

Workers Feel They're Neglected

Blue-Collar Frustration

Washington—(NC)—An estimated 70 million Americans are fed up with being trapped in the lower-middle socio-economic class while their taxes pay for programs to upgrade the poor.

This was the message received by the President in a special report which concluded that blue-collar frustrations could erupt soon into "militancy at the bargaining table" if major political parties continue neglecting workers' needs.

The group which prepared the report under leadership of outgoing Labor Secretary George P. Schulz, offered 11 ways to improve the lot of the blue collar worker which it said is "eluded and forgotten."

The proposals fall into three categories: improving earning capacity, improving social

status and assistance from federal social programs. They range from calling for new tax advantages to issuance of postage stamps honoring craftsmen.

The improved earning proposals call for broadened training programs now limited to the poor, greatly enlarged adult education for enhancement of job skills and tax subsidies of day care for children of working mothers.

The suggested solution is to allow families earning up to \$10,000 to deduct child care costs from federal taxes. The present eligibility ceiling for care is \$6,900. The charted change would involve an additional estimated \$60 million expenditure by the government.

In a recent memo to the White House, the study group warned that the government's continued attention to poverty-

level families spawns resentment—and even racial and ethnic hostility—among the blue collar workers struggling to survive on annual incomes between \$5,000 - \$10,000.

Most of these people, it said, are locked into dead-end jobs with little opportunity to increase their earnings because of lack of formal education and job upgrading programs. In addition, this group has been hit hardest by the inflationary squeeze and a tax structure that "offers little relief."

The report from the group which included a dozen top White House aides and Attorney General John N. Mitchell and anti-poverty director Don Rumsfeld also recommended:

- Increased federal help for community colleges, "which are of such importance to the blue-collar worker's children."

- A public relations campaign to improve the image of manual workers through such things as national awards to outstanding craftsmen and better job counseling in high schools.

- Better recreational facilities, more mass transit to ease auto costs, pumping more mortgage money into the housing market, and improvement of disability and workmen's compensation systems.

Parochial School Aid Approved in Michigan

Lansing, Mich. — Michigan has followed four other states in committing itself to give tax-financed subsidies to Roman Catholic and other nonpublic schools.

An emotion-ridden, two-year struggle on the issue ended yesterday when the Legislature completed passage of a \$969-million public-private school aid bill for 1970-71.

Gov. William G. Milliken is considered certain to sign the bill. Since last October, he has championed the bill's \$22-million subsidy clause for nonpublic schools.

The new program, bitterly resisted by public education interests, faces obstacles in the courts and possibly on a state-wide referendum Nov. 3.

The bill provides for an advisory opinion by the State Supreme Court on the school-aid provisions before any funds can be disbursed. This is expected within two or three months.

Also clouding its fate is the United States Supreme Court's

consent to review Pennsylvania's program of aid to parochial schools. A decision may come this winter or in the spring.

Under the school aid plan, nearly 900 nonpublic schools with over 10,000 teachers and about 270,000 pupils would become eligible for state help.

They could apply to the state authorities for up to 50 per cent of the estimated average salary of \$8,800 paid to 5,800 certified lay teachers of secular subjects like English, mathematics and science.

Salary reimbursements would rise in the 1972-73 fiscal year to 75 per cent, subject to a ceiling of 2 per cent of total state, local and Federal spending on primary and secondary education in the state.

Connecticut, Rhode Island and Ohio, in addition to Pennsylvania, have also begun private school subsidy programs recently. In 26 other states, legislatures considered the issues this year.



The Guiding Hand — Vietnam

South Vietnam mercenary soldier stationed at the Ben Het Special Forces Camp extends his hand to his children. In Vietnam, where many families go along with their warring dads, a father's guidance sometimes is interrupted by battle. (RNS Photograph)

Mrs. Nixon Praises Peru Courage

Lima, Peru — (NC) — Mrs. Richard M. Nixon, wife of the President of the United States, and Peru President Juan Velasco Alvarado attended services here June 29 at South America's oldest cathedral in thanksgiving for the aid being given victims of the May 31 earthquake.

The services, presided over by Cardinal Juan Landazuri Ricketts, OFM., of Lima, included a Te Deum and a Mass for the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul — a holy day and national holiday in Peru.

Mrs. Nixon and Peru's First Lady, Mrs. Velasco, entered the church side by side. Mrs. Nixon

wore a turquoise suit and black lace mantilla in the tradition of Spanish women. Mrs. Velasco wore a tweed suit and beige mantilla.

Mrs. Nixon flew in from the U.S. summer White House in San Clemente, Calif., June 28, bringing with her bundles of relief goods and cash gifts from Americans for victims of the earthquake. The aid is being distributed to the survivors of the quakes and floods that destroyed 20 towns in the northern Andean valleys, killed 50,000 and left some 300,000 homeless.

After the Mass and thanksgiving services Mrs. Nixon and Mrs. Velasco left immediately for the disaster areas.

Bishop Teodosio Moreno

Quintana of Huaraz, met the two First Ladies as they approached the site of the cathedral and posed with them for photographers in front of the ruins, while explaining to the visitors the extent of the disaster in the area.

"We will soon see the Pearl of Huayas valley standing again," Mrs. Nixon told Bishop Moreno as she surveyed the ruins.

She again praised the courage and determination of the people as she saw them clearing and rebuilding the town.

There was, however, very little contact with the local people on the part of Mrs. Nixon, mostly because of what newsmen called "an overzealous security guard."

Varsity Football To Return To Fordham

New York—(RNS) — Varsity football will return to Fordham University this Fall after an absence of 16 years.

Announcement of the new status for the gridiron program at the Jesuit school was made by Dr. Martin Meade, chairman of the Fordham Athletic Governing Board, and Peter Carlesimo, director of athletics.

For the past six years, Fordham has been playing club football. Under this setup, the football team was maintained by students, was strictly campus-based and offered no athletic scholarships.

This "philosophy" of the game will not change, declared Dr. Meade when he made the announcement. Students will still administer the program and the team will still be coached by a full-time head coach and a complete coaching staff.

Fordham had varsity football from 1881 to 1954, when the sport was dropped. Football resumed on the club basis in 1964.

Priests Learn Theater Arts For Liturgy

Santa Fe, New Mex. — (NC) — Priests are learning first hand how to enliven the liturgy with drama.

The Santa Fe Center for Pastoral Liturgy, in association with the Santa Fe Opera, is teaching priests at summer sessions how to use gestures and style to celebrate the liturgy.

Among faculty members is Vera Zorina, ballerina, actress and opera director. She teaches staging techniques and dramatics so the liturgy becomes something alive rather than stereotyped. Others teach theoretical, ritualistic and contemporary aspects of the liturgy.

The center's goal is "to educate the priest of today in theory and practice of efficacious liturgy," said Father Blase Schauer, O.P., center director.

He has announced that the center also plans seminars later for ministers of non-Catholic denominations and for laymen taking new roles in liturgy celebration.



Coming Out

A column of the U.S. 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment moves back into South Vietnam just south of Mimot, Cambodia. The unit had entered Cambodia on May 1. All U.S. ground forces withdrew from the Southeast Asian country prior to President Nixon's June 30 deadline.