

Bishop Urges All To Back Effort

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ment losses, prompt and substantial grants to cover the cash-flow deficits in operating budgets arising from the economic losses to the families who have been, in the case of private schools, their sole support.

Many thoughtful persons are fearful that this latter need will not be considered in pending legislation, or, incredibly that old cliches may be used to deprive private, religious-oriented schools of all disaster aid.

As an American and as a Churchman I can scarcely believe that such discrimination could assert itself in times of tragedy. As long as there is even a remote possibility of such injustice being perpetrated whether by oversight or by intent, I urge you to act now at this time when disaster legislation is pending in the U.S. Congress. It is critical that we join our voices with those of the victims of tragedy to seek equity in the distribution of relief.

During the emergency there was no discrimination in the service record of peoples and institutions. Both public and private schools in the Southern Tier which were not directly affected by the disaster gave unselfishly to provide public services. These schools served as evacuation centers, as distribution centers for food and clothing, as operational centers for the Red Cross services and as communication centers.

I now strongly urge all men and women with a sensitivity to the tragedy and with a desire for elementary justice that they write today to their Senators and Representatives. Clearly indicate to them your expectations for a full response to the pleas of the flood victims for a full restoration of all flood disrupted educational services.

As the disaster did not discriminate, neither should disaster relief.

With a blessing and assurance of my abiding concern, I am

Joseph L. Hogan
Bishop of Rochester

Drive Launched

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The consolidated school system in Chemung County depends on parish assessments for its operating costs. The floods have left so many families in straitened financial condition that it appears impossible for the system to attain its \$468,000 budget for the 1972-73 school year, according to school officials.

Dr. Curran added that grants also are needed to cover the structure and equipment loss in buildings directly affected by the flood and to cover the structure, equipment and materials damaged and expended in buildings

New Pastor Appointed

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He completed two years of the novitiate at Divine Word Seminary, Techny, Illinois, before going for two years of junior college at St. Michael's seminary, Conesus, N.Y.

During 1958-60, Father Farier returned to Techny for philosophy. He studied theology at the Gregorian University in Rome, and was ordained in 1964.

After ordination, Father Farier taught theology at Techny for five years.

Father Farier, who calls St. Lucy's "my kind of parish," says he has had little administrative experience, "but I hope that will be a small part of my job anyway."

He stressed in an interview that in what he called "a time of transition" all parishioners were welcome.

Father Farier added that he thought his knowledge of Italian would stand him in good stead in building a sense of community in the parish.

Courier-Journal

used by the public during and following the disaster.

The report listed flood damage to Chemung County Catholic schools as \$183,000 — with structural damages at \$83,000 and equipment and material damage at \$80,000.

Damage to the schools in the Corning Consolidated Catholic School System was listed at \$60,000. Father Joseph F. Hogan, pastor of St. Vincent's parish in Corning, already has said the school (Corning Northside Catholic) will not reopen in September because federal and state aid apparently is not available.

Father Hogan also pointed out, as did Dr. Curran, that with most of his parish hard hit by the floods there would be no way of raising funds to continue the school in the light of emergency needs.

To stress the difficulties the communities face in rebuilding, the report cited data issued by Joseph Mastroiani, regional OEP director, summarizing flood damage.

These figures show damage to homes in Chemung County (Elmira) as totaling \$160.2 million for a total of \$234.7 million.

In Steuben County (Corning) home damage is listed at \$47 million and business losses at \$57.5 million, for a total of \$104.5 million.

The officials noted that the OEP law is not the so-called "Agnes" bill urged by President Nixon. Rather the OEP law is permanent legislation now before the Senate for amendment.

Curran urges letter-writers to ask changes in the OEP statute (Public Law 91606) to allow for emergency funds to be spent for private schools, similar to an amendment introduced by Sen. John Tunney in 1971 to include nonpublic hospitals after the California earthquake.



Photo by Barbara Moynihan

Reconstruction goes full speed ahead at St. Vincent de Paul's rector's office while Mrs. Jane Calloway, Father Joseph F. Hogan's secretary and her daughter-in-law, a volunteer, Mrs. Bonnie Calloway, try to catch up with typing flood-ravaged records.

'Do You Know Where My House Used to Be?'

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

Corning — Reconstruction is going on full speed ahead, but the mood in this town of 15,800 people ravaged by a flood a month ago, is subdued.

The tone of the streets is summer quiet plus flood shock. A little girl skipping in a circle asked a man in Bermuda shorts walking down Dodge Avenue, "Do you know where my house used to be?" The man kept walking.

The initial clean-up and inventory of the situation is over but the difficult task of tearing down blocks of half-smashed buildings, throwing away life-long possessions ruined by mud, is left to be done.

"Cleaning, rebuilding is being done, but it is less obvious than the action right after the flood," said Dan Finn, a teacher at Cardinal Mooney High School. Finn has been in command of the Office of Human Development's center at St. Mary's school since he volunteered three weeks ago.

A Red Cross volunteer remarked that during the flood, she was amazed at the humor and selflessness exhibited by the flood victims.

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Wednesday, August 2, 1972

Now people are back to business as usual, going to work in the morning, visiting with their neighbors, but the flood has not left their minds.

Operation Follow-up is a long term program recently organized by the Human Development center in Corning.

Operation Follow-Up is matching Corning residents unhurt by the flood with the elderly, widowed, infirm, who were hard hit to act as helping families. The helping family will visit the flood victim, make sure he has filed for loans, and help arrange for reconstruction, but mainly, just

be there to let the flood victim know that someone is looking after him.

The Office of Human Development has made a commitment for a full-time director to coordinate reconstruction programs throughout the coming year. The director will be named in August.

PARISH PICNIC

Parishioners of St. Margaret Mary will have a basket picnic in Seneca Park Sunday afternoon, Aug. 13. There will be games for the children and the school band will play. Jack Reinhardt, chairman of the Parish Life Committee, has charge of arrangements.



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