

Subsidizing of Parochial Schools: Two Clergymen Debate Controversy

Editor's note: Should the government subsidize the education of children who attend parochial schools? Two prominent clergymen debate this sharply controversial question in the following signed dispatches, written for United Press International and the Mail Tribune. The case for government subsidies is presented by a Roman Catholic scholar, the Rev. Virgil C. Blum, S.J., assistant professor of political science at Marquette university, Milwaukee, Wis. The case against subsidies is presented by Dr. C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

By THE REV. VIRGIL C. BLUM, S.J., Assistant Professor of Political Science, Marquette University (Written for United Press International)

The first Amendment guarantees freedom of mind and freedom of religion. These freedoms command the states to distribute educational benefits equally to all children and students regardless of the school attended. Enforced conformity to the philosophical and theological orientation of state schools as a condition for sharing in educational benefits is a serious violation of freedom of thought and belief.

In a free society the individual person must be supreme and central. His value, dignity, and worth, his other-worldly destiny, his sonship of God, demand personal freedom in the things of the mind and spirit. These freedoms our forefathers wisely guaranteed to every individual in the First Amendment. Enforced conformity in the things of the mind and spirit, they knew, destroys the freedom of the individual and of society.

In the distribution of its benefits government must respect the constitutional rights of the individual. It cannot, for example, demand that the needy aged surrender their constitutional right to vote as a condition for sharing in old age assistance benefits.

Freedom of Choice

In the distribution of its educational benefits government must recognize children and students clothed in all their constitutional rights. One of these rights, says the Supreme Court, is the right, based on freedom of mind and religion, to attend the school of their choice. Children and students can not be forced to surrender their right as a condition for sharing in educational benefits. Such a condition is in violation of the First and Fourteenth Amendments.

These constitutional guarantees of freedom of mind and religion in the choice of school were incorporated in the G.I. Bill. Veterans were not forced to attend state colleges as a condition for sharing in public educational benefits. With subsidy in hand, they were free to attend the 474 Protestant, the 265 Catholic, the five Jewish institutions of higher education.

Liberal Americans in increasing numbers are saying that government cannot demand the surrender of freedom of mind and religion in the choice of school as the condition for sharing in educational benefits. Such a condition, like a condition on the right to vote, they say, violates the Bill of Rights.

Liberals Disturbed

"It is inconceivable," said the U.S. Supreme Court in denouncing imposed conditions, "that guarantees embedded in the Constitution of the United States may thus be manipulated out of existence." Liberals are disturbed, moreover, by the realization that, as the Court warned, "if the state may compel the surrender of one constitutional right as a condition of its favor, it may, in like manner, compel the surrender of all."

Freedom-conscious citizens, further, reject the idea that a child or student can be forced to conform to the philosophical and theological orientation of public education as a condition for sharing in government educational benefits. It makes no difference whether this orientation is Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, secularist or agnostic. The state cannot force a child or student to conform to it. Enforced conformity violates freedom of mind and freedom of religion. These liberals reject the philosophy of the conformitarians.

In order to protect the constitutional rights of nonconformist children and students, these citizens urge that gov-

ernment subsidize their education directly. This can be done by the certificate or tax credit method. The former entails a direct money grant to parents or students to help them pay tuition at the school of their choice. The latter entails a partial tax credit on amounts paid in tuition or fees at the school of their choice. This credit is subtracted from income tax.

A plan of direct subsidies for children and students who attend independent schools has a distinct advantage: it establishes only a government-student (or parent) relationship. It establishes no government-school relationship. This has two important consequences. First, it creates a new basis for government control of independent schools. Secondly, the confused issue of separation of church and state cannot properly be raised.

The certificate or tax credit plan does not give the aid to independent or church-related schools. It aids only the students, children and their parents.

The college-going G.I. was subsidized, not the school he attended. The President's Committee on Education Beyond High School said: "The Committee does not believe that this assistance to veterans was designed to help, even indirectly, the institutions. Actually, it imposed an enormous burden on them..."

Policy Not Criticized

Wilber G. Katz, Chicago University professor of law, declared that "Congress left veterans free as to their choice of school and profession." And he noted pointedly that "not even the most enthusiastic 'separationists' criticized this policy or questioned its constitutionality." Veterans used tax money to pay tuition at New York's Baptist Bible Seminary.

Besides liberals, taxpayers also are giving sober consideration to the certificate and tax credit plans. They are discovering that the adoption of either of these plans would, in a short span of years, save the taxpayer many hundreds of millions of dollars yearly for the education of American youth.

Salmon Fishermen Mystified by Cobweb-like Mass

Eureka—UPI—Samples of a mysterious filmy cobweb-like substance that came floating out of the sky to envelope a fishing boat were forwarded Monday to the University of California at Berkeley for identification.

George Korkan and Jack Curry, both of Trinidad, reported they were salmon fishing in the Pacific near here Saturday when the mass of diphanoan material floated from the sky.

"Our boat suddenly looked like it was million years old," Korkan said. "The stuff covered everything, including ourselves. It even hung from our fishing lines."

Civil Aeronautics Administration Dispatcher Norman Best, at the McKinleyville Airport, reported seeing the same substance three or four days ago when it settled in cobweb-like masses on the antenna tower.

Samples were taken to zoology technicians at Humboldt State college, but could not be identified. Dr. Erwin Biel-fuse, assistant professor of biological science, examined the material by microscope, but could make no identification. At first he thought it might be a mold, but later said this was not the case.

"The fact that it settles in mass," Biel-fuse said, "rules out it being an animal growth."

By THE REV. C. EMANUEL CARLSON, D.D., Executive Director, Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs (Written for United Press International)

An educational crisis exists throughout the world these days. New nations are emerging, old nations are seeking renewal, strong nations are seeking to be stronger, and education is involved for all of them.

If America is to develop the strength which represents our heritage we must take care to conserve the fundamental values and insights which have been distinctively ours. In this end I propose a nationwide aggressive re-study of the values which our Federal and State Constitutions are designed to guard. Many of these values are closely related to our educational system.

Democratic control of general education is one of these values. Dictators have made the schools a major target for their control. General education, democratically controlled by elected leaders, and carried forward by competent and professional educators gives strength to democracy. The public schools must not be permitted to become tools in the hands of special interests. Institutional interests, whether economic, political, religious or racial, ought not to control the general education of the nation.

Public Funds

The Federal and the State governments provide public funds for public education. This is in no sense a welfare dole. On the contrary, public schools are part of the public facilities in a community, in the same way that roads, parks or libraries are. They exist for the community in defense of the civic and personal competence of all people. It would be small help to our nation if churches, labor organizations, chambers of commerce, political parties and fraternal organizations were to be encouraged to recruit the children for their own special schools.

Freedom of the conscience is another value guarded by our American tradition and constitutions. Religious participation must be voluntary. Conformity is not religion. The use of coercive political powers to enforce prayers, church attendance and creeds would outrage the American public. Our reactions should be the same if the tax collector were to go after funds for religious education. Obviously, all instruction which is formulated for the attainment of religious objectives must be classified as religious education.

Care has been taken not to impose on the conscience of the child or the parents in the public schools. We must also be careful not to coerce taxpayers into a religious participation. Money represents their time and energy.

Free of Political Control

Freedom of the churches must also be understood and protected. They must be free of political control and of economic dependence. Relying on the commitment and the stewardship of their own people, the churches must have their own sources of income if they are to proclaim freely their highest ideals and prophetic insights. Dependence on public funds exposes them to control by political authorities and to jeopardy by the shifting movements of politics. Most countries which have ignored this principle are now known for low church attendance, anti-clericalism and even communism.

If public funds were available for sectarian education they would, of course, be equally available to all the groups. Many groups would feel that in self-defense they must open schools. Communities that are now served by one good public school could soon find themselves with a dozen church schools, which are high in cost but low in quality. Buildings, teachers, equipment, transportation would all be ineffectively used.

Such deterioration of general education in America just at the time when the Russians have started the world with the technical power of a government monopolized educational system would drastically influence the whole future of freedom. Our government would have no choice left but to impose strict controls on all schools. The public might demand the end of special interest efforts at general education.

In an enduring competitive situation those groups which

find cooperation most difficult would be the hardest hit. In some states the Baptists could be predominant. In several cities the Roman Catholics could predominate. In some areas Protestant alignments would produce cooperative schools. In such areas struggling minorities would be forced to compromise or to travel great distances to acceptable schools.

This is not the way to solve America's educational problems. On the contrary, propose a nation-wide re-study of the values guarded by our Constitutions. America's educational needs are great. Not only are the Russians making tremendous strides, but a new age with new needs for our people has opened before us. As an American people we must attain new education levels in all fields. Study groups are in order in every community all over the nation seeking the best answers to the conservation and the spreading of the fundamental insights of American democracy.

In this task the churches may well participate. Giving an adequate spiritual understanding is the responsibility of the church and the home. These can give more and better religious education without interfering with the improvement of the general education of our people.

HORN BROOK Queen, King Are Named

By KATHERINE CHAPMAN

Hornbrook—Carol Gettle and Darrell Jones, both students in Principal Harley Baker's seventh and eighth grade room, were crowned queen and king of the grammar school carnival held at the school Friday.

This was the second annual carnival by the Parent's club, the proceeds from which are used for the purchase of playground equipment, or other items needed by the school.

Mrs. Bryan Willingham was hostess on Monday, Nov. 3, for a baby shower for her sister, Mrs. Lloyd Raymond (Benny White) of Hills. Guests were Mrs. John Griffin, Mrs. L. C. Walsh and daughter, Sharee, Mrs. Tom Watt Jr., Mrs. L. E. Jeter, Mrs. Lawrence Breceda, Mrs. Ben Phillips, Mrs. Ardon Burns, Mrs. Wayne Cummins, Mrs. Frank Bear, Miss Lorraine White, Mrs. Doris Peters, Mrs. M. G. King of Hills, and Mrs. Ethel White who assisted Mrs. Willingham.

The honored guest, Mrs. Raymond, was unable to be present, because her baby, a son, was born at Ashland General hospital on Saturday, Nov. 1. The baby, who weighed 5 pounds, has been named Fred William after his paternal grandfather.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Smith of Winston, Ore., visited their daughters, Mrs. Bryan Willingham of Hornbrook and Mrs. Lloyd Raymond of Hills, the week end of Oct. 25.

Mrs. Minnie Bloomingcamp received word Tuesday morning of the death of her sister-in-law, Miss Dolly Bloomingcamp, of Los Angeles. Miss Bloomingcamp, who was 84 years old, came north each summer to visit her sister, Miss Elsie Bloomingcamp of Bogus, and other relatives in this area. She returned to her home in Los Angeles a few weeks ago.

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Jeter visited in Chico, Calif., last week end with their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Campbell and son, Ricky.

Home from Chico State college for the week end was Miss Mary Lee Rutledge, daughter of the W. A. Rutledges.

Gordon Jacobs went to Medford Tuesday evening to meet the plane on which Mrs. Jacobs was returning from her trip to Mexico.

Mrs. Frank Lowe left Wednesday for Klamath Falls for a visit with her sister.

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Fick spent several days last week visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Chapman, before continuing on to Canyonville, Ore., to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rimell. Mr. and Mrs. Fick plan to make their home in Canyonville for the time being.



TESTIFYING at murder trial of Carl Ann Fugate, 15, in Lincoln, Neb., Charles Starkweather, condemned killer, refutes her story she was terrified hostage during January mass murder spree.



STANDING ALONE, Frank M. Jordan, California's Republican Secretary of State, appears to be only survivor of Democratic landslide.



DEPEND ON GREYHOUND® TO GET YOU THERE SAFELY —AND ON TIME!

Any weather is safe-driving weather when you're on a Greyhound. Expert drivers take the wheel while you take it easy... read, rest, chat, catch up on some paper work. Many, many express schedules via super highways. Best of all, you arrive in the heart of town... on time!



PORTLAND
8 daily departures, 5 thru-expresses. \$7.45 one way, \$13.45 round trip, plus tax.
LOS ANGELES
8 daily departures, 5 thru-expresses. \$13.15 one way, \$23.70 round trip, plus tax.
PHOENIX, ARIZ.
8 daily departures, 5 thru-expresses. \$23.60 one way, \$42.50 round trip, plus tax.

IT'S SUCH A COMFORT TO TAKE THE BUS... AND LEAVE THE DRIVING TO US!



Winter Vacation Hint. Ask about Greyhound's pre-planned tours to Mexico, California, Florida, the Bowl games and many, many others, including all major cities.

How do you dare send a child to the store?

How is it you know you're taking no chances when you let a youngster take your shopping list? Isn't it for the same reason that you buy 70% of your family's food without actually seeing it? You know that

A good brand is your best guarantee... and that the name on the label is your best buying guide. You have learned to count on good

brand names. You know the company stands back of them. You know they protect you.

The more good brands you get to know, the fewer buying mistakes you'll make. Get acquainted with those brands in this newspaper. You'll get more value for your shopping money if you do.

BRAND NAMES FOUNDATION
Incorporated
A Non-Profit Educational Foundation
37 West 57th St., New York 19, N. Y.

A GOOD BRAND IS YOUR BEST GUARANTEE

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE



MONEY

At Crater Finance you may borrow for any worthwhile purpose on your FURNITURE — AUTO SALARY

and repay in monthly installments. You may choose the terms most suitable to you — up to 24 months.

Loans may be paid in advance or in full at any time.

Crater Finance CORPORATION

135 Pine Street
Central Point
Phone NO 4-1273

Frank Wilkinson, Mgr.
Convenient Parking

Japanese Missionaries

Rev. & Mrs. Arthur Allen

Report on 5 Years' Work in Tokyo

TONIGHT—8:00 P.M.

They Are Returning to Japan This Month

Apostolic Faith Church

3rd and Central — Medford

