



SCHOOL OFFICE SECRETARIES—Pictured getting out a mailing to school principals are some of the secretarial staff at the Diocesan Department of Education offices at Columbus Civic Center. From left are Mrs. Katherine Jeffery, Miss Alice Callahan and Mrs. Helen Katafiaz.

New Education Tactics Urged

Denver—(NC)—James R. Allen, recently fired U.S. commissioner of education, has urged President Nixon to give a new priority to education problems across the country. He recommended a new cabinet-level department of education.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Education Commission of the States here, Allen said:

"Surely among the leadership of this nation there should be the perspective about education, the broad understanding of its needs, that would generate a compelling sense of urgency.

"Each year, our city school systems slide closer and closer to disaster. Because we insist on clinging to outmoded organizational and management patterns, hundreds of millions of dollars are inefficiently expended."

Catholic Principals Told: Improve Public Relations

Milwaukee—(NC)—If parochial principals are convinced Catholic schools are doing a good job but feel others don't recognize it, maybe the principals should improve their public relations techniques.

So spoke Sister Mary Yanny, OSF, education director for the Wisconsin province of the School Sisters of St. Francis, who addressed a summer institute at Marquette University.

Public relations was pinpointed at the two-week session as one of the problems confronting Catholic elementary school administrators.

"We're convinced of the importance of Catholic schools but we will have to fight for them and become more knowledgeable," Sister Mary told a class of mostly nuns. "We must sell our product because we have done a poor job in the past," she said.

Sister Mary noted that public relations efforts are important to:

- Interest more people in Catholic schools, including those with no children enrolled.
- Increase financial support as needs for funds grow.
- Create a favorable climate in the community, parish and school.

She advised the principals that public relations with pastors need improvement because often "they feel they're being pressured." She suggested that they meet weekly with the priests, over a cup of coffee, to discuss what's taking place in school.

Sister Mary called for better cooperation among religious communities because "we have the power but we're not using it." She felt that jointly they could have greater influence on pastors and diocesan departments of education.

She cited several areas on Milwaukee's south side where two parish schools with some 200 to 300 pupils each are only a few blocks apart. She suggested that although different orders teach in those schools one principal could serve two of them.

Citing the success of cooperative efforts in consolidated schools, Sister Mary explained, "There's no reason why differ-


ent orders shouldn't be teaching in the same school."

Sister Mary suggested that experienced teachers share their expertise by meeting with others in the area who teach the same grades; or if a teacher is weak in some aspects she should observe techniques of those who are experienced.

She felt that steps should be taken to get more male teach-

ers in Catholic elementary schools and cautioned the principals not to overlook retired teachers in their religious communities.

Sister Mary also urged the group to make every effort to get federal funds. She said if it's difficult to get cooperation from state administrators they should go all out to make local public school superintendents aware of the needs.




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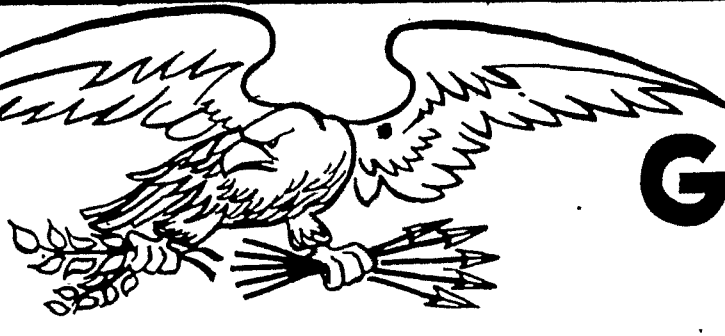


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