

A Time for Fairness

Just about everybody who has ever wanted to take a poke at Catholic schools has done so.

One organization after another has wrung out its anguished heart worrying about weakening the public schools if youngsters in Catholic schools get a free textbook or a free measles shot.

These critics of the Catholic schools are quite willing to scuttle the proposed new state constitution in its entirety to win their point if need be.

Father Edward E. Steinkirchner, diocesan coordinator of a Fairness to Children Campaign, provided the Courier with a balance sheet this week listing 12 reasons why the new constitution is "good" and 5 reasons why it could be considered "questionable" — and 12 to 5 in any man's ball game is a pretty favorable balance.

"GOOD" POINTS listed include — the proposed charter is shorter, better worded, less ambiguous; it repeals the biased Blaine Amendment and replaces it with the U.S. Constitution's first amendment; all records of government agencies are to be open for public

inspection; a minimum three month's residence in the state to be eligible to vote here; citizens may go to court to challenge government decisions or expenditures; the Governor's "pocket veto" is outlawed along with legislators' expense accounts; "gerrymandering"; it modernizes the executive branch of the state government; authorizes public funds and loans to private corporations which are performing public services; the state will take over court and welfare costs now paid by local city and town governments and education will be extended to pre-school youngsters and to adults.

Father Steinkirchner's balance sheet admits the "one-package" arrangement, repeal of literacy tests for voters, reducing the voting age possibly to 18 year olds and postponing the next constitutional convention for 25 years are "questionable" aspects of the proposed charter.

He also pointed out that the final text of the constitution, up for voters to accept or reject on election day, Tuesday, Nov. 7, was approved by convention delegates "with overwhelming bi-partisan support."

Of the 188 delegates, elected by voters last autumn, most of them, Democrats and Republi-

cans, endorsed the constitution's various items, in some cases without any negative votes.

Highest negative vote — 48 — came on the educational chapter. But the 127 affirmative votes on that topic included 91 Democrats and 36 Republicans.

The breakdown of votes according to the religious affiliation of the delegates on this topic is also interesting — the 48 negative votes included 16 Catholics, 28 Protestants and 6 Jewish delegates. The 127 affirmative votes were cast by 54 Catholics, 44 Protestants and 29 Jewish delegates.



Arthur B. Costello, a U.S. Marine from Rochester, while on Vietnam duty, aided nuns and orphans with supplies sent him from his mother, Mrs. Arthur B. Costello.

Whats a Mother to do When a Son is in Vietnam

The mother of a GI in Vietnam is much tempted to either curse the war or worry herself sick until her son returns.

Mrs. Anthony B. Costello of Rochester decided to do neither.

She decided to get into the action — and has stayed in it even though her son is already back in this country.

The young Marine, Lance Corporal Arthur Costello volunteered to treat orphans near Da Nang to a Thanksgiving party a year ago. A 10-year old Vietnamese girl named Yean — whose parents were killed by Viet Cong terrorists — attracted his attention.

She was in rags — as clean as the nuns could scrub them — but her clothes were nonetheless still rags. And she hadn't a toy she could call her own.

Costello described the episode in a letter to his parents, asked them to withdraw some money from his savings account, purchase some clothes for the youngster and ship it to him.

Mrs. Costello decided she'd fulfill her son's request without touching his bank account — and, like a woman — added more than just the clothes — some hard candy, trinket toys, toothpaste, soap.

More letters from Vietnam described more orphans and Mrs. Costello began a shipping service — helped by friends, including Girl Scouts and Bishop Sheen.

Chief target for the bundles of mercy was the orphanage at Phuoc Thanh, a village eight miles northwest of Da Nang.

When the young Costello finished his Vietnam duty and was



Mrs. Arthur B. Costello is still shipping items to help nuns and orphans in Vietnam. Her son, until recently in that war-torn country, is now at Paris Island Marine base.

assigned to the Paris Island Marine base, Father Anthony C. Volz, his chaplain on the battlefield, wrote Mrs. Costello, "Be sure that I will deeply appreciate your continued help. There will be great need in this area for a long time to come."

Besides the needs of the orphans, he asked if she could send household religious articles — statues, crucifixes, rosaries, holy pictures. "Household shrines are highly cherished here," he wrote her. "This is, of course, not an item of necessity for survival, but it is still true:

"Not by bread alone does man live . . . Such gifts help to brighten the lives of people who have so little."

He then commented about Mrs. Costello's son, "Arthur looked great when he left here, really healthy and happy. You can well be proud of him in every way."

If you'd like to help Mrs. Costello continue to help the orphans and this chaplain in Vietnam you can contact her by letter or phone. She lives at 86 Union St. South, Rochester.

(The editors of Extension magazine prepared this copyrighted story for diocesan papers for a better understanding of Reformation Sunday, Sunday, October 29, 450th anniversary of the Reformation.)

The separation that began 450 years ago when Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the church door at Wittenburg, Germany, still exists, but sympathetic and friendly discussions are creating a climate of understanding that is beginning to bridge the gap.

Vatican II's renewal of the Catholic Church, the development of Protestant theology, the ecumenical movement, and the publication of scholarly research are helping the two groups reassess old attitudes and find common grounds for cooperation.

Just last month in St. Louis top ranking Lutheran and Catholic scholars took part in a three day session — their fifth national-level dialog. A drafting committee including members from both groups is now working out a joint statement on the current state of discussion.

In many cities Catholics will participate in large scale public events that will mark the 450th anniversary of Lutheranism. Discussions that precede this participation will be scholarly and centered in cities that have facilities for intensive research into Catholic and Lutheran theology. Cities suggested for the dialogues include Austin, Tex.; Atlanta; Baltimore; Boston; Chicago; Columbus, Ohio; Denver; Detroit; Minneapolis-St. Paul; New York; Philadelphia; St. Louis; San Francisco and Seattle.

The cooperation in the discussions was approved by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, meeting in Chicago last April, under the leadership of Bishop John B. Carberry of Columbus and chairman of the Bishops' Committee for Ecumenical and Inter-religious Affairs (BCEIA).

To help prepare its readers for such observances, an Extension Magazine writer and photographer team recently visited a Lutheran parish, Chicago's Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church. In many respects, it is similar to many Catholic parishes, even down to its own parochial school. So in "Meet Pastor Pomeroy," Extension introduced readers to a representative Lutheran pastor, photographing his work in the church, community, and parish school. His family was also explored.

The pastor is the Rev. Ralph J. Pomeroy. He wears a Roman



Lutheran Pastor Ralph Pomeroy of Chicago gives Communion while assistant minister waits with chalice.

collar and always dresses in clerical black. He is called Pastor, rather than Father. He has the largest family in his parish, including three of his own children, three adopted children and numerous foster children who become members of the family for weeks or months while waiting for adoption.

"If I were a Catholic priest, I couldn't adopt children, I guess. I'd have to start an orphanage," says Pastor Pomeroy.

He has been pastor of Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Edgewater Community on Chicago's northside for 22 years. He knows nearly every member of his 375 family congregation. He doubts though that he could have an effective ministry if the parish got larger than 500 families.

The Lutheran Hymnal at Bethany outlines a service that closely parallels the Mass. Some Lutherans, like Catholics, call

their Sunday Communion Service "Mass." The more common term, however, is Holy Communion or the Lord's Supper.

The Sunday Communion service opens with a hymn of invocation to the Holy Ghost, has a confession of sin, an Introit, Kyrie, Gloria, the Nicene Creed and Offertory.

Communion is received under both species, bread and wine — one of the first changes Luther made. There's a variety among Lutherans on the liturgy and Communion, but the trend is toward a more richly symbolic liturgy and weekly Communion.

Baptism, Communion and Holy Absolution (Confession), because of Biblical references, are sacraments in the Lutheran Church. Confirmation is not considered a sacrament, but is an adult reaffirmation of Baptismal vows.

Lutherans hold, Pastor Pom-

eroy explains, that "a sacrament must be commanded by Christ, have the word of God connected with an element wine — for example — and carry a promise of forgiveness or salvation."

Through various mergers, most American Lutherans now belong to one of three roughly equal groups — The Lutheran Church in America (Augustana); the American Lutheran Church; and the Missouri Synod. Pastor Pomeroy and his congregation belong to the latter group.

At Bethany, parish councils and participation — now just being developed in Catholic parishes — are a tradition. Any male over 21 years may apply for voting membership. After a favorable vote, he signs the Constitution in public and becomes a voting member.

The Voters' Assembly "calls" a pastor to the congregation and votes for its officers. The voting members, trustees, elders, and several committees take care of all administration of Bethany. For the most part, this leaves Pastor Pomeroy relatively free (Continued on Next Page)

Open School Week Throughout Diocese

All Catholic schools of the Rochester Diocese will be open to the public during class hours this week October 30 to Nov. 3 and for special evening programs.

Monsignor William M. Roche, diocesan superintendent of schools, said, "We want to show the public what Catholic schools are really like."

Aim of the "open school" week, he said, is to "inform the whole community concerning the school program, curriculum, methods and materials of instruction, accomplishments, plans and problems" of the diocesan schools.

Individual schools should be contacted for their special evening programs.

IF YOU MOVE . . . let us know about it so we can keep your Courier coming to you on time. Phone or mail us notice of your change of address. Include your old address and new address and the name of your parish. Courier Journal, 35 Scio St., Rochester, N.Y. 14604. Phone-716-454-7050.

New Journal Ecumenical
Toronto — (RNS) — Calling itself a Canadian version of Hyde Park's "Speaker's Corner" in London, a new interreligious publication has been launched here. Ferment '67 is a bimonthly journal which will attempt to provide "vigorous communication between those of different religious beliefs." Edited by John Burbidge, an advisory board is composed of those of Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish, Orthodox, Buddhist and Muslim persuasions.

Two Sections To Read This Week

Hippies in the Seminary? Just an optical illusion! See first page of second section.

Pop Award Winners—Pages 4B and 5B

Holy Name parishioners, Greece have a new church—See Page 16A.

His Final Sermon on Act of Contrition

Autumn's brilliant colors on the hills surrounding Wayland were contradicted by the somber robes of mourning at St. Joseph's parish there this week.

The parish lost its pastor of more than a quarter of a century.

Monsignor Adelbert J. Schneider, 67, died in his sleep early Monday, October 23, 1967.

Bishop Kearney offered the funeral Mass at the Wayland church yesterday, Thursday.

Father James F. Slatery gave the eulogy at the Mass. Rev. Herbert L. Sturmer and Rev. Ladislaus Szczepanski were deacon and subdeacon at the Mass.

Monsignor Schneider's pastoral dates back to an era when he had to travel horseback to

reach remote parishioners in the Bristol Hills.

In his 26 years as pastor there, he cleared the parish of its debt, renovated the church, enlarged the school and made his rectory a place of warm hospitality for priests and lay people.

He hid his heart of kindness with a gruff veneer — but a perpetual twinkle in his eye let you know what his true thoughts were.

His final sermon last Sunday had intimations of what was to happen not many hours later. He told his congregation they should so live as to be "always ready" — and he suggested to them that each night before sleep they say an Act of Contrition to reconcile themselves with God.



MONSIGNOR SCHNEIDER

That night he said his own last Act of Contrition — there were to be no morning prayers.

Besides his pastoral duties, Monsignor Schneider was also Dean of the Steuben Deanery of the Diocese. Pope John made him a domestic prelate in 1962.

He was born in Cohocton Sept. 7, 1900, attended school there as also Rochester's old Cathedral High School, St. Andrew's and St. Bernard's Seminars.

He was ordained in St. Patrick's Cathedral June 6, 1925, and served 15 years as assistant pastor at Holy Redeemer Church, Rochester, until 1941 when he was appointed to Wayland.

Burial was in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Wayland.

Laity Congress Delegate Here

Gerald McGuire, just back from Rome where he attended the Third World Congress of the Lay Apostolate, will speak at St. John Fisher College's Kearney auditorium Sunday, October 29, at 8 p.m.

His talk, open to the public, is titled—"The People of God Speaking their Mind in Rome."

He is a brother-in-law of Basilian Father John Murray of the College faculty and serves as director of Bishop Emmett Carter's John XXIII Center for Catholic information at Windsor, Ontario.