

She's A Woman Who Gets Results

For the first time in three years, the Catholic School Office of the Diocese of Rochester hurdled Labor Day this year with all teaching jobs filled.

No small part of the credit goes to a bright-eyed, white-haired lady who, as Educational Coordinator, helped secure some 200 new lay teachers for the September school opening.

Mrs. Grace Conway rates highly with school superintendent Monsignor William M. Roche for this achievement.

"Two years ago at Labor Day, we were 20 lay teachers short;

last year, we lacked 35 as school was ready to begin. This year, we had a full complement," he stated. No little credit for this, he noted, goes to Mrs. Conway, who left no path untrodden in her search for qualified teachers.

Lay teachers now slightly outnumber nuns in the elementary schools of the diocese.

If anybody is qualified to appreciate the lay teacher's situation, it is Mrs. Conway. She taught as a lay teacher in Rochester's Blessed Sacrament School for 12 years, was a supervisor in education for eight

years with the State of Massachusetts and has seen her two daughters through Catholic grammar and high schools.

Both Mrs. Conway and her husband are Catholic school products, grammar school through college. He's a Holy Cross grad, she's an alumna of Our Lady of the Elms College in Chicopee, Mass.

She is deeply convinced of the value of a religious-oriented

need for more realistic salaries for lay teachers.

"I'm most grateful to the pastors and principals for their cooperative spirit in facing up to the problems of their lay teachers," Mrs. Conway said in assessing the last few months' results.

Highly Motivated

Pointing out that the 650 lay teachers are an indispensable part of the diocesan educational system, Mrs. Conway termed them "truly dedicated" people. They are guiding their pupils toward a Christian philosophy of life, while providing a "quality secular knowledge," she continued.

More than a few of the lay teachers are parents whose children have gone to Catholic schools, and echo Mrs. Conway's sentiments—"we feel that we owe the Catholic schools a debt."

Both her daughters are Catholic grade and high school products.

One daughter, Alice, is director of the Hochstein Music School in Rochester; the other, Helen, is studying at the Eastman school, carrying a dual major in Music and Psychology.

Mrs. Conway has been pleasantly surprised by the number of non-Catholic teachers who apply for positions in the diocesan schools. "Many mention the order and discipline of the Catholic schools they've encountered and prefer to teach in this setting," she explained.

Teaching religion classes poses no problem in these cases, she added. The principal simply arranges the class schedules so that one of the other teachers takes over for religion period.

One of this gracious lady's responsibilities is to review the professional credentials of any lay teacher seeking employment in the parochial schools. Today, no parish school hires a lay teacher whose qualifications have not been cleared by the diocesan Schools Office.

Mrs. Conway is well aware of the many sacrifices that pastors, principals, teachers and parents all make to keep the Catholic school operation afloat. She believes strongly that the moral and spiritual values of the Catholic schools are worth all the effort.

Her convictions are evidenced by the way she has tackled her new job: with skill, enthusiasm and — results!

—Faber Robert Kanka



Head Chaplain

Father James P. Collins, Catholic Chaplain of the Elmira Reformatory, was recently elected the President Designate of the American Catholic Correctional Chaplains Association, a national association of Catholic Chaplains in prison work. Last May he was elected President of the New York State Department of Correctional Chaplains Association, a three-fifth organization of Chaplains serving in the institutions of the New York State Department of Correction.

Synod in Rome — Bishop Alfredo Viola of Salta, president of the Uruguayan Bishops' Conference, has been elected delegate to the World Synod in Rome.



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Inside WASHINGTON

MARCH OF EVENTS

SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES ARE BACK IN SPOTLIGHT

SHOULD CONTROL BOARD BE MADE ACTIVE AGAIN?

By HENRY CATHCART

WASHINGTON—The Subversive Activities Control Board, a product of the Red-hunting days of the early 1950s, is distinguished because of its notable lack of accomplishment in more than a decade-and-a-half of existence. Most people had forgotten about it until President Johnson named a young man to the board, at a salary of \$26,000, who had distinguished himself by marrying a former secretary for the President who had become a friend of the first family.

Mr. Johnson, reportedly, wanted to place the new husband in some sinecure government position, from which he could work as an "advance man" for the President in the 1968 election campaign.

The appointment brought the SABC to the attention of Congress and the public, and it developed that the agency had done literally nothing since Supreme Court and other court rulings had found that the board could not require the registration of the Communist Party or persons who are members of the party. Some legislators demanded forthwith that the SABC be abolished because despite its high-sounding name it was incapable of controlling subversive activities.

But under the leadership of Sen. Everett Dirksen, R-Ill., a group of senators decided that instead of abolishing the board it should be recast into a useful agency, a questionable goal, at best. There is some suspicion that Dirksen and some of his group would not like to give former President Truman the opportunity to say "I told you so." After all, the Board was created by a Republican-controlled Congress over the veto of Truman.

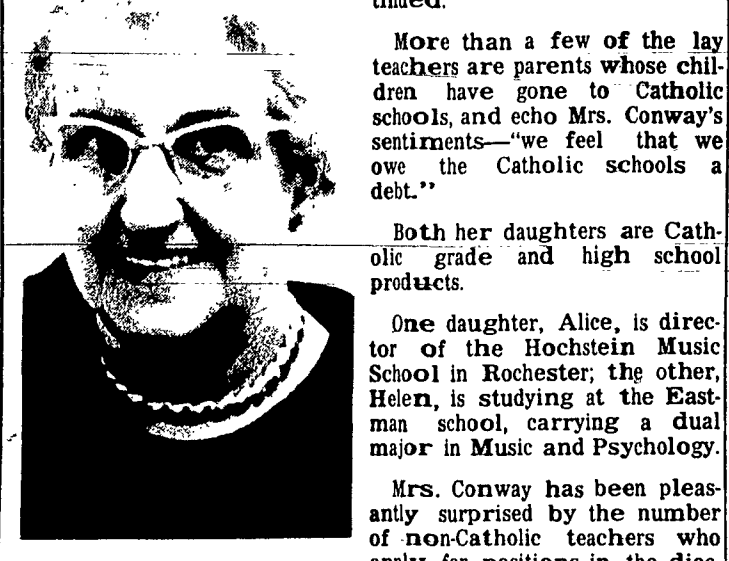
As Congress and much of the public is demanding governmental economy in spending to offset a part of the mounting costs of the Vietnamese war, it seems that continuation of a useless agency is an expensive way to avoid admitting faulty legislation. If Congress is to be criticized, it should be for not abolishing the agency when it became apparent that it was a vestigial appendage.

THE BUILDERS—There are some members of Congress who have served in that institution for a number of terms and who have never known the day when some construction was not going on in the Capitol. We can't escape the feeling that the Egyptians had a better time of it with the pyramids.

In any event, something new is being added to the oldest of the three House Office Buildings, the Cannon Building. The Capitol architect, after duly obtaining an appropriation for the work, is building a new marble balustrade along the roof-line of the structure. The marble on the facade of the building is old and weathered, while the balustrade stands out in gleaming white. It is costing \$150,000.

When congressmen protested the work, which most of them learned of by seeing the shocking contrast in hues, the Capitol architect, J. George Stewart, who really isn't an architect at all, explained that it will serve as "a protective barrier for maintenance and other persons permitted on the roof." It is replacing a balustrade which, Stewart contends, has been crumbling for years.

The work is too far along to stop now, but there are some disturbed members of Congress who believe that a guard rail would have served the purpose and saved about \$145,000 and the appearance of the building.



MRS. CONWAY

education, which adds to her persuasiveness in recruiting lay teachers.

"To me, an education which leaves out God, in which it is even difficult to discuss God—is a terribly incomplete education," she says firmly.

Surveying the Field

Her first objective when she was appointed last February was to do a survey of the overall situation of the diocesan lay teachers. She wanted to study their needs and evaluate their professional contributions.

She then encouraged the pastors and principals of the various schools to sit down with their lay teachers and talk over their mutual problems.

A tentative salary scale, prepared by a group of Catholic laymen, was offered as a workable guideline for salary discussions.

The results in most cases "were encouraging," according to Monsignor Roche. While varying from parish to parish, the salary improvements indicated a general realization of the

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