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LBJ to Congress

Legislation Asked For Teacher Corps

Washington — (NC) — President Johnson sent a three-pronged "teachings profession" bill to Congress which embodies proposals he first announced to the National Education Association's convention July 2.

The legislation proposed by the President would:

- Create a national teachers corps to serve in city slums and areas of rural poverty under the

direction and control of local school districts.

- Establish a program of fellowships to prepare students for teaching careers and to help experienced teachers become better qualified.

- Allow federal aid to institutions of higher learning for the betterment of teacher education programs.

One objective of the bill is to assist teachers, especially Negroes, who are displaced by school integration.

During the first of the three years of operation provided for by the bill, the national teachers corps would recruit about 6,000 teachers, who would serve in local communities at the request of the local districts. "They will be local, not federal, employees," Mr. Johnson said.

The bill specifically prohibits any federal interference in the administration of local school systems.

The fellowships included in the bill would be awarded for up to two years of graduate study with major emphasis on the fields of elementary and secondary education. In addition to the fellowships, an allowance of \$2,500 would be paid to the institution at which each fellowship holder is studying.

The U.S. Commissioner of Education would also be permitted to pay part of the cost of improving graduate and undergraduate teacher training programs.

UN Asked to End Forced Marriages

Geneva, Switzerland — (NC) — A representative of St. Joan's International Alliance, a Catholic women's organization, has told delegates at the United Nations Economic and Social Council that something must be done to end the practice of forced marriages and easy divorces.

In many countries, said Isabelle Archinard, the dowry system perpetuates forced marriages even where they have been legally forbidden. In other countries, men still purchase wives and can divorce them by a simple declaration before a notary.

Another speaker, Mrs. Graber-Duvernay, said on behalf of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations that full civil and political freedom for women can be based only on education. She said it would be senseless to give women a larger role in the societies of some countries if women are not literate and educated to the needs of society.

"This is particularly true where serious problems—the population explosion, for instance—are concerned," she said. "If education of the women tends to develop her sense of responsibility, it must be remembered that it is with her husband—as the conclusion of a dialogue between adults—that she will assume this responsibility, especially when questions relating to family affairs or to the education of the children are concerned."

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS SET RETREAT AT BELMONT, JULY 30

The annual retreat of the North Carolina Catholic Daughters, usually held on the Labor Day weekend at Sacred Heart Junior College will be held this year the weekend of July 30. Mrs. John Shields, state regent, has notified all the courts. All reservations should be made by writing directly to Mother Mary James, Sacred Heart Junior College, Belmont, N.C.

Father Richard Wahl of the Oratorian Fathers, Rock Hill, S. C., will be the retreat master for the weekend which will begin on Friday at 5:30 p.m. and close on Sunday afternoon.

AID Official:

End of U.S. Aid Program To Mexico Not Retaliatory

Washington — (NC) — Cutting off shipments of free surplus foods to Mexico—in which the distribution program organized through the American Catholic Relief organization played the largest role—was neither retaliatory nor abrupt, according to government sources here.

A spokesman for the Agency for International Development said the termination of Food for Peace shipments to Mexico was mutually agreed on by the Mexican and American governments because Mexico is now producing grain surpluses at the same time that U.S. surpluses are being depleted. He denied publishing reports to the effect that the U.S. program was stopped in retaliation against Mexico's selling grain to Communist China. Rather, he said, it was in line with procedures being followed in other countries whose production has come into line with domestic needs, such as Italy.

WHILE FOOD shipments were cut off with the start of the new fiscal year on July 1, there are enough American supplies on hand to continue distribution to the needy until early September. The aid official acknowledged that Services of Economic Volunteer Aides (SAVE), the Mexican Catholic organization which has distributed the U.S. foods in behalf

of Catholic Relief Services-National Catholic Welfare Conference, will be hardest hit by the cut-off. (SAVE through its 32,000 volunteer workers has been distributing some 110 million pounds of U.S. government foodstuffs annually.) He noted that the Mexican government in distributing its own surpluses does not intend to work through church-related voluntary agencies.

(In New York, an official of Catholic Relief Services said his agency still is hoping for government reconsideration, so that the aid program can be "phased out" over a longer period. He said that not only will the CRS programs for supplementing the diets of needy children be hard hit, but so too will economic aid projects such as irrigation programs to make arid valleys productive, in which the workers are paid part of their wages in surplus U.S. foods.)

AT THE SAME time, the U.S. official charged that SAVE leaders in Mexico City have seized on the ending of the program to issue exaggerated statements which are nothing less than "malicious anti-U.S. propaganda."

The AID spokesman denied that the Mexican grain surpluses are simply a temporary phenomenon.

Many Questions

WCC Leader Comments On Talks with Vatican

Geneva, Switzerland — (NC) — Dr. Willem Visser 't Hooft, general secretary of the World Council of Churches, said here that the special commission created by the WCC and the Vatican Secretariat for promoting Christian Unity has so many questions to discuss that it may schedule more frequent meetings.

At the same time he emphasized that the World Council, since it is not itself a church, would not discuss matters of church doctrine with the Catholic representatives.

DOCTRINAL MATTERS, said Dr. Visser 't Hooft, should be left to individual churches. He noted that the Unity Secretariat has already made plans to meet with representatives of the Lutheran World Federation.

He indicated that similar talks would be initiated between the Vatican and the Anglican communion after the close of the ecumenical council.

The Dutch-born church leader spoke at the dedication of the new Geneva headquarters of the WCC, an international body of Protestant, Anglican and Orthodox churches.

IT HAS BEEN reported that some WCC members are concerned that the 14-member commission formed with the Vatican would engage in doctrinal discussions. Dr. Visser 't Hooft apparently alluded to this fear when he said the commission "can only deal with questions which fall within the competence of the WCC."

Three areas, he said, will be taken up by the commission. "The first is ecumenism. The second concerns problems on which we are at variance, such as religious freedom, baptism and rebaptism and mixed marriages. The third centers on the possibility of concrete collaboration, especially on problems of social and international justice.

"THESE QUESTIONS alone provide a wide scope for discussion, and the need for more frequent discussions already has been felt. A second meeting of the commission probably will be held before the end of the year."

Dr. Visser 't Hooft observed that the World Council is neither a church nor a super-church, and thus is not competent to take up matters of doctrine.

"Let us hope and not fear," he said, "that other working groups will be set up for discussion between the Roman Catholic Church and the various major reformed and Protestant churches. Specific doctrinal issues can be debated in such groups."

Dr. Visser 't Hooft said the Vatican has agreed that a WCC observer should attend meetings with individual churches.

He said that Mexican wheat production has been rising sharply, and because its granaries are overflowing, Mexico recently concluded a credit agreement to send 400,000 tons to Egypt. Because wheat production is mainly on irrigated land, it is not reliant on the rain.

See End of Aid, page 2A

Red Press Attacks Right Of Conscience

Hong Kong — (NC) — Recent articles in the Red Chinese press have taken the line that the conscience of the government determines the conscience of its people.

The Youth Daily, the official organ of the Communist Youth Guard in Shanghai, featured an article recently on "the reactionary aspects of conscience."

"We hear talk about such ideas as every person has a conscience," said the article.

"Some people are even afraid to offend their conscience by revealing that a friend, or relative, or teacher is opposed to socialism and class struggle . . . some even think that our enemies may have a conscience."

All such thoughts are but the efforts of "capitalists and landlords" to hide behind world "humanism" in their desire to play down the "essential contradiction between the deprived and the depriving classes," said the article. "The laboring class must make this distinction clear even though the depriving class tries to blur it with the slogan, 'we are all men and all have a conscience.'"

The Youth Daily warned its readers to avoid the trap of conscience. "A revolutionary must never hold conscience dear," it said. "Capitalist members of the depriving class are still trying to restore the monarchy. We must not be beguiled by their talk of conscience and humanity, but resolutely hold to our proletarian position, and tear up the deceiving cloak of conscience."



Christmas Stamp to Have Religious Theme

WASHINGTON — (NC) — A religious theme will be prominent on this year's Christmas postage stamp for the first time in the four-year history of the special holiday stamps.

The design for the red, green and yellow stamp is taken from a 1939 watercolor painting by Boston artist Lucille Gloria Chabot, showing a weathervane whose chief feature is the Archangel Gabriel blowing his horn. The painting of the weathervane, which was manufactured in 1840 by a Boston firm is now in the National Gallery of Art here.

Postmaster General John A. Gronouski's decision on the design followed consultations with government lawyers to determine whether the design would be constitutional.