

# State Aid Urged For Schools

St. Boniface — (NC) — Manitoba Catholics who want provincial government action on proposals for aiding nonpublic schools have received new support here.

The French Canadian School Trustees Association, at its annual meeting here, adopted a resolution urging provincial legislators to act on aid recommendations made in November, 1959, by a royal commission which reviewed education.

Before the educators' meeting, the Bishops of Manitoba said (Dec. 18) in a joint pastoral letter that the situation of Catholic schools here is even more precarious than a year ago.

Catholic and other nonpublic schools in Manitoba are not aided financially by the government. Parents of their students pay taxes for public schools.

The Manitoba situation is similar to that in the United States. However, some other Canadian provinces have arrangements whereby taxes aid nonpublic schools.

In November, 1959, a royal commission recommended unanimously that some measure of public support be given to private and parochial schools in areas "where no harm would thereby come to the public school system."

THE MANITOBA hierarchy's letter, read in all Catholic churches said that "if freedom of choice in education is to be honored in Manitoba, public funds must be made available to support private endeavor."

The letter was signed by Archbishop P. F. Pocock of Winnipeg; Archbishop Maurice Jaudoux of St. Boniface; Archbishop

Maxim Hermaniuk, C. S. S. R., of Winnipeg for Ukrainian Catholics; and Bishop Paul Dumouchel, O.M.I., of the Vicariate Apostolic of Keewatin.

The prelates said that "the trend toward higher salaries and higher standards places ever greater burdens on those parents whose voluntary contributions are the principal sources of financing nonpublic schools."

The hierarchy said the commission's 1959 proposal was based "primarily on the principle that, in a democracy, public support of education should be extended within reasonable limits to schools which represent the preference of significant minorities."

## Medics Rule Three Cures Unexplained

Paris — (NC) — The International Medical Committee of Lourdes has declared "medically unexplainable" three sudden recoveries linked with the shrine of the Blessed Virgin at Lourdes.

They are the cure of a Frenchwoman who was suffering from a rare and deadly liver disease, the cure of an Italian woman who had tuberculosis of the bone, and the cure of a German victim of multiple sclerosis.

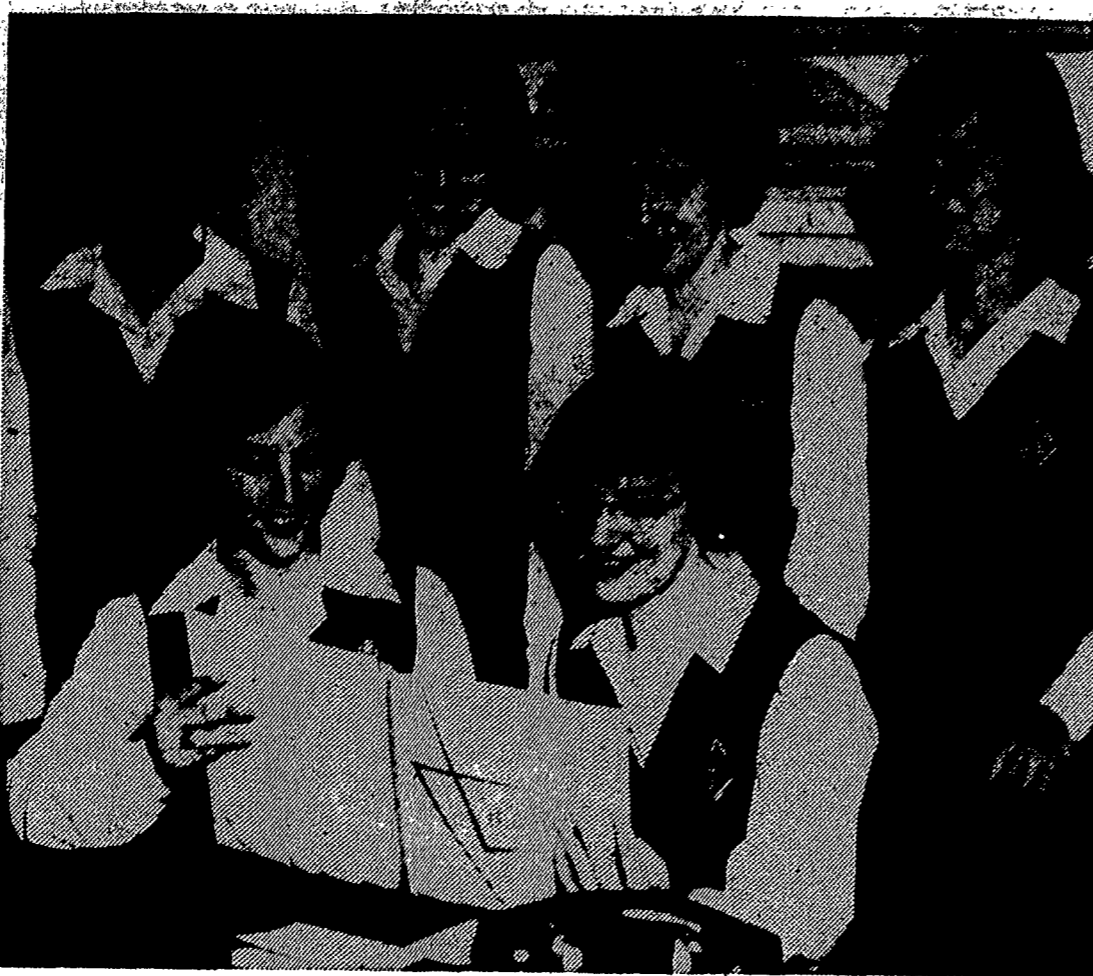
THE FRENCHWOMAN, Mrs. Ginette Nouvel of Carmaux near Toulouse, was cured during a pilgrimage to Lourdes in 1956. Medical treatment had made no headway against her liver infection, which has proved fatal in 110 of the 112 known cases.

The Italian woman, Mrs. Elise Aloi, was cured in 1958.

The German woman, Angela Thua, was cured in 1950. She had been taken to Lourdes in a dying condition. Now she is a nun at Lourdes.

The committee met here at the motherhouse of the Vincentian Fathers in the presence of Bishop Pierre Theas of Tarbes and Lourdes and of Archbishop Paolo Bertoli, Apostolic Nuncio to France. Mrs. Nouvel's case was presented by Dr. Pierre Mauriac of Bordeaux Medical School, a brother of Catholic novelist Francois Mauriac.

The three cases termed "unexplainable" now go to a Church commission for further study to determine whether they can be called miraculous.



## Edit New Publication

Editors of the new publication replacing the yearbook at St. Agnes High School are from left, seated, Carole Smith and Joann Hinz, coeditors; standing, Linda Spoonhower, photo editor; Sally Beecher, feature editor; Jeanne Elsmont, business editor, and Joan Bruckel, news editor. Missing from photo is Ann Ledoux, art editor. The new format of "The Palm" was issued five times during the past year.

## 'Samaritens' Aid Retarded

Cincinnati — (NC) — Who is my neighbor? — That is the chief feature of the program.

Once a month, in groups of two or three, the Samaritens take retarded teenagers out for a Saturday afternoon of recreation.

It's the teenage (or older) mentally retarded boy or girl who gets few invitations to the movie, a bowling alley, a snack bar or a basketball game.

Nearly 90 students at McNicholas — most of them girls — have been taking part in the past year in a pilot project sponsored by the Catholic Federation for Retarded Children.

Mary Linz, president of the Samaritens, said the "buddy system" is a system in which one of the Sa-

## India Family Plan Criticized

Bombay — (RNS) — Cardinal Gracias of Bombay, in a Lenten pastoral letter, strongly criticized the family planning program of the India government because of its acceptance of artificial birth control methods.

The India government is one of the few administrations in the world which has adopted an official policy encouraging family planning through such means. During the last decade 2,500 family planning clinics have been established in Indian cities and villages.

Contraceptives are supplied free to the poor and at low rates to the lower middle class. Sterilization of both men and women also is an important feature of the government's birth control program.

It is argued that the vast majority of India's population is too poor to buy and too much lacking in education to use contraceptives regularly and successfully. Therefore, sterilization is advocated as a cheap and effective way of family planning.

In the last decade tens of thousands of persons have been sterilized in government hospi-

itals. Monetary sums are paid by the government to people undergoing the operations and a bonus is given in some areas if a person completing the operation persuades another person to be sterilized.

Cardinal Gracias' pastoral against the program attacked the "mentality of family planning" as self-seeking.

"These measures promote self-indulgence as against self-control, selfishness as against unselfishness, thus removing one of the brakes against immorality," the prelate warned.

Quoting the late Mahatma Gandhi, Cardinal Gracias said the famed Indian leader had stated as early as 1936, "The greatest harm, however, done by the (birth control) propaganda, lies in its rejection of the old ideal and substitution in its place of one which, if carried out, must spell moral and physical extinction of the sterilized in government hospi-

## Millionaire To Be Priest

Rome — (RNS) — J. Garvan, 53-year-old American wealthy businessman and close friend of President John F. Kennedy and Governor Abraham Ribicoff of Connecticut, was scheduled to be ordained a Roman Catholic priest here on March 18.

Luigi Cardinal Traglia, Vice-governor of Rome, was expected to officiate at his ordination and Cavanagh, vice-president and research director for the Hat Corporation of America and for its subsidiary, Cavanagh Hats, from 1932, when he was graduated from Yale University, until he came here in 1957 to enroll at the Beda College.

The priest-to-be disclosed here that he decided to enter the seminary after the deaths of both his parents in 1957. However, he traces his vocation to his experiences in World War II during which he served in the U.S. Artillery in Europe, won three decorations for valor and was mustered out as a Lieutenant Colonel. He enlisted in the army after having resigned from the Connecticut State Legislature.

Cavanagh said he was almost diverted from his vocation last fall when he was approached by Governor Ribicoff who told him that a high post in the Kennedy administration could be his for the asking.

He said he made his final decision when a priest asked him: "Can Kennedy get along without you?" When Mr. Cavanagh answered "Yes," the priest told him: "Well, then, it's just a question of how generous you want to be with the Lord."

Those who complain," the St. Paul prelate wrote in his weekly column in the Catholic Bulletin, "do not seem to know what politics really are, or where politics end and citizenship begins.

The politics from which priests must stay apart and from which their bishops and the Church warn them to remain away are the divisions and disagreements that divide people into Democrats and Republicans.

The politics in which priests wish to have no place are those games and trades, those influences and power trusts where one group works against another, each for its own gain.

"But where the public good demands the unity of all the people and the intelligent participation of all the citizens, if a man raises his voice even while he wears a Roman col-

lar, he is not playing politics."

Priests have civic duties, the archbishop continued. "Often they have to be spokesmen for the little people who do not have the power of newly made money nor the contacts of friends in important places, that is, the places where decisions are made," he said.

St. Paul — (RNS) — Priests are not mixing in politics when they speak out for decency and justice, according to Archbishop William O. Brady. Rather, he said, they are doing their duty.

The archbishop assailed what he called the growing tendency among Catholics to criticize a priest for "entering into politics."

— Teaching religion to young retarded children on Saturday mornings to prepare them for First Communion.

— Making rosaries for retarded children in institutions.

— Providing secretarial help for officials of the retarded children's federation.

— Praying for the retarded and their families.

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**'Open' House Plan Backed By Prelate**

Washington — (RNS) — Persons who object to racial integration because of economic and cultural differences between Negroes and whites should look back upon what was often said about their own ancestors, Archbishop of Washington Patrick A. O'Boyle said here in a special statement entitled "Brotherhood: Belief and Practice."

Archbishop O'Boyle said a major aim of Brotherhood Week this year in Washington was to support free and open occupancy of housing, regardless of race, and "I heartily support this objective."

"Here is a real challenge to Christian laymen to take leadership in bringing about full equality of opportunity, in fact as well as in law, to every American citizen," he declared. "Until we do this, we cannot pose as a truly Christian nation."

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**Geological Survey**

Marlboro, Mass. — Dressed in the attire of a "ground hog" worker, Father James W. Skehan, S.J., chairman of the Boston College geology department, prepares to make a geological survey of a water tunnel under construction from Clinton to Marlboro, Mass. The priest-geologist makes daily trips down a 300-foot shaft to get representative samples of rocks from the underground rock-ribbed tunnel, which will serve as an aqueduct bringing water from the Wachusett Reservoir to Boston residents. (RNS Photo)

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