

# What the State School Aid Bill Will Pay

Albany—The new Mandated Services aid program proposed by Gov. Rockefeller and approved by the Legislature is, as described by proponents of aid to the non-public school student, a modest step.

Where does this modest step go? Who gets what money for what and when?

The bill pays a non-public school 15 cents per day for each student in grades 1 through 6; and 25 cents per day for each student in grades 7 through 12.

The payment is for "mandated services" rendered — services the state requires the non-public school to perform: examination, attendance, etc.

It's based on average daily

attendance (as are all state aid bills for the public schools) and is said by its sponsors to be a realistic reimbursement for the cost of keeping records, holding examinations and other services which are required by state law for every school.

Cost of these mandated services is already reimbursed for the public under one or another state aid programs. (State aid to public schools is something over \$3 billion a year).

For a student in a non-public school every day of the 180-day school year the school gets \$27 for grades 1-6; and \$45 for grades 7-12.

A typical example:

Yeshiva Elementary School with 643 students.

Grades 1-6: 443 students at \$27 each, \$11,961;

Grades 7-8: 200 students at \$45 each, \$9,000.

Total Aid, \$20,961.

Another example:

St. Augustine's High School with 411 pupils:

Grades 9-12: 411 students at \$45 each, \$10,275.

Payment will be made in two parts, half on or before March 15; the second half on or before May 15.

The governor, however, requested no action on that this year because he felt it would prejudice the results of his Fleischmann Commission — a blue ribbon group charged with

determining new ways of financing both public and non-public schools.

The Parent Aid plan while shelved for this year is still "very much alive" in the legislature according to Catholic education spokesman, J. Alan Davitt, secretary of the Council of Catholic School Superintendents.

"The activity of parents and students in support of Parent Aid is what's kept the program before the minds of the legislators all year. It's what helped in getting the votes necessary to pass the present aid legislation. Such overwhelming support for the Parent Aid plan has not been unrewarded", Davitt said, "because it's on the top

burner for all legislative and non-legislative committees now studying the needs of the non-public school students."

First payments under the law will go out in March, 1971.

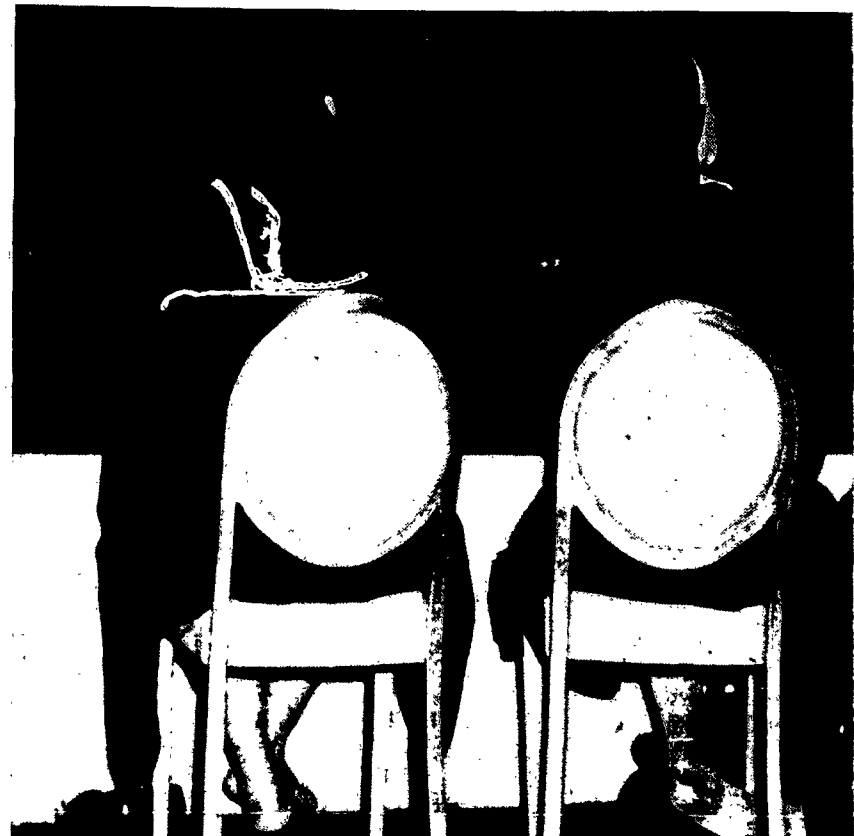
Total figures for all non-public schools under the act would mean a total expenditure of some \$28 million.

Grade 1-6: 485,000, \$13,095,000;

Grades 7-12: 338,000, \$15,210,000;

Total, \$28,305,000.

Based on 1969-70 enrollment figures the Catholic Schools would receive about 82 per cent of the total.



Foot Rest

Two nuns kick off their shoes and relax during speech.

## National Assembly Of Nuns Set Up

Cleveland — (NC)—The National Assembly of Women Religious (NAWR), designed to serve as "the voice" of 160,000 nuns in this country, has been established.

More than 2,000 delegates closed a three-day convention by approving decisively a resolution establishing NAWR and electing a 15-member steering committee to implement the organization.

There will be three classes of membership in NAWR — individual, council and organization. A council is defined as the official organization of women religious in a diocese and an organization as a de facto group of women religious that is not the official diocesan organization.

The national governing group will include an executive committee and a national house of delegates. The plans also include a provision for a provincial (regional) house of delegates if needed.

Sister Ethne Kennedy, secretary of the Sisters Advisory Council of Chicago who spearheaded the planning of the NAWR organization since 1969, was elected chairman of the 15-member steering committee to complete organizational plans.

NAWR's primary goal will be "to challenge women religious to communicate a valid concept of the role of the consecrated celibate woman in the Church today, and to study, evaluate, establish priorities and make recommendations concerning areas in which women religious are critically needed," the convention agreed.

NAWR will be a forum for communication among women religious and "a voice through which they can speak to the Church and to the world."

Other objectives will be to promote unity within the Church by working in close collaboration with bishops and major superiors; represent the interests of the "grass roots" Sister; provide a means by which women religious can participate in decision-making and implementing at the national, regional and local levels; provide a channel for sharing of personnel, resources and research; give impetus and direction to the organizing of local groups; encourage women religious to use their competence and expertise for the service of the Church and society.

## 'Lunipeta Cymba' Carries \$500 Prize

Rome — (NC)—To the average reader "vehiculum celeste," or "siderea linter," or even "lunipeta cymba" might not mean much. But to a Latin specialist from Milwaukee, they meant \$500 and first prize in an international Latin contest.

Father Reginald Foster, 30-year-old Discalced Carmelite, decided to be as modern as space flights with his entry in the 13th "Acertamen Vaticanum," an international contest sponsored yearly by the learned and normally very dull Latinitas magazine.

The winning prose essay was entitled "Iter Admirandum Apollinus XI," or the "Wonderful Journey of Apollo 11." In 2,000 words, the Latin specialist

described the complete voyage of Apollo 11, using only words drawn from the classical period of Latin literature.

He wanted to show that modern terms could be translated in a variety of ways. Thus space ship comes out: "vehiculum celeste," heavenly vehicle; "siderea linter," starry raft, or even "lunipeta cymba," moon ship. Astronaut also can be rendered variously: astronauta, cosmonauta, or caeli viatores, or heavenly travelers.

In trying to find old words that could be combined to express space age technical terms but were drawn from the vocabularies of Virgil, Cicero and Caesar, Father Foster came up

with the following examples: Escape mechanism—machinatio effugii;

Command module — gubernaculi conclave;

Lem—phaselus (a small Roman boat) lunaris, and also speculatoria navicula, or observatory boat;

Computer — machinula computans;

Back pack—sacciperium dorsuale;

Space suit—sidereus vestitus;

To be put in orbit—inici in orbitam; or in circuitum inici terrarum, or if you prefer, in volubilem orbis ambitum.

Washington — (NC)—President Nixon has established a four-member President's Panel on Non-Public Education, charging it with evaluating the problems of nonpublic elementary and secondary schools and with reporting back "positive recommendations" that will be "in the interest of our entire national educational system."

Dr. Clarence Walton, president of the Catholic University of America here, was named chairman of the panel. Other members are William G. Saltonstall, former principal of Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, N.H.; Ivan Zylstra, administrator of government school relations for the National Union of Christian Schools, and Bishop William E. McManus, director of education for the archdiocese of Chicago.

At a White House press briefing, President Nixon said he urged the panel to keep two considerations in mind: "First, our purpose here is not to aid religion in particular, but to promote diversity in education within the Constitution. Second, that while the panel deliberates, non-public schools in the United States are closing at the rate of one a day."

The President said the non-public elementary and secondary schools in the United States "have long been an integral part of the nation's educational establishment," and that "they supplement in an important way the main task of our public school system."

Mr. Nixon warned that "should any single school system — public or private — ever acquire a complete monopoly over the education of our children, the result would neither be good for that school system nor good for the country."

He added that "the non-public schools also give parents the opportunity to send children to a school of their own

choice, and of their own religious denomination. They offer a wider range of possibilities for educational experimentation and special opportunities, especially for Spanish-speaking Americans and black Americans."

The President said that up until now "we have failed to consider the consequences of declining enrollments in private elementary and secondary

schools, most of them church-supported, which educate 11 per cent of all pupils — close to six million school children."

He said that if most or all private schools were to close or turn public, the added burden on public funds by the end of the 1970s would exceed \$4 billion per year in operations and with an estimated \$5 billion more needed for facilities

## Heart Attack Claims Patriarch of Moscow

Moscow — (RNS) — Patriarch Alexei of Moscow and All Russia died here April 17 at 92. A heart attack took the life of one of the world's most controversial Orthodox leaders.

Elected supreme head of Russian Orthodoxy in 1945, the Patriarch was both praised in the West for his efforts to perpetuate the Church in an officially atheistic country and criticized for supporting policies of the Communist regime.

Expressions of condolence from the Vatican were conveyed by Jan Cardinal Willebrands, president of the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity.

Representing the World Council of Churches was Dr. Allen Brash, head of the WCC Division of Inter-church Aid, Refugee and World Service. The Russian Church joined the World Council in 1961.

Rites were scheduled in Holy Trinity Church at St. Sergius Monastery at Zagorsk, 40 miles from Moscow. Metropolitan Pimen of Krutitsky and Kolonna was named acting head of the Russian Church, pending the election of a new Patriarch by the Holy Synod.

Patriarch Alexei undoubtedly was often used as a front for



PATRIARCH ALEXEI

Soviet "peace and freedom" campaigns, especially on numerous trips abroad. His last foreign visit was in 1964 when he went to Geneva and London.

Yet he fought to keep seminaries and churches open in Russia and was reported to have said privately that only by making concessions to the government was he able to win any degree of freedom for the Church.

One of his last official acts was to declare the administrative independence of the Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church of America, (Metropolis), a move setting up an Orthodox Church in America independent of Old World "mother Churches." The decision brought to a close a complicated jurisdictional question going back to the Russian Revolution in 1917.

According to speculation in both the Soviet Union and the West, the most likely successor to Patriarch Alexei is the current prelate of Leningrad and Novgorod, Metropolitan Nicodim, who is also in charge of foreign affairs for the Patriarchate of Moscow.

Metropolitan Nicodim is perhaps the best known Russian churchman in the West. He is an active participant in the World Council of Churches.