

### Aid For Parochial Schools

## In at Start or Out Forever

Omaha—(NC)—If a general aid to education bill is passed by Congress, church-related schools must "get in the first time, because if we don't, we may never get in," participants in a Citizens for Educational Freedom informational program were told here.

William Crozier, history instructor at Duchesne College, a Catholic women's college here, and CEF program chairman, also told the group that "if a federal aid bill is passed and private schools are left out, private schools will be in trouble. We will face the prospect of having second-rate schools."

Asserting that the problem is national in scope, Crozier cited recent interest in a similar program by officials of the Chicago archdiocese schools.

"Calling for shared-time now is certainly calling for help," he said.

Crozier also pointed to the moratorium on school building in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. He added that "here in Omaha, we find ourselves unable to

complete with the public schools for teachers."

"Beginning teachers—graduates just out of college—get a salary in our private schools that is \$1,700 lower than the public schools offer," he said.

Crozier also said Omaha Catholic schools are unable to accept almost 5,000 children for lack of space.

Crozier reiterated CEF's neutrality on the question of whether Federal aid should be appropriated in the first place, but its insistence that if aid is voted it should benefit all children—those in independent as well as tax-supported schools.

The Omaha CEF elected J. P. Regan, an Air Force master sergeant stationed at nearby Offutt Air Force Base, president; Dr. Harlo Barrett, director of the Creighton University medical dispensary, vice president; and Mrs. Ruth Miller, a housewife, secretary-treasurer.

### We Pray For Wisdom

Santa Fe — (RNS) — The Rev. William Crews, chaplain of the New Mexico State Legislature, opened a recent session with a prayer that has caused considerable comment among legislators.

Pastor of St. Bede's Episcopal church in Santa Fe, Mr. Crews offered the prayer:

"Almighty God, we who spend \$18,000 for a bus to cut children will not have to walk, and then budget \$100,000 for a gym so they can get exercise, do now seek Your guidance in all matters, that Your creation might be used with wisdom for the welfare of Your people."

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### Paratroop Chaplain Father Straub

Father Frederick W. Straub, a priest of the Rochester Diocese, (middle, in photo), boards a C-119 aircraft for paratroop maneuvers at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Harnessed under his reserve chute is Mass Kit. Father Straub was home this week and is scheduled to resume his chaplain's duties at Campbell today. With Father Straub in photo are two other chaplains who join paratroopers in routine training jumps. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. S. C. Houshelt)

### Same Old Rut

By REV. LEO J. TRESE

This is the third in a series of articles for your Lenten reading. Author is Father Trese, one of America's best known writers on religious topics. His name on books, pamphlets and newspaper columns is a clue to the reader to expect an instructive, inspirational, down-to-earth application of Catholic faith to every day life.



The self-important person is a pitiable figure. He is the man (or woman) who talks big, brags of his exploits (real or fancied), studs his conversation with the names of prominent people whom he professes to know, and has the answer to every problem.

Somewhat akin to the braggart is the show-off, the person who is ever trying to attract attention to himself. Another familiar type is the chronic objector, who sees no merit in any plan or idea unless he himself has been the first to propose it.

These are pitiable people because they are unhappy people. Their sometimes ridiculous and sometimes annoying speech and behavior are the mechanisms by which they try to defend themselves against an ever-present pain. The truth is that deep within themselves they suffer from acute feelings of inferiority and inadequacy, feelings too painful to be tolerated or faced.

Consequently, all their lives God—all our thoughts, words, long they carry out an unending and suffering—and live their campaign to prove to themselves that day in the state of grace, selves that it isn't so and that then we have achieved the pinnacle they are important persons.

THESE PITIFUL efforts should move us to sympathy rather than annoyance. We should be tolerant of their constant questing for praise, for attention, for recognition. We should be tolerant if for no other reason than that these types are still an exaggerated projection of our own selves. We all have a deeply rooted desire to feel important, to know that we excel in some area and that we really do amount to something.

Psychologists classify this hunger for some measure of recognition as one of man's basic needs. If we do not have a feeling of self-worth, our personality inevitably will be warped.

THERE ARE few of us who do not suffer at times from some small degree of feelings of inferiority and inadequacy.

Occasionally these feelings may be more acute; when, for example, we actually have experienced a humiliating failure of some kind or when someone else has outstripped us by a remarkable success. I think that retirees and aged persons frequently suffer from a feeling of unimportance and from lack of recognition as their unwilling idleness shunts them to the sidelines of a busy, busy world.

Even for the vigorous among us, no previous age has been so humbling as our own. We read of other people who discover new wonder drugs, design interplanetary spacecraft, achieve world-wide fame in art, science or adventure. Meanwhile here we are, sitting alone in our same old rut.

When we feel these twinges of inferiority our faith is a wonderful antidote. We know that our one over-all purpose in life is that we give honor to our Father in Heaven by a wholehearted dedication to the doing of His will.

When we have begun our day by offering it without reserve to

### Parents Teach First Communicants

Speake — (NC) — Since last May there have been no First Communion almost every Sunday at St. Francis, Father Fowle said.

"First Communion has nothing to do with the sacrament," Father John Fowle, O.F.M. pastor, said. "There has been so much talk about the externals of First Communion that the youngsters didn't know what Communion was."

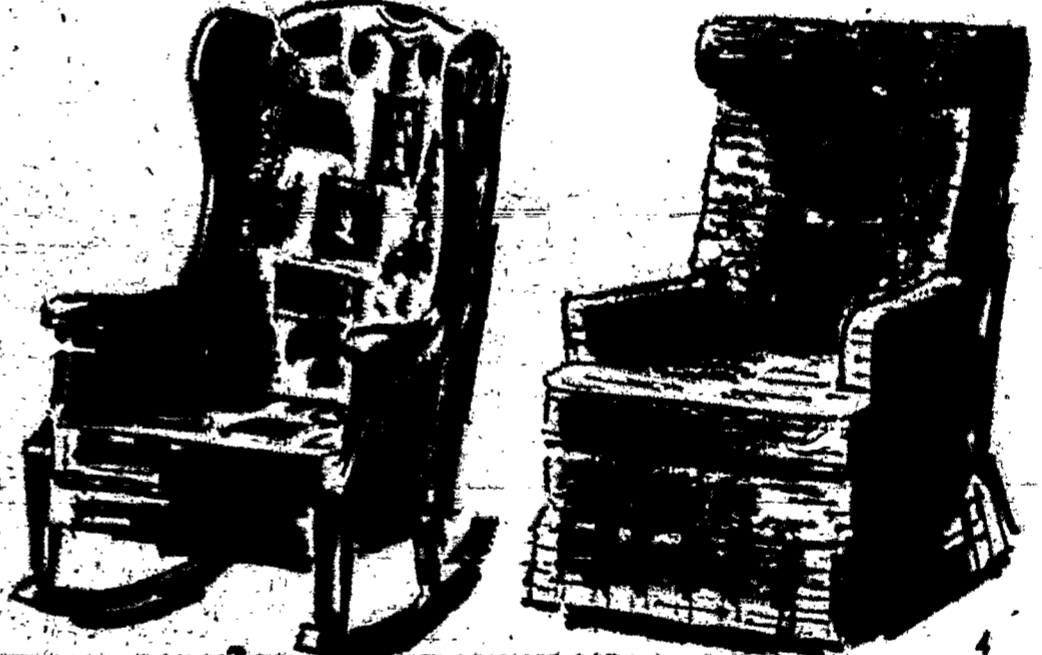
Not do the fathers of the parish school instruct the youngsters in traditional fashion. Parents prepare their own youngsters.

Father Fowle launched the new program last May and from then through November parents met with him for a period of instruction, all of which was passed on to the children in their own homes.

At St. Francis the spiritual life of the individual family receives emphasis. The first communicants do not receive as a group. Each youngster receives when the pastor has determined his readiness and not before.

Consequently, "we have a lot of children who do not suffer loss of the sacraments. By the time they reach the end of the second grade, normal classroom religious instruction has prepared them.

In the case of a handful who



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