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CCGEB

Admissions Policy Approved

By MARTIN TOOMBS
Southern Tier Editor

Elmira—The Chemung County General Education Board (CCGEB) discussed an admissions policy, tuition charges, parish assessments and teacher pay at its Feb. 8 meeting.

The admissions policy was proposed by the system's principals, and deals primarily with enrollments. The policy sets a class size of 25 for kindergarten, and standards for the number of kindergarten pupils that will be accepted at each school. The goal is to avoid the necessity of moving a child from one school to another between kindergarten and first grade, and to prevent over enrollment of grades above the first in one school, when vacancies exist in other schools in the system.

Sister Davidica, Our Lady of Lourdes principal, presented the plan, and in response to a question, reported that the city school

district would provide transportation if a student was closed out of the nearest school and attended another in the system.

After discussion on the policy's effects on re-registration, it was approved.

A letter from Father Kevin Murphy, St. Patrick's copastor, raised discussion concerning financial issues. After some comments on the schools week Mass sponsored by the board, Father Murphy wrote that he feels that the lay teachers in the system should be paid according to diocesan recommendations. They currently receive less than the recommended salaries.

Gail Callahan, system business manager, then reported that Father Murphy had called her, and told her that St. Patrick's would not pay as much to the system next year as it did this year, and that he would be sending a letter to that effect.

Members noted the

paradox in the two statements, and suggested that possibly what was needed was an increase in tuition, which now amounts to less than 12 percent of the system's budget.

Mrs. Callahan reported that an increase of \$20 per family in tuition would result in a gain of only \$15,000, toward a budget that for this year is \$596,000.

Mrs. Callahan also asked the board for direction concerning the approximately \$2,000 in unpaid tuition from the 1977-78 school year, suggesting that it could be given to a collection agency. After discussion, it was decided to seek legal advice, and raise the issue at the March meeting.

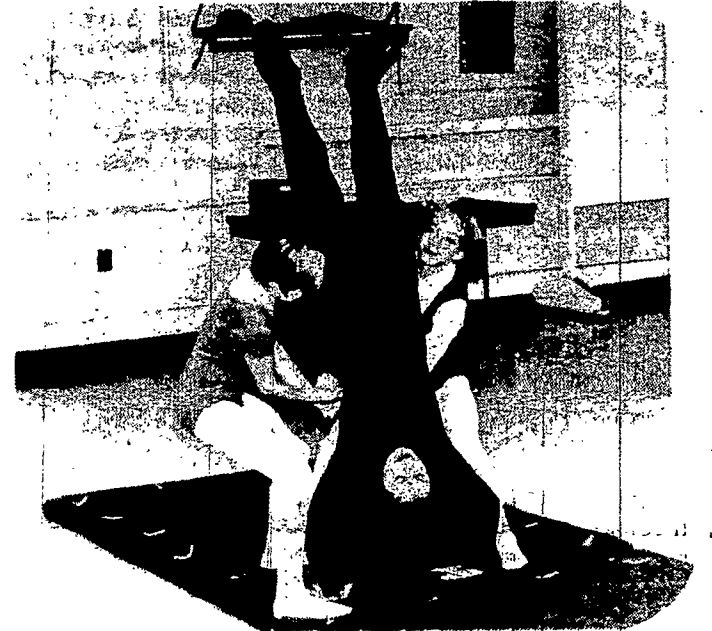
In other action, Thomas Klotz reported that the Ways and Means Committee has planned a concert as a fund raising event, with Carmel Quinn to perform at the Clemens Center Sunday, March 11.



Photos by Martin Toombs

Talent Show

A talent show was part of the Catholic Schools Week activities at Corning Catholic School North. Above, second grader Steven Hickey, with guitar, does his impression of a rock-style guitar player, with assistance from some classmates. Right, girls demonstrate some acrobatics for their schoolmates.



King's 'Presence Is the Message'

By MARTIN TOOMBS
Southern Tier Editor

Ithaca—A sense of expectancy could be felt among the more than 1,000 persons who filled Cornell University's Sage Chapel beyond seating capacity to hear the Rev. Martin Luther King Sr. Sunday, Feb. 11.

Eleanor Rice, Cornell registrar, introduced the famous preacher, noting that "his presence is the message," and those attending vocalized their agreement.

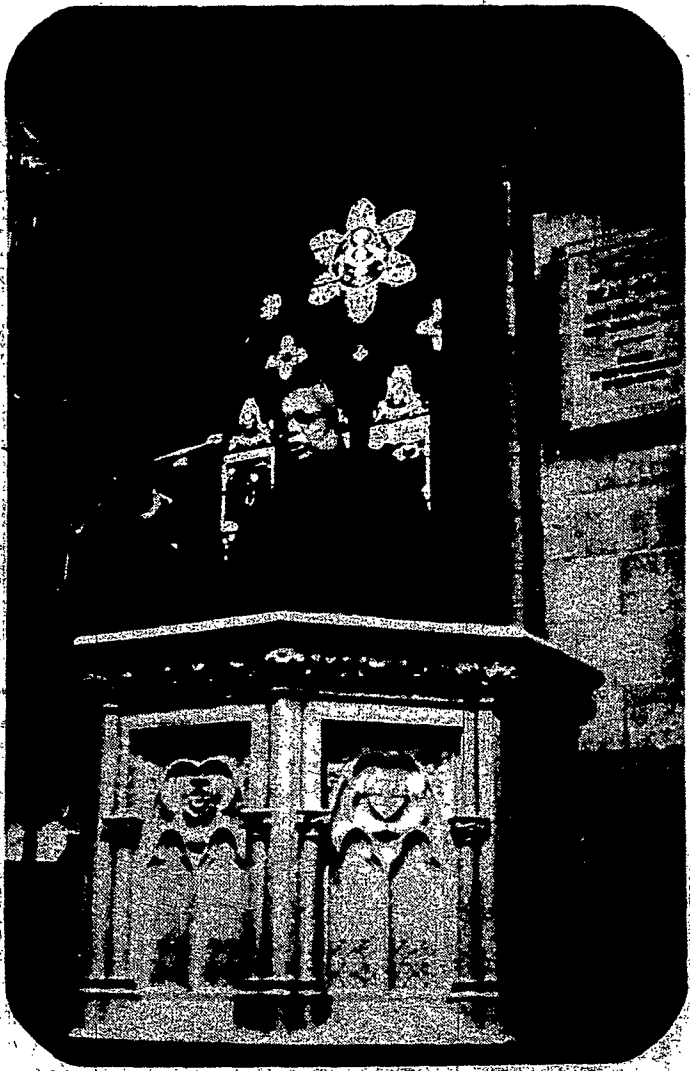
Four choirs were featured in the more than an hour and a half service, which also included as a reader Frank H. T. Rhodes, Cornell president.

Rhodes received an enthusiastic response from the congregation when he quoted Mr. King's late son, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., stating that "we must learn to live together as brothers, or we'll die together as fools."

Mr. King began his talk by calling the organist back to the organ, and he continued his inspirational sermon to the strains of "Amazing Grace," finally leading the congregation in singing the hymn.

Speaking on "The Inescapable Christ," he told the participants that they "can't escape Him, can't get around Him."

Referring to Christ's condemnation to death on Good Friday, Mr. King questioned whether any better would come of it.



Rev. Martin Luther King, Sr., speaking to those attending Cornell University's Sage Chapel Third Annual Festival of Black Gospel Feb. 11.

Pilate "knew that Jesus was innocent," he noted, but allowed him to be killed because he was "caught up in a system." Being caught in such a system also is a problem for Americans, he said.

Pilate left Christ's fate to a crowd.

"that was the wrong crowd."

He challenged everyone to "watch the road you travel," and "don't try to go down that road without Jesus."

"Jealousy and hate are as old as the family of man," Mr. King said.

to get rid of hate in this world."

"Teachers of hate have been much more effective in the world than teachers of love," he said, but people need to stand up and refuse to be affected by those who promote hate.

Referring to his age, the 80-year-old minister told the audience that he surprises his doctor by telling him that he isn't going to die. "Anyone who dies has failed to live," he noted, telling a story of a country doctor who didn't feel that his death would be the end of his work.

"When it gets so I can't live in this old body, this old frame," Mr. King said, "I'm getting out and going home" to the Lord.

And when that happens, like the country doctor, he'll leave a sign saying "Still in Business—Just Moved Upstairs."

Choirs participated in the service from Calvary Baptist Church and St. James AME Zion Church. The Pamoja Ni Singers also performed, as did the Sage Chapel Choir. Members of the Imani Healing Temple also participated in the service.

The event was the third annual Festival of Black Gospel to take place at the Sage Convocation, and initiated observance of Black History Week on campus.

Final Session

Auburn—The final session in the "Give Your Marriage a Facelift" series is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 25 at Sacred Heart Rectory here beginning at 7 p.m. The rectory is located on Malrose Road.

Schools Week Closes With Symbolic Gift

Auburn—A shamrock was presented at the Offertory of a Mass celebrated Feb. 10 at Holy Family Church to mark the closure of Catholic Schools week. The shamrock signified faith in the Blessed Trinity and the merger of the former Holy Family, St. Alphonsus and Sacred Heart Schools now Blessed Trinity School.

Guest homilist, Sister Walter Anne O'Malley, SSJ, school principal, delivered the message of Catholic School's Week before a congregation that included members from the three parishes.

She recounted the significance of Catholic education as one that expresses deep faith in God and willingness to insure the preservation of the faith at any cost.

"We talk about sacrifice, but wonder if it can compare to those who had so little but gave so much to establish the schools. These people believed in the opportunity to experience the message of Jesus Christ and looked for a school where the Gospel values would be preached and lived."

Sister Walter Anne said.

She pointed out that the average score on the Stanford Achievement tests administered in September was higher than the national norms.

She expressed gratitude to her staff and the parents who entrust children to the care of Blessed Trinity School, and to parishioners of the three parishes who continue to support the school.

Inner Healing

Father James Steel, pastor at St. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Church, will take part in the Workshop on Inner Healing, Thursday, Feb. 22 at St. Mary's School on Clymer Street. The program, beginning at 7:30 p.m., is sponsored by the Auburn Area Divorced, Separated and Widowed Organization. Other presenters are Mrs. Rosemarie La Londe and Sister Dorothy Quinn and Sister Peter.

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