

Federal Aid To Schools: Two Sides of Controversy Are Presented

Editor's note: This is the second of two dispatches summarizing arguments for and against federal aid to parochial schools. The previous report dealt with the constitutionality of such aid.

By LOUIS CASSELS
Washington —UPI— One of every eight children in the United States receives his education in a school operated by the Roman Catholic church.

The 12,700 Catholic elementary and high schools are financed at present entirely by private funds — tuition payments, contributions and endowments.

Some Americans, including the leading prelates of the Catholic church, contend that a constitutional way can be found to include these religious schools in any program of federal aid to education which may be enacted by Congress.

Others, including President Kennedy, a Catholic, assert that use of tax funds to support parochial schools would be unconstitutional.

Beyond the constitutional issue, there is a further dispute as to whether public aid for parochial schools would serve or harm the national interest.

Produces Sharp Cleavage

This controversy has produced one of the sharpest cleavages between religious groups in American history, with Catholics generally arrayed on one side, and Protestants and Jews on the other.

The Catholic position is that parochial school children have a right to participate in any distribution of federal aid funds, and that to exclude them would be discriminatory, unjust, and detrimental to the nation's overall strength and welfare.

In support of this position, leaders of the Catholic hierarchy have advanced the following arguments:

1. Catholic schools are "performing a public function" by supplying more than 5 million American children with an education which is accepted by the various states as fulfilling their requirements of compulsory education, and meeting their specific standards. At the present average rate of expenditure per pupil, it would cost the taxpayers nearly \$2 billion a year to educate these children in public schools.

2. The Catholic school system is suffering from the same shortages of classrooms and teachers that handicap public schools. If the national interest requires federal aid to strengthen public schools, it also calls for improving conditions in parochial schools.

3. Catholic parents who pay taxes to support public schools, and tuition to send their children to church schools, are carrying a heavy "double burden." It would be "unfair" to ask them to pay higher taxes to underwrite a federal aid to education program from which their own children would derive no benefits.

Leading Protestant and Jewish bodies, including the National Council of Churches and the American Jewish Congress, declare that federal aid to parochial schools would be detrimental to the national interest, even if it were constitutional which, they add, it isn't.

In support of their position, they make the following arguments:

1. If tax funds are made available to private schools, it won't be long before many different religious bodies and other groups will be lining up at the Treasury for their share. The net result will be a "fragmentation" of education in the United States which would gravely weaken and possibly destroy the public school system. Also, if a large proportion of America's children are educated in separate religious schools, instead of going to public schools together, the nation will suffer "cultural schisms" which will seriously impair its strength as a united democracy.

Fear Government Control
2. Any use of tax funds to aid religious schools would constitute an historic breach in the national policy of church state separation, which is deeply embedded in American tradition if not absolutely required by the Constitution. It is a short step from government money for church schools to government money for other religious enterprises.

3. Bachelors, childless couples and many other citizens who do not use the public schools pay taxes to help maintain them. There are almost as many Catholic children (upwards of 4 million) in public schools as there are in parochial schools. And all Catholic parents are free to send their children to public schools if they wish. Therefore it is fallacious to argue that a federal aid program limited to public schools "discriminates" against Catholics.

This summary of the main points of the dispute does not cover all of the arguments on either side. But it does indicate how complex and divisive this issue is.

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MISS FLORIDA-Annette Baker, right, of Sarasota on June 20, 1960. Miss Baker, 20, has been named as the new Miss Florida after Miss Magda, who was secretly married last November, resigned. (UPI Telephoto)

Hearing Aid Business Booming

Doubling of Volume Seen Near

By HENRY J. BECHTOLD
UPI Financial Editor

New York — Hearing aid sales have been booming, yet fewer people seem to be wearing them.

Behind this modern paradox are the great strides being made in perfecting electronic aids that tuck out behind an ear, or are hidden in eyeglass frames.

This success in miniaturization and camouflage has turned the hearing aid industry into a \$80 million annual business, and expectations are for a doubling or tripling of this volume in the not too distant future, according to the president of Oticon Listener Corp.

Leland E. Rosemond noted that about 1.5 to 2 million persons now wear various types of hearing aids, but about 5 to 8 million more need them.

But he is confident that as people learn how inconspicuous modern aids are, and how well they improve their hearing, they will turn to them in increasing numbers.

High fashion has come to the hearing aid field with slim, modish eyeglass frames

that give no hint of the full-range aids contained in them.

In another significant advance, Rosemond said his firm has a microphone smaller than a fingertip which is buried in the bridge of eyeglasses. This front hearing brings in the voice of a person facing the wearer about the babble of a crowded room.

Rosemond started in the hearing aid business 30 years ago, and in 1954 bought Oticon. It was that same year that the Ossining, N. Y., firm brought out the eyeglass frame hearing aid which was an instant success, and today accounts for the vast majority of industry sales.

There are two basic types of hearing aids—bone conduction and air conduction. In the former, sound vibrations are transmitted through the bone behind the ear to the middle ear, bypassing the outer ear. In air conduction, amplified sound is led directly into the ear canal.

To determine what type of aid is needed and whether for one or both ears, audiologists carefully test a person's hearing to decide the level and type of loss.

Rosemond explained that some persons may hear very well at the middle frequencies and not at the higher ones where "s" sounds are formed. Others may not hear

low frequencies. But he feels that more tone testing is not enough.

"People don't listen to tones, they listen to speech," he declared. A scientifically prepared phonetically balanced list of words comprising all sounds in English speech are played from a recording, and the persons being tested repeats them.

From this the audiologist prepares a chart showing the exact hearing loss and the hearing aid is adjusted to amplify in the needed range.

Enrollment at SOC Shows 9 Per Cent Increase Over High

Ashland — Current enrollment at Southern Oregon college for spring term exceeds 1,200 which is more than a 9 per cent increase over last year's all-time high of 1,116 for the term. A breakdown of the present enrollment figures show 700 men and 504 women registered for classes.

Dr. Elmo N. Stevenson, president of Southern Oregon college, stated that the increase was a significant achievement in view of the fact that the economic situation in the region has not been at all favorable during the past few months.

Dr. Stevenson pointed out that the reason for the vastly increased enrollment was that students from various high schools in Southern Oregon were beginning to realize that they could receive a better education for less expense.

First year students numbered 410 and exceeded those for other years, second year students at 320, third year students 210, and fourth year with 160 enrolled.

Attesting to the growing attraction of the graduate program at the college was the fact that even though most of the program is designed for summer session, 22 were registered in elementary, secondary or other classifications and 47 were listed as special graduate students, that is those who are registered for 6 hours of credit or less for the term.

One of the largest percentages of gain, slightly more than 35 per cent was in the rapidly expanding general studies program which provides a 4-year degree providing a broad general education leading to a number of specialized fields after graduation.

New from high schools were 13 from Oregon and 3 from other states. New to the campus from other colleges were 42 students, 20 of whom were from other institutions in Oregon state system of higher education, four from other Oregon colleges, and 18 from other states.

Fifty-eight veterans were enrolled, 46 from the Korean Conflict Act, PL550, and the balance being from the state of Oregon with 12 veterans enrolled.

Mrs. Mabel W. Winston, college registrar and dean of women, stated that the enrollment figures were not final as a few registrations have been held up for lack of transcripts, sickness, and similar reasons.

QUAKE HITS CHINA
Moscow —UPI— The Soviet news agency Tass reported a "strong" earthquake jolted western China Thursday night. Tass said the shock was recorded by the seismological station in Moscow. It placed the epicenter of the earthquake east of Kashgar in westernmost Sinkiang Province.

Eight Parks To Open April 18

Salem — Eight of Oregon's overnight camping parks will open Tuesday, April 18, to coincide with the opening of trout season, according to Mark H. Astrup, state park superintendent.

They are Collier park, 31 miles north of Klamath Falls (if weather conditions permit); Detroit Lake; Fort Stevens near Astoria; Owyhee Lake near Nyssa; Susan Creek in the North Umpqua Forest highway; Cove Palsades, off Highway 97; Tumalo, north of Bend; and Ochoco Lake, near Prineville.

In southern Oregon, Laurelhurst State park will open for overnight camping May 24. Harris Beach park, two miles north of Brookings on Highway 101, is already open for overnight.

Thirty state parks will open overnight camping facilities May 24 to signal general opening of camping season, unless weather conditions force a postponement. Generally all state parks are open to the public for day use throughout the year where weather conditions permit.

Astrup said that all of Oregon's parks are in exceptionally fine condition with facilities renovated and improved

OLDEST TUG RETIRED
London—UPI—The oldest tug on the Thames got a chorus of whistles, horns, and sirens Thursday on its retirement after 76 years on the river. The 219-ton Hibernia went into service in the reign of Queen Victoria.

Man Jumps To Death From Bridge in Salem

Salem—UPI—A man described as in his middle 40s climbed over the railing of the Marion st. bridge Thursday and dropped 50 feet to his death in the Willamette river.

Police said the man's body, unidentified, was not immediately recovered.

Witnesses told police the man splashed into the water, struggled weakly for a minute and then went under.

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Disappearance of Judge Anderson Causes Legal Snarl

Salem —UPI— A legal snarl over the disappearance of Circuit Judge Richard Anderson of Newport continues in Salem.

The 38-year-old jurist vanished March 18 on a flight from Lebanon to Newport in a private plane. A search was begun after he radioed he was lost in a storm but nothing was found.

The judge's term runs through January, 1965. There is no immediate problem over the vacancy because the supreme court appointed another circuit judge to temporarily sit on the bench at Newport. But these judges have their own duties at home and are rotated.

No Evidence of Death
The governor can appoint a new judge to succeed one who dies in office but there is no evidence to date of Judge Anderson's death.

J. R. McCullough, supreme court administrative assistant, says the court's job is to keep circuit judges on duty to hear cases in Lincoln county.

The attorney general has had no request for an opinion on the subject and therefore no action is needed of him. Sen. Carl Francis (R-Dayton) is looking into the possibility of legislation providing for succession to public officers missing and thought to be dead.

The research thus far indi-

cates there may be a question of constitutionality. Circuit Judge Ralph Holman of Oregon City is filling in at Newport now but he will return to his home county of Clackamas April 22. The high court is now lining up another circuit judge to continue on the Lincoln bench.

Portlander Killed In One-Car Crash

Richland, Wash. —UPI— A 75-year-old Portland businessman was injured fatally in a one-vehicle crash near here Thursday.

Dead was Frank A. Urban Sr., chairman of the board of the Urban Plumbing and Heating company of Portland. Urban died in a hospital here about an hour after his truck left the road and rolled over at the Hanford Atomic Works reservation.

The victim was a subcontractor for the Sound Construction company, which is working on a new plutonium production reactor for the Hanford plant.

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