned voters on their election eve that a defeat for his candidates would "cross out the independence of our country and cross out Poland from the map of Europe."

It was a warning which voters heeded.

They swept Gomulka and his party into parliament and into full control of their nation still struggling to recover from Soviet occupation and their October revolt.

But there is still a curtain of hypocrisy about the whole affair.

Why did Gomulka have to sound his ominous warning?

He won a pledge from the Soviet Union that never again would Russian troops interfere in Poland's affairs. The pledge must have had a hollow ring when Gomulka heard Khrushchev mouth it between his vodka slogs at the Kremlin.

Gomulka's victory has one clear meaning.

Poland prefers native communists rather than Soviet military brutality—but the nation is still not free. Like a man with a gun at his back, Poland knows that Russian tanks and troops are poised with their weapons ready to enforce communist control over their nation.

We might as well cross out Poland from the map of Europe. It exists only as a fiction if true freedom is the final test of sovereignty.

Yet in the final analysis there is the assurance that Poland will survive. Freedom cannot be forgotten. Once tasted, it is a heady wine which must be tasted again. That is why Poland and Warsaw erupted in the dramatic October revolution—and why fear and forced ballots are really merely proofs that ultimately the Kremlin control will be thwarted by its own devices.

**THE CATHOLIC COURIER JOURNAL**

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**JAMES SEVERNED JAMES EDWARD KEARNEY, D.D., President**

*(Small text regarding advertising rates and subscriptions follows)*

# Religious Stalemate Balks Conversions

Today, Friday, marks the close of eight days of prayer for Christian unity.

The world seems no different today than it did last week.

There is no surge of converts seeking admission to the Catholic Church.

Were the prayers of these eight days in vain?

For nearly a generation, Christians of the various denominations have spent January 18th to 25th asking God "that all may be one." The Chair of Unity Octave has been observed throughout the world—and instead of unity, denominations have disintegrated into even more chaotic divisions.

Bishop Robert J. Dwyer of Reno recently stated, "We are confronted, in our time, with a new and disquieting phenomenon, the religious stalemate . . . The lines of religious differences have hardened so as to eliminate, practically speaking, any significant changes of allegiance."

"Generally speaking, from generation to generation, Catholics remain Catholics, Protestants remain Protestants, and the Orthodox cling to their affiliation," the Reno Bishop said.

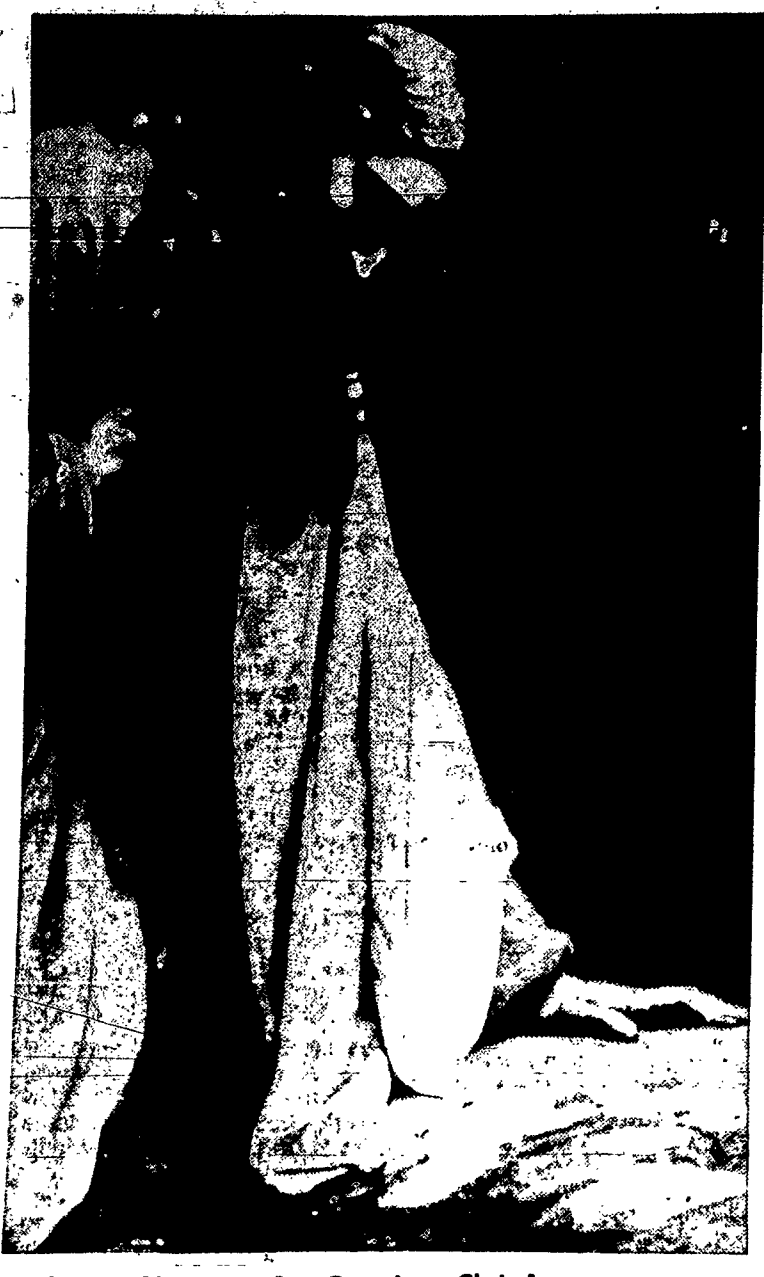
If there is any change at all, he admitted, it is just simply a "drift away from all religion."

**THESE STATEMENTS** of Bishop Dwyer are confirmed by recently announced "spiritual reports" of pastors throughout our own Diocese of Rochester. Convert totals ranged from two or three up to 50 or 60 in the individual parishes.

Even parishes which conducted well publicized instruction courses report significantly small results.

Throughout the nation, the same pattern holds true.

**AMERICA** remains dominantly Protestant, and there is no indication that the balance will change. The common impression expressed by many Catholics that Protestantism is a dying force is definitely



"That All May Be One"—Christ's prayer on eve of His death seems far from being answered. Slow, soul-by-soul conversion record actually shows value of each individual soul.

not true. Protestant churches are gaining in numbers and in the loyalty of their members.

As a matter of fact, the Catholic Church's numerical growth in the United States is substantially the result of immigration and births—not from conversions.

England had its Oxford Movement which led many distinguished Anglican clergy and lay into the Catholic faith, but even there the trend

never reached what politicians would term a "landslide."

**THE UNITED STATES**, except for the occasional conversion of some prominent person, has never had even a trend that has provoked any serious consideration by those outside the Catholic Church.

Fluctuating populations create demands for church facilities in newly developed areas, and a growing population needs more and more churches

—but the demand is based not on growth through conversions in either Protestant or Catholic direction.

The religious situation remains static.

Priests and ministers seek to develop effective "convert making techniques" but recognize that the overall divisions will not be significantly changed in our lifetimes.

This does not mean that we as Catholics despair of God's grace or the power of His Holy Spirit. It does mean that we had best adjust ourselves to the situation as we find it even though we fret at the inevitable chaos confronting us.

**HISTORY** may aid us in understanding why God could permit this stalemate to exist.

When the Church was young, as the Scriptural Acts of the Apostles records, thousands were admitted to the faith at a time. Later in the much disputed Dark Ages, whole nations—France, England, Germany—embraced the Church.

When the Eastern Christians were broken from unity with Rome about the year 1,000 A.D., efforts to repair the break were based on political treaties or the weapons of crusaders. Five hundred years after that, the Protestant revolt was fought on bitter battlefields as much as by prayer and preaching of the truth.

Perhaps God restricts us to our piddling progress to teach us the importance of each individual that conversions are to be made in our time not in numbers, not by pressure or politics, but in humility and patience.

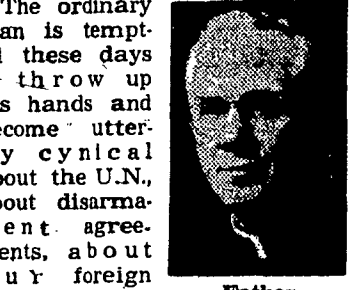
Our age is characterized by power, skyscraping buildings, mammoth achievements which dwarf man to the role of cog in a machine.

In the eyes of God, however, each soul is precious and the conversion of one can be as valuable in His sight as the conversion of a nation. It is perhaps our task to taste—not the victory of great convert totals—but to hold the line and soul by step, soul by soul to the reward which Christ has promised to those who serve Him in patience.

# FATHER SHEERIN

More Good Than Evil

Chancellor Konrad Adenauer recently urged a ban on the use of H-bombs in war as a solution of the vast international problems of our time. American military men, on the other hand, insist that we must be sure of some foolproof method of inspection before we agree to a ban on thermonuclear weapons.



Father

The ordinary man is tempted these days to throw up his hands and become utterly cynical about the U.N., about disarmament agreements, about our foreign policy. He knows the Russians cannot be trusted and he is suspicious of any kind of diplomatic or political action. He feels the arms race must go on until the inevitable blowup which means the end of the human race.

**WHEN YOU** mention the U.N. to some persons, they dismiss it as a useless and impotent debating society that can pass resolutions that nobody obeys. When you mention our foreign policy, they dismiss with a shrug of the shoulders those "self-righteous bouncers in Washington" who they claim, were responsible for the Suez fiasco and are now cooking up a monumental political blunder in the Middle East.

Underneath their fulminations is the fixed notion that all men in high positions are either fools or knaves and that the world is going to the dogs.

In the old days, the amateur political expert by the four barrel in the General Store assailed all the politicians but at least he believed that he had all the answers to world problems. Today, the defeatist think no one has any answers to any questions.

Now I don't pretend to think that a Catholic has all the answers to political or other secular problems. But I do think that a Catholic has good reasons for not assuming the cynical attitude so prevalent in our time.

**I BELIEVE** a Catholic has to be somewhat optimistic about human nature. I read somewhere that if you are next to a pessimist at table, he will ask you to pass the milk; if you are next to an optimist, he will ask you to pass the cream—and a realist will ask you to pass the pitcher.

My idea is that a Catholic knows there is a layer of cream over the milk in the world pitcher.

What is that layer? I would say it is the store of natural goodness in the world as well as the larger store of Christian virtue. I don't deny the evil. There's plenty of it. But there is enough natural goodness and Christian virtue on which to base hopes for the future.

One indication of this layer of cream is the vast effort stemming especially from America to help the underprivileged and the underdeveloped sections of the world. There has been some selfishness in our foreign-aid programs, some motives of military or political advantage to ourselves.

Yet it is unquestionable that in the Marshall Plan, for instance, there was a great compassion and this compassion came from the teachings of Him who fed the multitude with bread and said: "I have compassion on the multitude."

Today there is a reversion from the sweetness and light of the Liberals who thought the world would be safe for Democracy once the Kaiser and Hitler were removed from the scene. Many Americans have now gone to the opposite extreme. They see hu-

man nature as fearfully evil, weighted down beyond redemption with the chains of sin.

**LOOKING AT** the world's problems, they say that even America has sinful ambitions since all men, individually and collectively, are burdened with guilt. They say we brand other nations as unjust aggressors while we ourselves are guilty of many sins. They claim we clothe our sinful national ambitions with high-sounding, "self-righteous" mottoes. The attitude is one of pessimism that leads perhaps to humility and self-criticism but tends to end up in despair.

**THE CATHOLIC** attitude admits the fact of sin in man. Yet the Catholic says that while sin has touched the hearts of men it has not entirely corrupted them. As Catholics, we cannot afford to close our eyes to the evil in the world, its stupidity, frivolity and futility. Neither can we avert our eyes from the indubitable fact that there are many men of natural goodness and wisdom in this world.

Add to them the number of Christians into whose minds and hearts Christ has come with His light and grace. The total offers hope for the future.

There are immoral and incompetent diplomats and statesmen in positions of authority. They are outweighed, I feel quite certain, by the large number of true lovers of justice and peace. At least there are enough to ward off catastrophe.

# Card. Mooney's Inaugural Prayer

Cardinal Mooney of Detroit who gave the benediction at this week's Inaugural rites prayed God to help President Eisenhower advance the welfare of the United States and to achieve "a just and lasting peace" among all nations.

**Text** of Cardinal Mooney's prayer is as follows:

"Lord God of men and nations, hear us, we beseech thee and bless us."

"Bless our Chief Executive as he assumes for another term the heavy responsibility of the presidency in a troubled and confused world."

"Bless him in discharging his sworn duty to uphold the Constitution and thus to establish justice within our borders, to insure domestic tranquility, to provide for the common defense, to promote the general welfare and to secure for every citizen the enjoyment of the equal and inalienable rights with which, as the Founding Fathers solemnly declared, all men are endowed by Thee."

"Bless him in exercising the leadership among the free nations of the West which has devolved upon our country. Bless him with the strength to stand firm for what is right and the skill to achieve international conciliation in truth and patience—that all nations may, even in this nuclear age, enjoy the security of a just and lasting peace. Through Christ our Lord, Amen."

**The Bell Tower**

*(Small image of a bell tower)*

# Maybe Later

A Maine farmer had a talking pig, but he was one of those tactful men who kept his own counsel, and nobody would have ever known about the remarkable animal if a visitor hadn't discovered the fact. When he did, he shot a stream of excited questions at the farmer.

"How long have you had this pig?"

"Two years."

"How long has it been talking?"

"Two years."

"Great heavens, man! Why have you never told anyone about this?"

The farmer sighed and said, "Well, I hoped he'd outgrow it."

# Four Years For Nothing

"Four years of college," sighed the girl graduate, "and whom has it got me?"

# Repair Shop

"Mr. Smith," said the voice over the phone, "this is Bill's Garage, and I thought you would like to know that your wife just drove in here to have the car repaired and . . ."

"All right," interrupted the husband, go ahead and fix the car. I'll pay for it."

"That isn't exactly what I'm calling about," said the voice. "Who's going to pay for fixing the garage?"

# Labor Saving

Isn't it wonderful the way they've invented so many labor-saving gadgets for the home to enable the housewife to get a job in an office so she can meet the payments on the labor-savers?

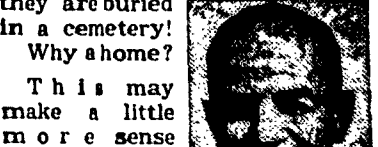
# 'Awful Fast'

"We've had slow men on this job," said the irritated office manager, "but you're the slowest yet. Aren't you quick at anything?"

"Yes, sir," the slow worker replied. "I get tired awful fast."

# Making Marriage Click Sense Of Being Wanted Child's Need Of Parents

So many children are born in hospitals, they are educated in colleges, they court in automobiles, they live in apartments, they eat in cafeterias, they play golf in the afternoon and go to the movies at night. When they are sick they go to a clinic, when they die they are buried in a cemetery!



Monsignor DeBlanc

Why home? This may make a little more sense than at first appears. Many of us have heard some child remark: "What does marna mean, when she says I was an accident?"

Home must be the one place we are wanted and accepted as we are. Every child should feel for at least five minutes a day that he is the only child. He should get that type of attention from both parents. This does not mean that the child should be hand fed indefinitely and never disciplined.

When parents have children principally because of the combination of love of God and of each other and of children; and not principally for their own parental whim and glory, they will wear their offspring as soon as possible and teach them to be independent.

IT IS THE old true story of the cocoon: If we split its shell we help it to emerge, it will be crippled and never fly. Children should have their own room as soon as possible, be by themselves for at least half hour a day, buy their own clothes as soon as they can.

A good parent is rearing that child eventually to loose it.

When parents have done a good job as parents, the child always comes back in a different way, but he does come back.

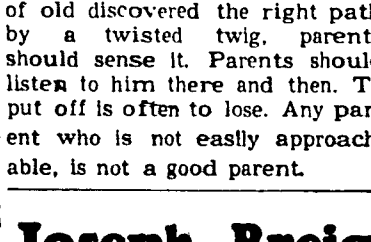
Some Oriental families make a small deity of the father. That is not Christian. Children are not to be constantly looking back but rather forwards. They are to give to their children what their parents have given them. Unless there is necessity children are not to pay back their parents for education and so on.

**PSYCHIATRISTS** say that when children scream in their sleep, it could very well be an indication that they are afraid that their parents do not love them. Parents must use every

# Joseph Breig

# Why I Use The Word "I" So Much In This Column

One of the editors who publish my column asked me once why I use the word "I" so much in my writing. He was a bit afraid and he thought folks might think me conceited, and in his excessive charity he felt that they would be mistaken.



Breig

I explained that one reason for my use of the personal pronoun is that I feel keenly the responsibility of writing for Catholic publications, especially in view of the fact that I am given fullest freedom of expression.

Elementary honor dictates that in return for such liberty, I take pains to prevent misunderstandings. I do not want anybody falling into the delusion that I speak for the Church. My personal style of writing guards against that.

**LET ME GIVE** an example. More than once I have asserted

# Daily Mass Calendar

Sunday, January 27—Third Sunday after Epiphany (green), Gloria, 2nd prayer of St. John Chrysostom, Creed, Trinity Preface.

Monday, January 28—St. Peter Nolasco, confessor (white), Gloria, 2nd prayer of St. Agnes.

Tuesday, January 29—St. Francis de Sales, bishop (white), Gloria, Creed.

Wednesday, January 30—St. Martina, martyr (red), Gloria, VR.

Thursday, January 31—St. John Bosco, confessor (white), Gloria.

First Friday, February 1—St. Ignatius, martyr (red), Gloria. First Friday Mass in honor of the Sacred Heart permitted.

First Saturday, February 2—Purification of the Blessed Virgin (Candlemas Day) Blessing of candles (purple), Mass (white), Gloria, Creed, Christmas Preface.

—omitted at High Mass. VR—Votive or Requiem permitted.

# BUT IT DOES NOT SEEM TO ME

that there is any reason for readers to be confused about who is talking. It is Pat Scanlan, or it is Joe Breig. It is not the Church, and it is not Pat's bishop nor my bishop. That I hope, is clear from the personal nature of our writing. Misunderstandings about whose voice is being heard are much more likely to arise in the presence of cautious, pontifical, anonymous types of writing.

At any rate, the problem is a real one. Religion may be compromised, and people of good will may be turned away from it. If writers allow readers to mistake their individual opinions for the judgments or teachings of the Church, everything reasonably possible ought to be done to guard against such misapprehensions.

Currently, a group of Catholic editors and writers is attacking this problem in cooperation with Marquette University's Institute of the Catholic Press. Many fool-proof procedures can be devised. As a consequence, Catholic publications and their readers will be benefited, along with the supreme cause of religious truth.

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