

1962 Congress Faces New School Aid Drive

Washington — (RNS) — President Kennedy has placed Congress on notice that he wants action in 1962 on proposals for federal aid to education sought this year by the Administration.

His comments came as he signed "with extreme reluctance" two "unsound and uneconomical" education bills passed by the Congress. The measures provide federal aid to some so-called "impacted areas" where U.S. projects have caused school population increases and extend for two more years the National Defense Education Act.

THE PRESIDENTS hesitance was evident as he signed the bills which, he said, fell far short of country-wide needs. "A veto," he said, "would not distinguish between those properly entitled to this assistance and those who should be making more of an effort locally."

A broad program of aid to public schools and an expansion of the National Defense Education Act — which would have allowed for low-interest, long-term construction loans to private and parochial schools for mathematics, science, language and physical education classrooms — were pigeonholed in the House of Representatives.

President Kennedy lashed out at "individuals who profess opposition to federal aid to education on grounds of states' rights, racial or religious controversy, budgetary economy or academic freedom." He said the same individuals "do not hesitate to demand this federal aid to build schoolhouses and pay teachers' salaries in their own areas."

50 Years Behind

St. Paul — (NC) — "A completely new vision of the future of education" was on the mind of Archbishop William O. Brady of St. Paul just before he started the trip on which he was taken fatally ill.

This is revealed with the publication of an unusual question-and-answer session in which the prelate candidly discussed the problems and trends in his archdiocese.

"In some ways, we are still teaching as if we were living 50 years ago," the Archbishop observed. "I say that not only of our own Catholic schools but of the whole school system."

"We're now just coming into the space age, and we have not found it possible to take advantage of the techniques of the scientific discoveries that have been made."

"A little example: the accrediting agencies are pressing us all the time to bring our high school classroom population down to 25. Well, this is important. The Ford Foundation has just made a study and said no, with the new techniques, 45 can very easily be handled. Those are things we haven't explored yet."

Funds for School
Cleveland — (NC) — John Carroll University alumni will try to raise \$50,000 for the university in a one-day door-bell ringing drive October 15.



Priest's Project For The Poor

Bogota — (RNS) — Colombian President Alberto Lleras Camargo (left) is introduced to a group of youngsters by Father Rafael Garcia Herreros, C.J.M., Colombia's "TV Priest," at a housing project in Bogota built under the priest's direction. Father Herreros, known as a Latin American counterpart to Bishop Fulton J. Sheen in the U.S., appears each weekday evening on Bogota's commercial television channel to talk about the social doctrine of the Church in everyday terms. His program is designed to collect funds for the needy, and the housing project was one of the results of his efforts.

Bible Classes Exclude Priest

Amarillo — (NC) — The Amarillo school board has turned down a priest's offer to teach an elective Bible course at one of three public high schools where Protestant ministers are already giving such courses.

A spokesman said the school board rejected the offer sponsored by the Amarillo Ministerial Association and taught of a policy that the elective by ministers. Bible courses be taught on a non-sectarian basis.

The West Texas Register, Amarillo diocesan newspaper, commented in an editorial: "We feel that some exposure to the Bible and to representation of Christian denominations is better than no exposure at all."


But one can logically ask: If Protestant ministers can teach Bible courses in public high schools, why cannot Jewish rabbis and Catholic priests do the same?"

In a letter to the school board he said the offering of the elective Bible courses is "a tribute to the school system," but he insisted that under present circumstances they "may not be conscientiously taken by Catholics."

THE PRIEST said he volunteered to teach the course after several young people of his parish, who attend one of the public schools, had asked permission to take the Bible course being offered there.

Stamps Aid Students

Stuttgart — (RNS) — Catholic girls in the Stuttgart area have collected more than 400,000 German and foreign postage stamps in a special drive to finance the studies at a West German university of one medical and one theology student from India.



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