

Partners Must Make Progress Together

College officials in New York state agreed at a Syracuse meeting that public and private schools working as partners in education are the best guarantee the needs of students will be met in the period 1960 to 1980.

They also unanimously agreed extensive expansion at the college level is needed and that both public and private colleges should advance at a comparable pace.

The officials at the December 8th meeting represented 123 public and private colleges and universities in New York state.

Their convictions were voiced following a study of the Heald Report, a long range plan proposed to Governor Rockefeller in November to launch a multi-million-dollar college expansion program.

The college officials at Syracuse endorsed the report for "its strong and clear emphasis upon the necessity for the investing of public monies in higher education by the State of New York at a greatly increased rate."

They made it clear, however, they opposed state aid that would be earmarked exclusively for public colleges.

The Heald Report earlier emphasized, "The bulk of higher education in New York state for many years has been our private colleges and universities, and the great tradition of meeting the need for higher education through a combination of private and public institutions must be preserved for the future."

This fact is obvious from the internationally famous privately operated schools in the state as Columbia, Cornell, Fordham, University of Rochester, Colgate.

Father Charles Lavery of St. John Fisher College who attended the meeting said a major share of credit for this state's enviable record in education is due to the state Board of Regents which has coordinated the public and private colleges. He said the 175 year tradition of "high academic standards" shows the "wisdom of the pioneers" who preferred the "diversity that results when students can go to the school of their choice" rather than the virtual state monopoly of college education characteristic of many other states.

Lieutenant Governor Malcolm Wilson told the educators "freedom stifles in lock-step conformity. The future of higher education in our state can flourish only if the traditional partnership of public and private education is continued."

How can state aid be given private colleges—especially if they are church affiliated—without violating the constitutional principle of church-state separation?

The Heald Report offered the precedent-shattering plan of a modest grant to private colleges based on the number of graduates from these schools.

The college heads at the Syracuse meeting voiced a preference for "contract" arrangements such as already are in operation at the state College of Forestry at Syracuse University or the state College of Forestry at Cornell University. The officials also said they thought a "partnership with the students" would be better—granting state subsidy to students rather than to the schools. This amounts to a peace-line equivalent of the old GI Bill of Rights.

Both the Heald Report and the educators' conclusions at their Syracuse meeting indicate the need for a vast expansion of college facilities in the immediate future in this state. The expansion requires not only two-year community colleges but a parallel development of both private and public colleges, including launching of additional public colleges such as the new Harpur College near Binghamton.

We repeat our opinion, stated in this column in both October and November, that we are convinced any "panic solution" which excludes private schools and adds public education only will inevitably be a far more costly program and will peril a long tradition which has proved itself to be eminently successful. We believe both school systems should progress together.

Reapings at Random

Conservatives Resent Invention Of Wheel

By GERRARD E. SHERRY
Editor, Central California Register

To many so-called conservatives, the wheel was man's first mistake. It started as the road to social progress. They resent the fact that the wheel has been used to carry the state of California into the 20th century.

It is one thing to hold this view: it is another to hold it off as the official teaching of the Church. Yet, this is the talk of many Catholic conservatives. And those of us who have accepted the wheel as social reality deplore the air of authority some Catholic conservatives assume on the Church's social doctrine.

According to the pattern of the conservative, their Bishops have arrived. The annual United States Bishops' statement on individual responsibility has led many to the verbal cake-walk—even if they did get it all out of joint.

One of the unofficial organs of Catholic conservatism, the *Brooklyn Tablet*, editorialized that whenever they find opponents, rather than think for themselves they "offer a quotation from a papal document or from one of the magnificent annual statements of the U.S. Hierarchy."

"We do this, not because the Pope and the Bishops view seem to be supporting the *Tablet's*, but rather because our editorial judgments are based on quotations from church documents."

outlined by the teaching of Holy Mother, the Church.

"This says, in effect, that anyone who disagrees with the *Brooklyn Tablet* (disagrees with Holy Mother Church. Yet, there is no evidence that the Vatican has moved to *Brooklyn* or that the *Tablet* has the exclusive embrace of the Paraclete.

One of the troubles with this editorial attitude is that it gives the impression that other Catholic newspapers which do not follow the editorial line of the *Tablet* are in error. This, of course, is untrue. Neither this writer nor writers for the *Brooklyn Tablet* can ever make an authoritative statement that the social and political philosophy of other Catholic editors is not in accord with the Church's thinking. It is one thing to say the *Tablet's* line, the only error in the thinking of the Catholic editors who disagree with it is that the thinking is consistent.

However, since the *Tablet* has suggested rules, since Bishops' statements are allegedly as canonical with their way of thinking, I'll play the game this way. I believe our Bishops' statements are of the utmost importance to the faithful. Here's what they have for me:

"We have no confidence in a peace which does not carry into effect, without reservations or equivocations, the principles of the Atlantic Charter. . . . If private nations are not assisted in giving to their people fair economic opportunities, they will become the arena of civil strife and turmoil."

—Bishops' Statement on International Order

Foreign Students Seek U.S. Homes

Union-City, N.J. — American Catholics should provide "room in the inn" for foreign high school students.

Ralph Gorman, C.P., editor of *The Sign*, national Catholic magazine published here, proposes in a signed editorial in the December issue.

Father Gorman urges participation by American Catholic families in the International High School Student Program as a means of practicing the virtue of hospitality.

"What this means," the editor explains, "is that a Catholic family here in the United States becomes the 'host family' for a Catholic student from Europe or Latin America for one year."

"The program," he continues, "has the highest authorization, since it is under the auspices of the N.C.W.C., secretary of the Catholic bishops of the U.S. It has been conducted successfully for the past nine years."

Describing the students selected for the program, Father Gorman says they "come from good Catholic families and range in age from sixteen to eighteen. They are normal, healthy, talented boys and girls of good character and scholastic standing and with some knowledge of English. They are carefully screened from hundreds of applicants and give great promise of leadership in their native countries. They are not refugees or displaced persons; they return to their homelands at the end of the year."

The editorial points out that the students live with their hosts in a normal family relationship and that the cost is about as much as a family's normal expenses for a teenager.

"This program gives American Catholic families an opportunity to do something important for Church and country," the editor of *The Sign* declares. "These students will be the leaders of the next generation in their own countries. It is important that they know and see how our common Catholic faith is practiced here in the U.S. It is important that they watch at first hand democracy in action here in the U.S. They will be our friends and a powerful influence for international peace."

"Participation in this program," asserts Father Gorman, "would be a beautiful gift at Christmas, as an offering to the Holy Family, for whom there was no room in the inn."

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Church Unity Distant Hope

Oklahoma City — (RNS) — Great advances in the ecumenical movement by Protestant church bodies still hold little hope for formal unity with the Catholic Church in the foreseeable future.

A Jesuit scholar declared here, but he indicated that eventual unity "was not impossible."

The Rev. Edward Duff, S.J., of St. Louis, Mo., editor of *Social Order* magazine and author of "Social Thought of the World Council of Churches," said the major problem seemed to be "finding what the Church is."

"Our Protestant friends are asking with total sincerity, 'Is the Church an idea, an historical fact, or a concrete society?'" he asked. "The Catholic view point is that the Church is a concrete society in the present time."

Father Duff addressed 250 members of the Forum, a discussion group of Catholic, Anglican and Lutheran leaders here. He faced the Protestant ecumenical movement to the Protestant day, when the World Council of Churches was founded in 1948.

Father Duff said the Protestant ecumenical movement had not begun. "It is an ongoing sign that we are beginning to practice charity," he said.

He said even though formal theological discussions had not begun, "it is an ongoing sign that we are beginning to practice charity," he said.

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