

Chicago: Catholic Pupils Tune In Public School TV

Chicago (NC) — The fate of tax money is a source of curiosity, irritation and puzzlement to many Americans.

An opportunity to see one way tax money is fruitfully spent is available in certain public and Catholic elementary schools of Chicago. The vehicle is closed circuit TV instruction.

The Chicago public school system developed classroom TV instruction in the early 1960s, but only since 1966 has the program been federally funded through Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

There are now some 24,000 students in 35 schools, all in urban poverty areas, participating in the program. Its purpose is to raise the general educational level of youngsters from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Some 4,000 of the children in the program are from 15 Catholic schools.

They are able to take part because of Title One's provision that the federal funds involved be used to meet the needs of disadvantaged children, regardless of school they attend.

Through a cooperative arrangement with the public

school system, Catholic schools with students who qualify under Title I receive all necessary instructional TV materials and equipment.

Under the guidance of Carole R. Nolan, director of the public schools' division of instructional TV, a "cluster system" has been developed through which several schools, all within a mile radius of the sending studios, receive a full day's schedule of classroom instruction, five days a week. There are now five clusters made up of six to eight receiving schools.

Instruction takes in all areas of the usual school curriculum as well as classes on

Black studies, music, art, story telling and current events.

Miss Nolan said the TV curriculum is developed during summer training and planning sessions. Each cluster, she explained, has a steering committee made up of representatives from the participating public and Catholic schools.

There are about 100 teachers involved in the actual TV production, said Miss Nolan, including 20 lay and Religious teachers from Catholic schools.

The main conflict in the closed-circuit programming

for Catholic schools, she said, is the time scheduling of certain courses, since Catholic school classes don't always coincide with the same time and length of public school classes.

To produce the programs, the public school has hired 11 TV engineers, uses five teachers as producer-directors, five teacher coordinators, and five teachers as graphic artists for visuals.

In addition, there are 10 teacher aides for operating cameras and five school clerks to handle necessary clerical work. All personnel are distributed evenly throughout the control cen-

ters of the five clusters.

In discussing why television is important for the education of disadvantaged students, Miss Nolan pointed out certain common characteristics that most share:

"They usually do not listen well, they have a disinterest in school topics, they feel school subjects are irrelevant to their lives, they have poor work habits, are poor readers, are tardy and absent often."

"These children," she said, "are usually more visually than audi-oriented. They seem to be able to think better pictorially."

Toledo Catholics Support School Sex Education

Toledo — Sixty-three per cent of Catholics who cooperated in a recent religious survey in the Toledo Diocese believe that sex education should be offered in both grade and high schools.

Twenty-four per cent of the respondents said such education should be limited to high schools, and 13 per cent would restrict the task to parents.

This was one of 59 questions asked in the survey, taken last autumn. One third of the Catholics 18 years of age and over in the 19-county diocese filled out the questionnaire. There were 62,373 questionnaires returned.

Vt. Refuses Aid To Parish Schools

Montpelier, Vt. — (NC) — The Vermont House of Representatives refused to accept a \$100,000 appropriation request to help parochial schools hire more lay teachers next year and thus offset school closings.

The chamber voted, 62-53, against the money request which had been reduced from \$250,000.

Earlier, the Burlington diocesan school board had issued a statement informing the Legislature that as much as \$500,000 might be required "to finance the cost of additional lay teachers for the 1969-70 school year."

Community Sense Needed by Colleges, Fr. Hesburgh Says

Notre Dame, Ind. — (NC) — Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., president of the University of Notre Dame said here the survival of the contemporary university depends upon "recreating a vital university community united by values it is willing to articulate, and defend."

Only a strong sense of community can "confront the free wheeling of faculties, the occasional violence of students, the capriciousness of administrators," he stated.

Father Hesburgh addressed an international conference on "The Task of Universities in a Changing

World," held at Notre Dame's Center for Continuing Education.

"The university," he said, "needs great inner strength, but this strength has been sapped by inner disunity: faculties that have forgotten that the most important function of a professor is to teach . . . students who have on occasion pressed dissent to a point of violence . . . administrators who have forgotten that their greatest function is to unite all the component parts of the university . . . and to maintain them against all internal and external forces."

Thread of Hope

A Steelton, Pa., businessman has found a way to help the poor in ghetto neighborhoods. Head of the Capitol Sewing Machine Corp., he donated new sewing machines and all the equipment needed for teaching. Two Sisters, 64 women and teenagers from all segments of the Steelton community formed a project. Sewing classes are held in the evening and during the day the machines are available for making clothes. Sister Maureen Patrice explains how to measure material to Diane Sloan during one of the classes.

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AROUND THE WORLD

German Socialists vs. Church

Bonn, West Germany — (RNS) — Continuing tension between the Catholic Church and the powerful Social Democratic Party (SPD) is expected to be a significant factor in the upcoming general elections.

The SPD, the second strongest party in West Germany, is a partner with Christian Democrats in the coalition currently ruling West Germany.

Foreign Minister and former Berlin Mayor Willy Brandt heads the Socialists and will be the party's candidate for chancellor if it can out-poll the Christian Democrats.

Marxist in origin, the SPD has faced the opposition of the Catholic Church in Germany. Church support, or even "neutrality" toward the party in this Fall's elections appears highly unlikely.

Pontiff Favours Common Bible

Vatican City — (RNS) — Common translations of the Bible for use by Roman Catholics and other Christians were praised by Pope Paul VI during an audience here.

To a group of Catholics and others who are engaged in joint work on the Bible, the Pope said that "cooperation in the translation of the Scriptures, making them easily accessible to all people, results in bringing Christians closer together and this fraternal collaboration in this work renders the Christian message more credible. It is clear how much this work should be esteemed by everyone."

Pope To Visit Protestant Center

Geneva — (RNS) — A spokesman for the World Council of Churches said here that Pope Paul would visit Council headquarters in June, at his own request.

The pontiff will come here to take part in the 50th anniversary meeting of the International Labor Organization, probably on June 10.

The Swiss press reacted enthusiastically to the visit, some journals pointing out that Geneva is called "The Protestant Rome." Some noted that half of the Swiss population is Catholic.

Pope Paul will be the third reigning pontiff ever to enter Switzerland, and the first since 1948.

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By JAIME FONS (NC) News Serv.

Ten years of a Marxist regime in Cuba, find organ- igiton adjusting to a climate of repress- order to survive an able to deliver a me Gospel for a new t men.

The "new man" Cuban Revolution is lessly trying to pro- a socialist state, come a past hazy Christia are now unbelievers.

In the process of ment, however, Cuba being filled with "dai- tians," not the "Sund strippers so common past.

Quite a number "daily Christians" anguished and resist most are mature n women who are del to live their faith a surrounding unbelief few, particularly an young, want to beco heaven" of the revol- "humanize" it, by pu cruelties.

Along their thro- these Christians, face conflicts of cons- their daily decisions their emotional and tual ties with their ir- vitions, as well as w loved ones.

These decisions such things as send- dron to a school wh will learn materialis- forming "voluntary" work on Sunday, or l attend Marxist indo- courses, or joining t mites for the De the Revolution and l spy on neighbors. young, there is the nist Youth Leag- women, the Fed- Cuban Women, and the new Advance M to increase product

"Do I have to re- books which ignore spiritual values?" as Luberl, the wife of shoreman living in apartment in Har- give in, do I resist make life harder for band, for the childr

The answers that ed religion can give these crucial questi well determine the; Christianity in Cuba are the opportunis- bettewer to receive- tion, guidance and from the Gospel?

Indeed, the profes- tion of Fidel Castro- ment since 1963 is u Marxist-leninist ide- factors "dialectic- ism" — a constant r- men and things t- classless society —

Valuable Paint Stolen in Italy

Rome — (RNS) — lice and Interpol, th- tional police organiza- began an intensive: art thieves who stol- able painting from church near Pesaro.

The painting, kno- "Madonna, del Carde Lady of the Goldfin- value estimated at \$500,000 and \$1 m- pending on the sti- question of who pain-

Some experts call i- of the Renaissance Perugini, which wou- value in the mil- range. Others consid- work of Eusebio da S- a member of the school, and thus w- \$500,000.

Rev. Richard Moran, Director, Notre D- Retreat House

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