



### For Blaine Repeal

In behalf of Mount St. Michael Academy, Bronx, Joseph E. Sicori (right), president of the 1600-Catholic High School student body, joins top Albany officials in supporting repeal of the controversial Blaine Amendment. He is shown with (left to right) John D. Calandra, state senator from the school's Bronx senatorial district; Lt. Gov. Malcolm Wilson; and Majority Leader Earl W. Brydges.

## Shared Responsibility To Be Priests Topic

Chicago—(NC)—The National Federation of Priests Councils meeting in San Diego, Calif., March 8-12, will discuss what course of action should be taken in response to a refusal by the U.S. bishops to admit priests to their April 1970 meeting in San Francisco.

Father Patrick O'Malley NFPC president, said a number of options will be offered for the delegates' consideration.

Shared responsibility in the Church will be the theme of the annual meeting of NFPC, which is made up of 127 councils of priests, including senates of priests and independent priests' associations. NFPC member councils represent 35,000 of the 55,000 priests in the United States.

Shared responsibility, according to a NFPC statement, "is the notion that priests, nuns, and laity, as well as bishops, are responsible for the life of the Church, and, therefore, must be brought into its decision-making processes."

"Bishops," the statement continued, "now exercise this responsibility exclusively on the top level. The focal point of the bishops' decision-making process are the two national meetings they now hold annually, in November and April."

One of NFPC's major goals

for the year will be to work toward the establishment in the United States of a national pastoral council.

NFPC described these councils: "Representatives of laity, nuns, and clergy join together with the bishops in a parliamentary setting—in debate, discuss, and resolve the national concerns of the Church in a particular country."

The idea of shared responsibility, Father O'Malley said, has its roots in the decrees of the Second Vatican Council, particularly those which speak of the responsibility of the laymen to voice their opinion about the life of the Church.

NFPC's role of the priest committee has been tackling a problem that has gained prominence in the Netherlands—celibacy.

It has been preparing, since last year, a study on celibacy and the changing role of the priest. The committee will offer to the House of Delegates a resolution recommending that a national pastoral council be established in the United States to deal with the celibacy question as well as other issues.

The House of Delegates is made up of approximately 240 priests who are sent by the senates or associations to represent their respective councils.

## 'Peace Priests' Bode Ill for Czech Church

Prague—(RNS)—In what is seen as a harbinger of hard times for the Roman Catholic Church in Czechoslovakia, the notorious Peace Priests' Movement—summarily disbanded during the reformist Dubcek era of 1968—will be re-established soon.

This announcement was made in the Prague Communist magazine, Tvorba, by Dr. Josef Plojhar, an excommunicated Catholic priest who formerly headed the movement.

Established in 1950, the puppet group was the instrument of Stalinist church policy and served to keep close watch over church life and activity.

In his article, Dr. Plojhar, who was Minister of Health under deposed President Antonin Novotny, claimed the Vatican, with the support of "reactionary circles" within the clergy, caused the dissolution of "the peace movement" in 1968.

Urging all priests who played a part in the dissolution to do "self-criticism," he stated that preparations were under way to re-establish the movement.

The priest incurred excommunication in 1948 when he refused to obey an ecclesiastical order forbidding priests to engage in political activities. As a member of the Novotny government, he consistently maintained that religious freedom prevailed in Czechoslovakia.

Dr. Plojhar has been linked

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## Catholic School Boston Survey

### Purchase by City Clears Hurdle

Boston—(NC)—The Massachusetts House of Representatives has approved a bill authorizing the city of Gloucester to float a \$5-million bond issue for the purchase and renovation of St. Peter High School.

The measure won House approval after one of the longest debates in the current session.

Meanwhile, in Salem, Mass., The St. Peter's Parents Club lost a court fight to prevent the sale of the school to city officials.

Judge George E. Thompson upheld a "demurrer" filed by the Boston Archdiocesan Central High Schools, Inc., a corporation established to direct the secondary schools.

The court action, in effect, rejected the parents' request for an injunction against the central school board. A request for a temporary injunction was refused earlier.

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### Cardinal Doi Succumbs at 77

Tokyo—(RNS)—The first Japanese ever to be made cardinal, Peter Tatsuo Doi, Archbishop of Tokyo, died here of pneumonia on Feb. 21. He was 77.

At his death, the cardinal was president of the Japanese Bishops' Conference. He had been head of the archdiocese of Tokyo since 1938. Pope John XXIII created him cardinal on March 28, 1960.

Born Dec. 22, 1892, in Sendai, Cardinal Doi was baptized two years later after his entire family had embraced the Catholic faith.

**VATICAN AIDE DIES**  
Vatican City—(RNS)—Pope Paul expressed his condolences on the death of Dr. Emilio Bonomelli, 80, director of the papal villas and permanent Vatican observer to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). He died Feb. 18.

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## Lay Teachers Hurt Enrollment

Boston—(RNS)—An "attitudinal survey" taken in the Archdiocese of Boston indicated that an increased proportion of lay teachers in relation to the current number of religious instructors "will negatively affect enrollments, financial contributions and tuition."

The findings were reported in a wide-ranging survey submitted to the archdiocese by the New England Catholic Educational Center (NECEC) at Boston College.

The survey was undertaken by the Louis Harris Associates in conjunction with a massive NECEC educational

study commissioned by Richard Cardinal Cushing of Boston. The study is still confidential, although portions of it have been publicized.

The Harris survey included interviews with some 2,500 persons, involving 144 priests, 155 nuns, 147 non-Catholic clergymen, 102 lay teachers, 63 school board members and 23 school superintendents.

According to the report, the image of lay teachers is not a good one, an attitude apparently based on preference for religious teachers in religion-oriented schools.

The survey findings stress

that without such improvements in image, and unless the "bases for confidence" are provided, "government aid could merely prolong a slow and painful decline in the attractiveness and values of Catholic schools."

The findings were made public by the Boston archdiocese in the wake of legislative hearings on an "educational services" bill to authorize the state to purchase textbooks, instructional materials and to pay for teachers' salaries and the cost of accreditation testing for the instructors in non-public schools.

## Maryknoll Sisters Celebrate 50th

Maryknoll, N.Y.—(RNS)—The Maryknoll Sisters observed the Golden Anniversary of their establishment at a special Mass here Feb. 14.

This celebration was echoed throughout the world in such places as Japan, Korea, Formosa, the Philippines, the Marshall and Caroline Islands, Nicaragua, Mexico, Guatemala, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, and Africa.

Sister Gemma Shea of Monrovia, Calif., is the only surviving member of the original group of seven women who founded the order 50 years ago.

The nucleus of the order was a Mission Group formed by a teacher at Smith College in Northampton, Mass.

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**Arizona Bishops**  
The Catholic bishops of a state legislature to work out a in nonpublic schools.

**1970 RC**  
Often there's more to a bill in the State Legislature than a first reading would indicate.  
Aside from the obvious change in the law sometimes there's a whole philosophy coming through or an effect that may not even be indicated.  
That's true in particular of two bills recently filed in Albany and now under committee consideration.

On the face of it Sen. Thomas Laverne's bill S-5412-A deals with unemployment insurance. Sen. Laverne (Republican from Rochester), however, has introduced a whole new philosophy with his bill.

This bill introduces into New York State law the graduated benefits concept based on family size.  
Here's how it works: Unemployment benefits are increased for each child in the family of an unemployed worker. Single people receive the same benefits as at present; married people get an increase based on family size.

The "family allowance" plan is an old one for many countries (Canada gives a per-child grant to families as do several European countries). In a reverse way the U.S. takes families into account in the income tax law when each child is seen as another deduction, even if it is the small sum of \$600 which barely brings him home from the hospital.

But the "family allowance grant" plan never caught on here either on a state or national level.

That's why Sen. Laverne's bill is important. He's proposing that instead of the flat increase in unemployment insurance benefits suggested by Governor Rockefeller, those same funds already provided in the budget be turned into a family allowance increase.

Surely, it is argued, the unemployed worker with five children needs more than the unemployed worker with no children, yet at present each gets exactly the same benefit.

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