

EDUCATION

Catholic Colleges Seek Minority Students

By WILLIAM RYAN
(NC News Service)

A spot check of U.S. Catholic universities found indications there are widespread efforts in the making to recruit more black and other minority group students to the campuses.

The survey also found this effort is largely an individual one on the part of each of the schools, with little coordination among them; that the schools are hampered here as elsewhere by a shortage of funds necessary to do the job, and that the universities may be faced by the additional problem of competition from older and richer schools, equally desirous of having more blacks and other traditionally neglected members of society in their academic ranks.

"We have made a concerted effort this year to recruit more black and Puerto Rican students through all the regular recruitment procedures," said Hansel Minyard, assistant to the executive vice president of Fordham University. "Even to the extent of sending our own black and Puerto Rican students out to recruit. We have been successful in getting kids who otherwise would not be going to college."

Minyard, a Negro, believes that "the amount of coordination or even communication (among recruiting schools) is not nearly as great as it should be," and that the schools have not availed themselves of the opportunity to help one another in what should be a common concern.

"One of the problems," Minyard said, "is that many of the institutions only want to take the ones they are sure can get through... so there is competition for the best and the ones who need a fair amount of help are absolutely forgotten."

Minyard described the university's participation in College Bound, a privately funded program involving Fordham and some 100 institutions of higher learning on the east coast. The program identifies promising youngsters from ghetto neighborhoods early in their high school career and gives them intensive training in English and math. Participating colleges have agreed to accept the young students when their College Bound program is completed.

Fordham expects to enroll its first group of 50 College Bound graduates in the fall of 1970. Even before then, Fordham will nearly triple its present enrollment of about 100 black and Puerto Rican students, according to Minyard.

Further downtown in Manhattan, meanwhile, a Chicago archdiocesan priest with experience in ghetto parishes has been assigned the task of assuring that racial and economic barriers will never be raised at the new liberal arts college at Fordham's Lincoln Center campus.

Father Daniel Mallette, who was named assistant dean of the new college last fall, said the college has 62 black and Puerto Rican students out of an initial enrollment of 293 — because he and others literally went out into the streets and looked for them.

The priest said the college dispensed with some of the traditional admissions "rigamarole," including a battery of

tests, and gave him and a black admissions counselor authority to use other yardsticks in determining college material. "If a university is sincere, it can't go by tests alone," he said.

"I lived in a parish in Harlem, visited schools that served the ghetto, and let it be known that the openings were there. Any university that wants black and Puerto Rican kids can get them — there are thousands of them out there."

Dr. James W. Woodruff, director of the Special Projects Office at the University of Detroit, said the university's recently begun drive to recruit 100 students a year from inner-city areas is paying off handsomely as the first year nears completion.

"The record of the students and the smoothness with which they have become a part of the university has exceeded anything we have heard of in the country," he stated.

Dr. Woodruff said all the inner city students in the program had been "under-achievers" in their high school days. "We searched for evidence of potential, going all the way back to elementary school," he said. "We are desirous that the students really want the degree and we ask them for a four-year commitment. Then we provide all the compensatory service they need to complete the program. We are very proud of them and very pleased with their performance the first year."

The Detroit program has had a retention rate of almost 100 per cent thus far, and 12 of the 100 students from the inner city finished the first semester with a "quality point average" of 3.0 or better. (Three is a "B" on the scale.) Dr. Woodruff said indications are the entire group will finish the first year in June with above a 2.0 average.

He acknowledged the program had "a few minor problems" in the beginning, including "feedback" from some white students who resented the help given to the blacks, "but no major problems whatever."

The first year's budget for the program, including the extra "compensatory service" needed by most of the students, was \$300,000. The major funding of the program is through grants from foundations," Dr. Woodruff said.

The University of Notre Dame's "concentrated efforts to recruit blacks" will increase their enrollment from 85 to 132, according to Joseph P. Mulligan, an admissions officer, with the largest enrollment going to the law school.

Mulligan said that another

Notre Dame admissions counselor, John Goldrick, works with the campus Afro American Society in recruiting black students, and that members of the society distributed more than 300 application forms in their home towns during the Christmas holidays. This effort resulted in the university's receiving 79 applications for admission, most of which were from "qualified" students.

Mulligan said Notre Dame has made a proposal to a private foundation to finance a program which would guarantee the annual enrollment of 150 minority group students—equal to 10 per cent of an average freshman class—the remedial training these students might require, and the provision of black counselors if approved, the program will involve "millions of dollars," he said.

A spokesman for La Salle College in Philadelphia said the college's "open door scholarship program," which recruited eight disadvantaged students this year, will increase their number by 20 in the fall. The students participate in a special training program during the summer.

On the graduate level, law schools have taken the lead in recruiting minority group members, according to Thomas C. Fischer, law admissions director at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

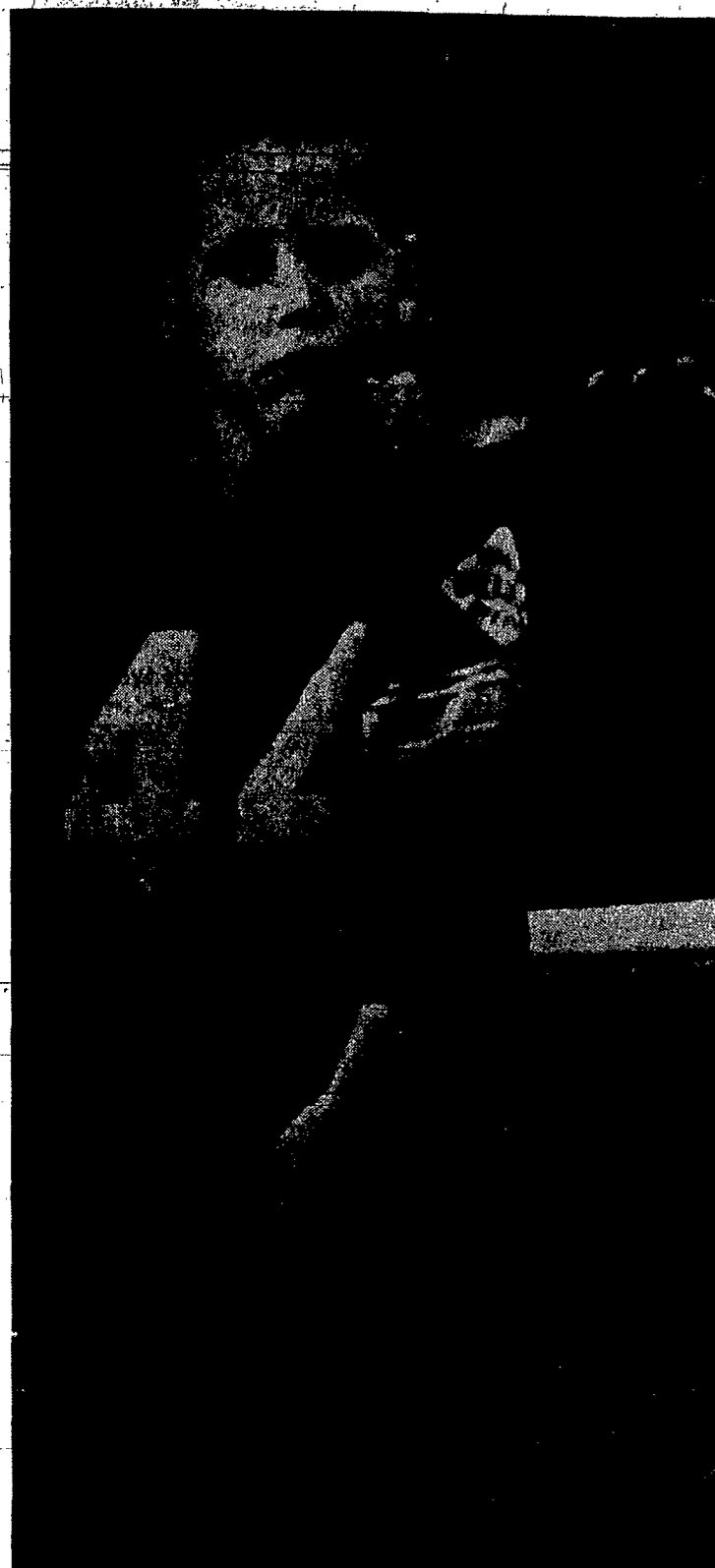
Fischer noted that a number of Catholic institutions were among 25 eastern universities which staged a recent conference at Fordham University on attracting minority group students to the law. In addition to Georgetown and Fordham, the other Catholic schools which participated are St. John's University, New York; the Catholic University of America, Duquesne, Villanova, and Seton Hall, he stated.

Fischer said law schools have made a "special effort" in this regard "possibly because of the demand for minority group trained lawyers to assist other lawyers in reaching these groups."

Georgetown has about 12 per cent of its law scholarship funds set aside for blacks. Fischer and two law students recently completed recruitment trips to neighboring institutions with largely Negro enrollments.

"We tried to erode some of the doubts, suspicion and antagonism about law schools," he explained. "There is a distrust of the law among many black young people and little interest in it as a career."

Fischer said only 1 per cent of American lawyers are min-



Do I Have To?

Five-year-old Thomas Clark of Stevens Point, Wis., would rather play baseball than take his violin lesson. (RNS)

Twelve Found Guilty In Milwaukee Draft Case

Milwaukee — (RNS) — A Circuit Court jury deliberated one hour and 10 minutes before finding 12 members of the "Milwaukee 14" guilty of burglary, theft and arson in the destruction of Selective Service records here last Sept. 24.

The courtroom erupted in a demonstration by sympathizers of the defendants. The jury rejected pleas from the defendants that the real issue was the legality or morality of the Vietnam war and the draft.

Five Catholic priests, a minister, a Brother, and five laymen were convicted by the jury. They are: Father Robert Cunnane, 36, of Stoughton, Mass.; Father James Harney, 28, of North Weymouth, Mass.; Father Anthony Mulaney, 39, of Roxbury, Mass.; Father Alfred Janick, 33, of Minneapolis; Father Larry Rosobaugh, 33, of Milwaukee, and the Rev. Jon Higgenbotham, 27, also of Milwaukee.

Also Don Cotton, 24, of St. Louis; James Forrest, 27, and Bob Graf, 25, of Milwaukee; Fred J. Ojile, 23, of Minneapolis; Doug Marvey, 27, also of Minneapolis, and Brother K. Basil O'Leary, 48, of Winona, Minn.

Judge Charles L. Larson freed the defendants on bail until sentencing June 6. Each could receive up to 18 years in prison.

Judge Larson charged four of the defendants with con-

tempt of court, for remarks they had made.

Two other members of the "Milwaukee 14," Michael D. Cullen, 26, and Gerald Gardner, 24, both of Milwaukee, will be tried with the other 12 on the federal charges. They will receive a separate trial on the state charges.

The jury, which convicted 12 defendants, was composed of eight Catholics and four Protestants. There were eight men and four women on the panel.

'Chicago 15' Bond Reduced

Chicago — (RNS) — Fifteen persons, including two Roman Catholic priests and a seminarian, arrested for ransacking a Selective Service headquarters here, have had their bonds reduced from \$10,000 to \$5,000 for some, \$2,000 for others.

The "Chicago 15," as they are being called, submitted to arrest on May 25 while they stood before a pile of burning draft records that they had removed from the office. They were charged with burglary and arson and face possible indictment for destroying government property.

Many of the demonstrators have been participants in other protest actions against the war in Vietnam or are connected with groups that have opposed it.

Detroit Loses 6 P.C. Of Sisters in Year

Detroit — (RNS) — There are 6 per cent fewer nuns in the Detroit Roman Catholic archdiocese this year than in 1968. Auxiliary Bishop Joseph M. Breitenbeck, episcopal vicar for religious, revealed here.

The statistic was released as newsmen learned that the number of girls entering convents has declined by 50 per cent in many orders here and as high as 90 per cent in some. A few of the smaller communities of Sisters reported that they have no

novices this year. According to a Detroit chancery official, there were 4,590 Sisters in the archdiocese last year. A 6 per cent decline in their number would mean that some 275 nuns have left either the religious life or assignments in the archdiocese.

Nationally, the number of Roman Catholic nuns has declined from an all-time high of 181,167 in 1965 to 167,167 in 1968, a loss of 14,254 nuns in three years.

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