

Catholic Schools Rate High In Science Courses

By JOHN J. DALY, JR.

Washington (NC) — Public high schools offer more general mathematics and general science courses than Catholic high schools, but in special science and mathematics instruction the Church schools do better.

This is one of the conclusions made in a survey of Catholic secondary schools and their strength in science and mathematics as indicated by the courses offered.

The study was carried out by two officials of the National Catholic Educational Association, Father John J. Green, O.S.F.S., associate secretary of the Secondary School Department, and Father O'Neil D'Amour, associate secretary, School Superintendents' Department.

Comparing its findings with a 1956 survey made by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the study said that 85 per cent of the public high schools offered a general mathematics course, compared to 69 per cent of the Catholic schools.

In science, the survey indicated that about 81 per cent of the public schools offered a general science course, compared to about 71 per cent of the Catholic schools.

However, in the higher fields of mathematics and science, more Catholic schools offered courses, according to the study.

In algebra one, about 98 per cent of the Church schools offered a course, compared to about 82 per cent for the public schools; in algebra two, about 97 per cent to about 85 per cent; in plane geometry, about 88 per cent to about 74 per cent; in solid geometry, about 85 per cent to about 18 per cent; in trigonometry, about 88 per cent to about 24 per cent.

In biology, the ratio was 90 per cent in Church schools to about 83 per cent in public schools; in chemistry, about 93 per cent to about 57 per cent; in physics, about 81 per cent to about 48 per cent.

The survey cautioned that "no drastic application" should be made of the public and Catholic school comparison. "The problems of the two schools differ radically and the comparison is merely to emphasize that Catholic schools have retained their distinctive higher mathematics and science," said the survey authors.

THE AUTHORS said the study presents "ample evidence that the assertions of the critics that schools are neglecting the hard subjects do not apply to Catholic schools."

In regard to physical facilities, the two priests said Catholic schools seem to have most of the basic equipment needed for traditional teaching of the sciences, but face problems of cost if they need to acquire new equipment to instruct in the dramatic scientific changes today, particularly those brought about by nuclear research.

COURIER-JOURNAL
Friday, June 27, 1958

Boston Clergy To Serve In Peru Missions

Boston (RNS) — The newly formed Plous Society of St. James the Apostle for South American missionaries has enlisted fifteen priests — fourteen from the Boston archdiocese.

Archbishop Richard J. Cushing, founder of the society, will preside at a departure ceremony here next February. The fifteen priests will serve in the Prelature of Ayacucho — Cuzco, formerly part of the Lima archdiocese in Peru.

The society is the outgrowth of a conversation Archbishop Cushing held with Pope Pius XII in 1948. The prelate described to the Pope the widely-known "lend-lease" program of the Boston archdiocese.

Under the program, Boston priests serve "on loan" as U.S. missionaries where there is a shortage of priests. Some 100 priests have participated in the project.

THE PROGRAM was recommended by Pope Pius who also extended his condolences to the missionaries in South America. Formation of the new society to recruit priests for South America is the result of the Pope's wishes.

Archbishop Cushing noted that a shortage of all Catholics in the world are in Latin America. He said there is a shortage of some 70,000 priests to serve in that area. The shortage in South America is 40,000 according to the Boston archdiocese.

Future plans for the Society of St. James call for the recruitment of seminarians and laymen to undergo special training for the missions.

A German Views American TV

A pert brunette from Germany came to Rochester this week to study American TV programs for children.

Dr. Gertrud Simmerding, director of a West German TV network of six TV stations, is currently on tour of principal U.S. cities under an exchange program arranged by the American State Department.

American dramatic TV shows rate "excellent" in her opinion. Children's programs, she said, are "too frightening." She thinks U.S. children spend "much too much time before TV sets. The machines are mechanical baby sitters," she said.

She has already been to Washington, the west coast states, Chicago, and completed her round-the-country trip this week in New York following her stop-over at Rochester and Clyde.

She came to Rochester to visit Father Paul Cuddy, pastor of St. John's Church, Clyde. When Father Cuddy was a military chaplain in Germany, Dr. Simmerding was an office employee at U.S. Army headquarters.

In Germany, TV is operated on a customer-pay basis. Rates are comparable to telephone service and rates are billed monthly. Dr. Simmerding said this arrangement is widespread throughout all of Europe.

She noted that religious programs on U.S. TV are "way ahead" of Europe. "We wouldn't even think of televising the Mass," she stated. Europeans, she explained, feel that the Mass is "too sacred to be put on the same screen where downs perform." She admitted that U.S. religious programs also have been, however, reverently presented.

"It's just that we are brought up different," she said. "You, Americans are so free and open. I guess we in Europe are still too formal."

Dr. Simmerding saw a TV news report of Bishop Sheen's recent visit to California. She said Ger-



DR. GERTRUD SIMMERDING 'no secrets' in America

man radio and TV technicians would never dare "touch a prelate" in her homeland. She was amazed at the ease of the noted TV Bi-hop in answering newsmen's questions and speaking before the cameras.

Her one big discovery about America, she said, is that here "there are no secrets." She cited the widely publicized failures of recent missile tests, the open discussion of prominent people's private lives, and just everyday events of a neighborhood known to all in the area.

"America it seems to me, is just one big neighborhood and everybody knows everything about everybody else."

An End And A Beginning

While Maryknoll Missioners knelt in the seminary quadrangle at Maryknoll, N.Y., last Sunday to begin their foreign mission careers — across the world, Chinese Communists pulled down the Bamboo Curtain on another chapter of mission history.

Ironically, Red China picked an appropriate day to expel the last two American priests from the mainland — Maryknoll's annual Departure Day.

Within hours after the two missionaries walked out of prison, 51 priests and brothers stepped forward to receive mission crucifixes and liturgical assignments to remote areas of the world.

The two priests, Fathers Joseph P. McCormack, M.M., of Palmyra, and Cyril Wagner, O.F.M., of Pittsburgh were released from jail after serving five-year sentences for what the Communists called "espionage" and sabotage for the American imperialists.



Mass Aboard 'The Romance'

Caroline Islands — (NC) — Newly-appointed Superior of the Jesuits attached to the Caroline-Marshall Islands Mission, Father William E. Rively, S.J., of Altoona, Pa., says Mass aboard his 50-foot mission schooner "Romance" in the background, assisting at Mass, is the schooner's native crew.

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Making Marriage Click

Sacred Bond Unites Husband, Wife

By MSGR. IRVING A. DeBLANC
(Director, Family Life Bureau, N.C.W.C.)

"In holding out against divorce, the Catholic Church isn't facing reality; it is mainly interested in appearances. Let's face it! Why fight for old, dead laws instead of live people? How about a little humanity! Marriage without love isn't marriage. Face it, I know my marriage won't even take a good morning. Operation — understanding?"

W. P. What a bar rage! The W. Monsignor DeBlanc in your name could well stand for wholesale pepper. Okay! "Operation understanding." Stick with me. But first keep this in mind. Anything that isn't reasonable isn't Catholic.

THE CATHOLIC Church is against divorce for two major reasons: divorce is against natural law and it is against the sacramental character of marriage. The first point means this: the union of man and wife cannot, as in the case of most animals, be left to chance meetings. It cannot take place without thought of tomorrow.

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come "one soul." No one has a right to separate what God has joined.

So the Church cannot and will not permit divorce and remarriage. It has on occasions declared that there never was a marriage at all in a particular case because certain impediments existed, but it has never granted a divorce as the seculars understand it today.

GOD'S PLAN through nature is strong and distinct. God said it was not good for man to be alone and created a companion like unto himself. They are to complete and perfect one another. They are not only to live with one another but for one another in a reciprocal love.

This fusion requires indissolubility of marriage and successful married life is an absolute necessity for the endurance of society as well as for the education of children.

This couple which is "one flesh" must also strive to be-

Deaf 'Language' To Add Catholic Word Signs

Louisville — (NC) — Two important developments for Catholic deaf persons are expected to come out of the ninth annual convention of the International Catholic Deaf Association here, July 6 to 12.

Convention directors are looking for an agreement on a set of hand signs for Catholic usage which will eliminate differences in the signing of such terms as "Sacraments," "rosary" and "Mass."

A PRINTED form for Confession by deaf persons is the second major item on the agenda.

This will make it possible for the deaf person to confess his sins quickly and accurately with a pencil. The majority of deaf persons attending the convention will be those who use signs rather than speech for communication. All meetings will be conducted by signs, in silence.

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