



Before and After

Memphis, Tenn. (RNS) — An undernourished child from a poor black area of Memphis is shown shortly after she began treatment (top) at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and after about six months in a nutrition program (bottom). The results are evident.

The Memphis hospital, founded in 1962 by entertainer Danny Thomas, is making strides in developing the means to combat the world's most pervasive and catastrophic disease — malnutrition. The "vaccine" is food. Although the hospital has been studying malnutrition since 1964, the most impressive results of the study of "hunger as a disease" have come since 1969 when the hospital joined with the Memphis Area Project-South community organization in a program of food-by-prescription for some 3,500 infants and children and 500 pregnant women.

The results have been impressive. In the MAP-South area infant mortality was reduced from 38 to 21 per thousand as a result of the cooperative effort. In one district, the rate was reduced from 8.4 per hundred to less than one per thousand in a single year.



State Catholic Spokesman Calls Report 'Travesty'

Albany — (RNS) — The Fleischmann Commission's rejection of state aid to non-public schools in New York State was described as "a travesty on consultative research and other citizens' commissions in service to the state" by the secretary of the New York State Catholic Committee here.

Charles J. Tobin, Jr., said the Fleischmann Commission, set up by Gov. Rockefeller to evaluate the quality, cost and financing of all elementary and secondary education in New York, "truly failed in its assigned purpose to help all children in our state."

The full report of the commission has not been completed, but chapters concerning racial and ethnic integration and school aid were released early because of their "controversial" aspects.

Tobin, pointing to the commission's particular responsibility

to study the role of non-public schools in serving disadvantaged areas, said that instead "it appears that the commission satisfied itself by indulging in legal judgments beyond the constraints of federal or state constitutions or Supreme Court decisions . . ."

Calling the majority commission report "discriminatory" against Catholic schools, he said "it is indeed lamentable that in a time characterized by growing ecumenism among religious interests, a government report portrays this type of bias."

Tobin said the report fails to recognize that the only educational program worthwhile "is a program that recognizes necessity and desirability of freedom and diversity in education." He added that this cannot be accomplished by a "single, unresponsive and monopolistic system . . ."

2 School Aid Plans Said Under Serious Consideration

Albany—Two new approaches are reportedly under serious consideration by Gov. Rockefeller and legislative leaders to restore \$33 million in state aid to parochial schools.

Among several possibilities for restoring such aid, two are supposedly being more seriously considered.

One would follow the guidelines of the federal Title I program which provides funds for urban public and private

schools alike, based on social problems facing city educators. The state already has such a program for public schools and private schools would be added under the new proposal.

The second plan would extend the Bundy Plan for private colleges to elementary and secondary schools. The Bundy program presently provides assistance to private colleges and universities which are not strongly identified with a particular religion.

Courier-Journal

British Weigh 3 Point Plan To End N. Ireland Strife

London (RNS) — The British government is expected to announce a three-point plan aimed at relieving the bitter strife in Northern Ireland.

According to informed sources here the plan involves three key proposals:

- A relaxation of the internment policy under which suspected Irish Republic Army (IRA) members and supporters have been held without charge or trial.

- Massive economic aid to reduce Ulster's widespread unemployment.

- Some form of community government, guaranteeing key posts in the provincial regime to members of the Roman Catholic minority.

The sources said that Prime Minister Edward Heath's cabinet has scheduled meetings to make a final decision on the plan, and will probably announce it soon.

Whether the British proposals will meet approval by Ulster's Catholic minority remains questionable.

Catholic political leaders have steadfastly refused to take part in any talks about the future of Northern Ireland since the internment policy was instituted on Aug. 9. They have said frequently they will not participate in such discussions with the British or representatives of the Ulster government until the policy is abolished. Catholics view the policy as blatantly anti-Catholic.

In the aftermath of the 13 deaths in Londonderry Jan. 30 during a clash with British paratroopers, Catholics of all classes appear to be one in their insistence on outright and immediate abolition of the policy. In addition, there is growing insistence on the part of the minority that the Protestant-dominated government of Northern Ireland should be abolished.

More and more Catholic voices in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland to the south are rising in insistent demand for an end to the partition of the island into two

political divisions, north and south.

This demand for a united Ireland, however, is vigorously opposed by Ulster's Protestant majority, most of whom see themselves as British citizens, not Irishmen. They view the Irish Republic as a nation dominated by the Catholic Church and have grave misgivings about Irish laws against contraception and divorce, as well as those on book and film censorship.

Northern Ireland's Prime Minister Brian Faulkner, in an address to the provincial Parliament at Stormont Castle Feb. 8, gave voice to these fears when he flatly ruled out any idea of Irish reunification, and bitterly attacked demands for a united Ireland as an "absurdity."

"Our history, our tradition, our economic interests link us firmly with Great Britain," he declared. "We see it as an absurdity in the modern world to cast off from a powerful and outward-looking community to join our destinies with a weak and inward-looking one."

U.S. Services Marked by Appeals For Peace, Justice in Ulster

New York—(RNS)—Prayers for victims of violence in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, and calls for "peace and justice in Ulster" echoed through churches around the country, with churchmen denouncing acts of violence and urging all concerned to seek new avenues of reconciliation.

Special services at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York — held as a mass prayer for peace in Northern Ireland — served as the occasion for a stinging attack on Britain's Ulster policies by a Jesuit priest and for an appeal for "genuine civil rights reform" by Cardinal Terrence Cooke.

Assailing British acts as "stupid" and "bungling," Father Robert I. Gannon, SJ, former president of Fordham University, lashed out at those who would "attempt the pacification of any country, no matter how small in 1972, by imprisonment without trial . . . and hysterical shooting of unarmed civilians who dared to march in their own ghetto . . ."

The priest preached during

a memorial Mass offered by Cardinal Cooke for the 13 persons killed by British troops in Londonderry (Jan. 30).

The previous day, 1,300 persons attended a Mass at New York's Carmelite Catholic church, where 13 crosses inscribed with the names of the 13 Londonderry victims were held aloft during the service.

In Boston, Archbishop Humberto S. Medeiros ordered that Prayers of the Faithful in all churches of the Boston archdiocese include "a sincere and humble petition" for peace in Northern Ireland.

In the statement of Cardinal Cooke read during the memorial Mass at St. Patrick's, there was an appeal for prayers for "genuine civil rights reforms" in Northern Ireland and "for all those killed . . ."

In his sermon, Father Gannon declared that "Northern Ireland is still living in the bitter old 17th Century . . . the breath of Oliver Cromwell still poisons the air of Belfast."

"British bungling has made

matters worse," he added. "Only stupid soldiers and stupid politicians" would resort to imprisonment without trial, torture and the shooting of unarmed persons.

He acknowledged that there was "some violence" among the demonstrators in Londonderry — youth throwing stones at troops — but he implied it was justified because of the "terror and indignation" suffered by the people.

"Turning the other cheek becomes almost impossible," he asserted, "when both cheeks are covered with blood."

Earlier in the pontifical Mass for peace and justice, Cardinal Cooke's statement of Feb. 2 was read, urging aid to Ulster.

While decrying the "terrible waste of human lives" and calling for "new and far-reaching political initiatives," the statement included a request that Catholics in the more than 400 archdiocesan parishes contribute to an emergency Irish Relief Fund. The proceeds would be sent to Cardinal William Conway of Armagh, Primate of Ireland.

Looking Up

By Joe Giacalone

