

LAST WEEK'S
PAID CIRCULATION

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Should We
Move For Job?

See Page 5

Federal School Aid Data Asked By Abp. O'Hara

Philadelphia—(NC)—Statistics currently offered the public on problems of school construction and enrollment—statistics called a "jungle of guess-work" by some critics—were challenged here by Archbishop John F. O'Hara of Philadelphia.

The former president of Notre Dame University cited discrepancies in computation, and a poverty of factual information, as being characteristic of the bulletins published thus far on school development at the national and state levels.

Stressing that accurate knowledge is essential if the country is to deal intelligently with the problem of federal school aid, the Archbishop disparages guesswork and asks: "Will someone please assemble the facts?" His appeal is published in a front page editorial of The Catholic Standard and Times, archdiocese newspaper.

Without the facts, he says, "what guide has a senator or congressman for his conscience when he is asked to vote an appropriation?"

CRITICIZED AS less than understandable are "figures supplied by the U. S. Office of Education, the National Educational Association, the various state superintendents, the National Citizens Commission for the Public Schools (and its successor organization)."

Archbishop O'Hara pinpoints questionable data by making references to specific documents including the "Statistical Abstract of the United States," No. 135, 1956.

The publication, he says, reports that 10 states and the District of Columbia "provide 40 per cent of the alleged overcrowding of classrooms, but only 4 per cent of the increase in population from the 1950 census to the July, 1956, estimate of the Bureau of Census."

The Archbishop asks why the 40 per cent overcrowding, if the population has risen but 4 per cent in the six-year period.

Alluding to other information which he considers disputable, the prelate states that "Massachusetts is credited with a population increase of 197,000 and an enrollment increase of exactly the same figure, 191,000. Maine has lost 17,000 in population and gained 18,000 in public school enrollment. Oklahoma and Vermont between them have lost 22,000 in population and gained 32,000 in registration."

THE EDITORIAL notes that nearly all the states appear to be solving the classroom shortage without federal assistance. Referring to Circular No. 490 of the U. S. Office of Education, January, 1957, Archbishop O'Hara says:

"The plans (for school expansion) announced by 20 states envision complete coverage for current needs, seven of them with adequate coverage for a few years in advance." He said "six states which reported no shortage were providing for 143,700 pupils; six others were preparing to handle between 80 and 90 per cent of their surplus, and seven between 50 and 70 per cent."

The striking feature of the U. S.

Pope Marks 18th Year



Specially cast to commemorate the 18th year of the pontificate of Pope Pius XII is the above medal, featuring a profile of the Pontiff.

Office of Education report, the Archbishop says, is that some states reduced their estimates of classroom overcrowding. The Archbishop interprets further details to mean that:

"South Dakota will overcome its shortage (of classroom space) this year; West Virginia will achieve 80 per cent and Washington 50 per cent of their respective goals, and Kentucky and Minnesota, 40 per cent.

"Iowa's reported drop of 48,000 in enrollment and of 24,000 in overcrowding suggests the correction on an error in last year's data; its plans for this year should take care of more than 40 per cent of its reported overcrowding," he said.

THE PHILADELPHIA prelate says that even in states which are meeting their classroom needs adequately there is still need for more and clearer facts. A reappraisal of the country's educational shortages is in order, he asserts, and "the mobility of the population is of far greater importance to this reappraisal than is the increase of births."

Some schools in urban centers are half empty and others have been closed because of shifting populations, he says in the editorial.

It is in the new areas of population that new schools are needed, he continues, but those new areas for the most part "represent improved economic conditions and ability to pay taxes for schools." Federal aid is not required to do the job.

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Love Speaks From The Cross

By MONSIGNOR PATRICK J. FLYNN

11—"This day thou shalt be with Me in paradise." (Luke 23:43)
CALVARY WAS THE LAST place where you might expect Christ to find a friend. Yet, it was in Calvary's darkest hour that Jesus converted one of the two thieves crucified with Him.

On Calvary's grim stage of suffering, and against the clamor of those onlookers who reviled Him, Christ heard a desperate, reverent voice speaking from the cross next to Him.

"Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom!"

Until this moment Christ had spoken only once from the cross—a prayer for His enemies. Now He speaks His second word from the cross. This is to give prompt assurance to the penitent thief.

LENENT READING

This article is the second of a series on Our Lord's Seven Last Words from the Cross.

Christ promises him, "thou shalt be with me in paradise."

Through the cross Christ wins a convert on Calvary!

Legend has given many names to the two thieves who died with Christ. Today, the names of Dismas and Gestas are the most popular of all the titles which fantasy has assigned to these nameless outlaws of the gospel. But the title of "The Good Thief," which posterity has given him, tells best the fame and story of the robber who "stole Heaven" while dying on the cross.

THE STORY of the Good Thief's conversion, as reported in the gospels, is told briefly but vividly. It is about noon and a strange darkness has fallen upon Calvary. Nature seems to be in revolt and protest against man's cruel treatment of Christ.

Rough, taunting voices are raised around Calvary's crosses. These are the bystanders screaming abuse and mockeries at the Divine victim on the middle cross. "If thou art the Son of God, come down from the cross!"

Even the chief priests and Jewish rulers join the rabble.

Nothing will bring more cheer to a shut-in than a lovely bouquet or a long lasting plant. Call Blanchard Florist, Baker 3-9494. Let them take care of it or drop in at 58 Lake Ave. Free parking in rear.—Adv.

In sneering at Jesus "He saved others. Let him save himself!"
The four soldiers guarding the crosses cast dice for the seamless robe of Christ. They smile at the sign which Pilate has ordered nailed over the cross of Jesus. The sign proclaims that this is "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." The soldiers laugh "If thou art the King of the Jews, save thyself!" they taunt the silent Victim.

One of the robbers crucified with Christ also joins in the chorus of insults. His voice is abusive and skeptical.

"If thou art the Christ, save thyself and us!" he screams. His words break from his bleeding lips in accents of blasphemy. "Art thou the Christ?" he jeers. "Why, then, don't you save us?"

The dying Christ ignores this mockery of a fellow sufferer. He remains silent.

The jeering thief has no faith or hope in Christ. Neither has he any respect or sympathy. To this hopeless outlaw on the cross Christ is only a fool or a madman.

NOW COMES the moment of surprise. A new voice is heard on Calvary. For the first time in this bloody drama of the crucifixion, someone speaks in defense of Christ. It is the voice of the other thief—the one the world calls "Good."

He rebukes his companion for attacking Jesus. "Dost thou not even fear God," he asks, "seeing that thou art under the same sentence?"

"And we indeed justly, for we are receiving what our deeds deserve. But this man (Jesus) has done nothing wrong."

The Good Thief's rebuke to his evil friend is a bid for his conversion. The Jews and the soldiers revile the innocent Christ but they are not facing death. Neither do they think of (Continued on Page 6)



AUXILIARY BISHOP CASEY conducts solemn ritual dedicating new Sacred Heart Cathedral altar. Sacred Heart statue will be installed above crucifix this month.



BISHOP KEARNEY of Cathedral altar site, his first church ceremony after a three month illness.

Rites Consecrate Cathedral Altar

Bishop Kearney Greeted

Rites recalling Christian life in the ancient catacombs of Rome dedicated the new \$70,000 altar in Sacred Heart Cathedral this week.

Interment of relics of two martyrs in the new structure dramatized the Church's age-old custom born in the era of persecution of offering Mass on the tombs of martyrs.

Anointing with sacred oils permanently consecrated the Cathedral's new marble altar to the service of divine worship.

Auxiliary Bishop Lawrence B. Casey conducted the three hour ceremony Tuesday morning.

His Excellency, Bishop James E. Kearney presided at the solemn Mass following the altar consecration and spoke his "personal thanks" from the Cathedral pulpit to all who prayed and cared for him during his recent three months illness.

The altar consecration rite was Bishop Kearney's first public appearance at a church ceremony since December.

CHRISTIAN TRADITIONS dating back eighteen hundred years came alive during the Tuesday ritual as Bishop Casey placed relics of two martyrs, St. Salvator and St. Venustus, in the anointed "sepulchre" of the new altar.

Smiles flashed across the faces of worshippers as the procession of clergy moved to the sanctuary in Sacred Heart Cathedral's altar dedication ceremony.

Bishop Kearney with firm step and familiar twinkle in his eye was "glad to be back" with his people after a three month illness, and his people were more than glad to welcome him.

GABBED in the red robes of his episcopal rank, the Bishop presided at Tuesday's pontifical Mass, his first church ceremony since a Dec. 11 operation at St. Mary's Hospital.

As the Bishop walked down the Cathedral aisle giving his blessing, many children from Sacred Heart school instinctively waved back to greet him.

The two martyrs were executed as victims of a Roman emperor's hatred of Christianity. Their relics were obtained in Rome by diocesan officials and brought to Rochester to be enshrined in the massive marble altar of the Rochester Cathedral.

THE RELIC ceremony links Rome, historic center of the Catholic Church, with twentieth century Catholics of the Rochester Diocese. Ancient Christians, forced to hide in Rome's underground catacombs, met at the tombs of martyrs to conduct their rites.

From that era of Christian heroism, the Church adopted the present day practice of placing martyrs' relics in every altar where Mass is to be celebrated.

Adults unashamedly brushed away a tear or swallowed the "lump in their throat" in the happy emotion of catching a glimpse of Rochester's beloved "Shepherd in Christ."

After Mass, he mounted the pulpit to voice his personal thanks for the new altar which, he said, fulfills "my hope and my ambition" to have a Cathedral altar with "a majestic statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to extend His hands over the members of this parish and over the entire diocese."

Bishop Kearney said, "I can never forget the zeal and devotion and consecration of the pastor of this parish, Bishop Casey, in carrying out this work."

Assisting Bishop Casey in the ceremony were Rev. Francis J. Taylor, deacon, and Very Rev. Msgr. John E. McCafferty, sub-deacon. Father Edwin R. Wedow was master of ceremonies.

THE ALTAR'S six foot crucifix and seven glistening candlesticks, all cast in bronze, received solemn blessing from Bishop Casey to close the rare church ritual.

A PACKED Cathedral audience saw Bishop Casey pour holy oils

across the new altar and then ignite incense placed above each of the five crosses cut in the altar's white table-top section.

The five crosses are symbols of the five wounds of Christ.

St. Bernard's Seminary Choir directed by Rev. Charles McCarthy chanted the music for the ceremony.

As Bishop Casey circled the new altar sprinkling it with specially blessed holy water and surrounding the altar with incense, the choir chanted a Latin hymn describing Moses' sacrifices of the altar of Israel's tabernacle three thousand years ago.

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THE BOSTON RED and white marble altar capped by a bronze canopy replaces a fifty-year-old white altar used originally in old St. Patrick's Cathedral, former Cathedral of the Rochester Diocese.



Bishop Casey circles altar with incense



Ashes, wine placed in special holy water.



Bishop Kearney places relics in new altar.



Holy Oil consecrated