

**Editorial**

**Who's Really On the Dole**

An interesting twist is applied to a worn cliché in an article in the current issue of U.S. Catholic.

In an interview, Dr. John C. Raines, a Methodist minister and religion professor at Temple University, says, "We have, indeed, a welfare state." Then comes the startler.

"But the people heaviest into the public dole are the wealthy few at the top, who each year receive billions in special tax breaks.

"For example," he says, "if you earn \$10,000 from wages you pay about \$900 in federal income tax, but if you make \$10,000 in long-term capital gain, you pay \$98 in federal income tax."

He claims that the upward mobility of the middle class is a myth. He says, "In 1949, the top one per cent owned 21 per cent of the total personal wealth; 20 years later in 1969, that same one per cent owned 34 per cent."

"Yes, there is upward mobility, but it happens to be only at the top," he says.

True, money is a worldly commodity. But when so many families are so hard-pressed, when there is hunger in our own country, when schools, public and private, need financial support, the question of taxation becomes a question of justice.

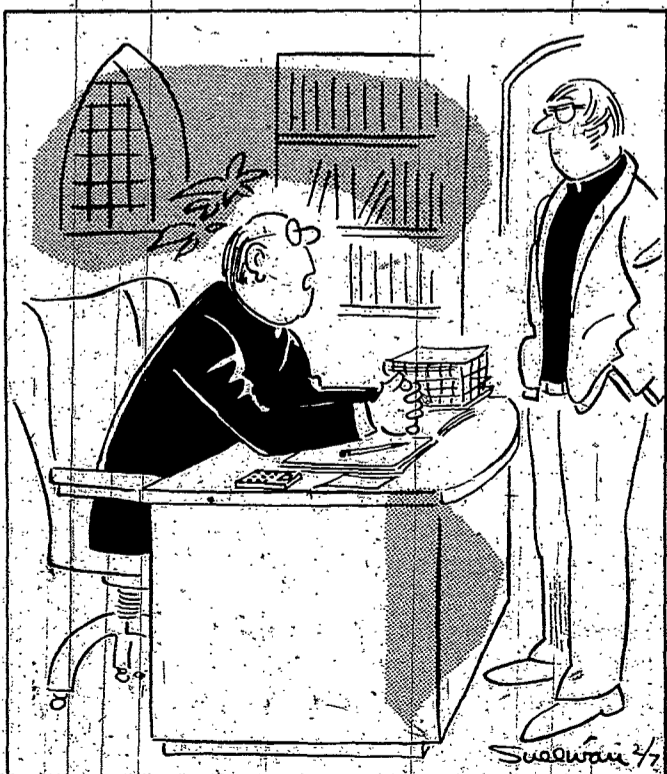
The rest of us should note that the next time we are tempted to criticize welfare recipients, we should remember who really is into the government for unfair assistance.

**Seeing Clear**

Many have tried to depict the world's food problems as tantamount to a lifeboat too full of people, meaning that some have to be sacrificed for the good of all.

The image is wrong, a world leader said last week on television. And the speaker was none less than Robert F. McNamara, president of the World Bank.

He says that the world capacity to feed people is not by any means at its limit, that food production can be greatly expanded in the areas that need it most—that is, if nations that have the technical skill and the wherewithal, such as the United States, recognize their responsibility to hard-hit nations.



OUR FINANCIAL FUTURE LOOKS RATHER GRIM, FATHER. I'M AFRAID WE'VE GOT TO START BITING THE CANDLE.

**Opinion**

**Name Listed In Error**

Editor:

St. Mary's Hospital has enlisted the support of the Greater Rochester community for the continuation of its Obstetrics Department. The names and addresses of the members of the Monroe County Hospital Committee who will make the recommendation regarding the consolidation of obstetrical services in Monroe County by April 1 have appeared in several sources. We regret that we mistakenly included the name of Mrs. Betty Dwyer Zornow on that committee listing. Mrs. Zornow is not a member of the Monroe County Hospital Committee.

Those people wishing to express their concern regarding the continuation of the Obstetrics Department at St. Mary's Hospital may send correspondence to the other committee members who will make the recommendation.

Paul M. Lewis  
Director, Hospital Relations  
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**Ford Must Act On Hunger**

Editor:

Thank you for the informative articles on the critical issue of world hunger. However, it seems the power to decide who will live and who will die lies in the hands of one man on the desk of President Ford. A letter to him is a positive contribution that each of us can make to help avoid massive starvation. It is imperative that we urge him to release the four million tons of food that has been appropriated under PL 480 for the fiscal year 1975 and send it to those countries most in need.

That need is now. The food should be on its way within a few weeks so that it may reach its destination before more human beings lose in their struggle to survive.

Patricia L. Schroth  
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**Columnist Praised**

Editor:

I would like to let Father Albert Shamon know how much I truly benefit and treasure his well-written, down to earth, concept of the Gospel each week.

I have a clipping from one of his columns from a couple years ago that I can not part with.

Thank you, Father Shamon for your time and devotion that you give to Word for Sunday. I will always pray for all the good people in our Lord's service.

Mrs. Martha Van Savage  
29 Jemison Rd.  
Rochester, N.Y. 14623

**Edelin Verdict Praised**

Editor:

The conviction of Doctor Edelin—in regarding the ruthless extermination of a baby boy as illegal—marked a major step in redressing a tragic judicial aberration that was cast upon us by the United States Supreme Court.

Perhaps the echo of that verdict will soon reach the halls of the Capitol, and our lawmakers will finally realize that the American people are demanding the acceptance of a constitutional amendment that will

put to a halt to the heinous practice of abortion. Having spent a semester in Washington and studying the issue at length, I am thoroughly convinced that most members of Congress do, in fact, believe that the elimination of unborn babies is wrong. What is so frustrating is their aloofness—in hopes that the issue will blow away—in order to satisfy those in the minority who wish to put personal convenience in front of preserving a human life.

I sincerely hope that the verdict of guilty will hold up through appeal, and the Edelin case will serve as a stimulus for both Congress and the American people to speed up the process of restoring the most important natural right of all—the right to exist.

Charles B. Carson  
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**Carmelites Set Example**

Editor:

I thoroughly enjoyed reading the coverage of the Carmelite nuns in the Courier-Journal (2/12/75).

For lay Catholics serving God in our different life-calls, the commitment of these nuns and of all contemplatives (esp. the Trappists of Piffard) to a life of prayer and praise is a much needed reminder of everyone's Paul-ordered job "Pray always!"

And thank God for such movements as the Third Orders of the Franciscans and Carmelites, of the Charismatics, of Cursillo and of the Legion of Mary. All these in some way touch upon the task of building a balanced life of prayer and Christian action.

The example of the Carmelite nuns and of all contemplative monks and nuns should not be something that we Catholics to piously amuse their fancies with, but promote a genuine conviction for all to grow in openness to the Word of God that speaks best in quiet hearts. From this should come the praises of God that make us people of joy, and cast a great light all over the sad faces that surround us. From this alone comes true Christian action.

Patrick L. Connor,  
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**Our Schools Must Survive**

Editor:

Have Catholic schools just recently survived, or are they just now entering the most trying period in their history? They have witnessed the virtual extinction of teaching religious, the escalation of costs, and judicial decisions which have largely overturned legislative attempts at assistance.

Yet the system has survived. Lay teachers have accepted, some for prolonged periods, substandard salaries and physical facilities either because of personal dedication to the parochial system or an attraction to a sometimes elusive "difference" in atmosphere. This notion, that Catholic schools offer something different that counts, keeps the students coming and the parents voluntarily paying extra for education.

Without question, however, the tests of the future will dwarf the problems of the past. Complex economic forces, inflation, recession, energy crisis and decreasing student population all demand new approaches and novel solutions if the parochial system is to continue its contribution to education.

The challenge in its simplest terms is basic survival of the system. But this is not nearly enough. The schools and the

system that survive must be worth the effort. They must offer not only a difference that counts but, also a brand of scholastic quality that demands no compromises from those called upon to make the extra sacrifice.

Meeting the challenge will require a different kind of sacrifice and compromise. Which schools will close? Will grammar and high schools be scrutinized? Which pastors, boards, principals and parents will accept these inevitable steps with the understanding and cooperation needed to effect change and smooth progress?

The opportunity exists for further thoughtful planning and for action. We must responsibly trim our ship so that the future can be faced with the confidence that quality Catholic education is possible and practical. The entire community will continue to profit from its existence.

Michael T. Tomaino  
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**Education**

**Poetic Theme**

Editor:

As a result of the activity of her third grade class, and all the other students in the school, preparing for Catholic Education Week, Mrs. John Brinkman, third grade teacher here at Good Counsel was inspired to write the following poem.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

I approached with Trembling trepidation  
This thing called Catholic Education.

"Somebody Cares"  
Is what they tell  
And will recognize  
Work done well.

Somebody cares  
With sympathy extended,  
If I'm not the best  
Though efforts were expended.

If I need help  
Or someone to listen,  
There'll be a friend  
In this vast system.

When sad or glad  
It's fun to share  
It's so much better  
When somebody cares.

Sister Marie Jeanette, Principal  
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They should be no longer than 1 1/2 pages, typed double-spaced, with names and addresses. The paper reserves the right to edit all letters.

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