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**SENATOR
 SAM ERVIN
 SAYS**



WASHINGTON - - It is paradoxical that at the very time when many American educators are advocating greater academic freedom a new battle looms over the insistent demand of some religious groups that church school activities be financed out of the public treasury.

Indeed, in his March 3rd Education Message to Congress, the President seemed to sanction this idea and urge that Federal monies be used to finance the parochial school system.

This challenge to the principle of separation of Church and state should not be lightly dismissed, because Federal funding of church-owned or church-controlled educational institutions has a "money" appeal to many parents who send their children to sectarian schools and who are chafing at rising educational costs. Many feel that a "little Federal money" would do no harm, and might help the educational system meet the financial crisis of this age. Those who accept such arguments, however, do not see the danger that when religious activities become state-supported, religion suffers a mortal blow. Moreover, State support of a church and its activities is bad because it violates the First Amendment of the Constitution. The church that depends upon tax money for the support of its endeavors--rather than upon the voluntary gifts of its adherents--loses spiritual strength, and what begins as governmental aid ultimately runs the full cycle of governmental control.

During my service in the Senate, I have strenuously opposed the use of tax money for the support of religious institutions and their activities. As a matter of fact, I have secured Senate passage of a proposal on four occasions--twice in the form of amendments to education bills and twice in the form of separate bills--to make it certain that Federal funds should have jurisdiction to determine the constitutionality of grants and loans of Federal tax money to religious institutions. Regrettably, the proposal never did get through the House because the Judiciary Committee of that body chose not to act upon it.

After I waged these battles, however, the matter went to the United States Supreme Court and in its *Flast* decision (1968), the Court laid down the principle that as far as the First Amendment is concerned, a private taxpayer can bring suit in a Federal court to challenge the validity of grants and loans of Federal tax money to religious denominations. So the Court ruling has now gone beyond my proposed bill in support of the principle of separation of church and state.

The fact that the President has recently urged Congress to reconsider the use of tax funds to finance parochial schools indicates that the battle is not over.

In saying this, I wish to make it abundantly clear that I believe that religious education ought to be encouraged. This should be done through private contributions and not tax contributions.

I would hope that for the good of our churches and of our country that Congress and the Administration will not embark upon a new Federal aid program for the support of religious institutions and their educational activities. To do so is certain to stir up much dissension and strife throughout this nation, and raises the prospect that our nation will become embroiled in quarrels among religious denominations seeking to get their "hand in the public till."

BBB Warns Of Fraud

(Cont'd from page 1)

Truth-In-Lending Act in that they do not disclose all of the terms of the credit arrangement, as finance charge, annual percentage rate, etc.

Finally the Bureau suggests that interested students should always check with the BBB on the company or schools before signing a contract or paying any money.

Comment from the Capital -

UNDERCOVER RUMORS AND REPORTS

by Vant Neff



Behind-the-scenes hijack story you probably won't see in the regular news coverage: it is reported that Jewish hostages among the kidnapped plane passengers were subjected to one humiliation after another. True, they were not physically assaulted, but they were the victims of untold emotional stress. When new troops of Palestinian Liberation Front guerrillas took over guard watch, the Jews were marched outside the planes and forced to stand in the Arab desert, while the guards spat at them and near them. The mood of the captors was ugly, reminding the Jews of their centuries-long heritage of oppression at the hands of various people. For the most part, the hijack victims were not Israelis but American vacationers including women and small children. The injustice of hijacking in general has aroused the ire of the civilized world, but the alleged behavior of the Palestinian troops in this particular instance was unconscionable.

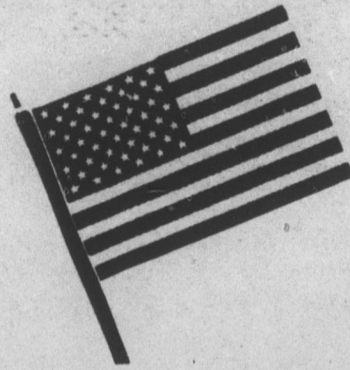
Frivolous financial note from Pakistan: the beggars are organizing a labor union, and plan branches all through the country. (Begging is a business there.) Next time you're traveling to Pakistan and are approached by a panhandler, please remember that part of the money you put in his palm may go into a union treasury, and never be used by the "poor" beggar at all!

One strike after another! And no one really wins! I fear that the General Motors walkout is no exception. Examine the facts: 350,000 workers idle and without their normal income. Thousands more in related industries--tire, seat belt and auto accessories makers--felt the pinch of non-production. (I can't imagine that the unionists--men with families to feed and bills to pay--could possibly enjoy the situation.) Half of the nation's automobile output halted. Delayed car delivery--and if you're on the list for one, you may wait and wait, and then pay more for it. That's the cost of a strike.

The United Auto Workers Union, the UAW, made a bid for an overall \$9 to \$12 billion wage increase over the three year contract. No one objects to an earned raise, but higher pay for the same work only means higher prices for all of us, on almost everything. The high dollar demands made by UAW leader Leonard Woodcock and his union associates at the GM

bargaining table--40 to 50% pay jumps--can't be matched by the rest of the population. As the inflationary trend accelerates, the raises won't mean a thing, and the workers won't really be much ahead of the game. And the rest of us will be in the hole.

Talking about inflation, the Red-dominated Czech authorities are so fearful of their citizens traveling to the West and not returning that they have raised the fares a prohibitive 275%. Their apprehension about defection is quite understandable, in view of the great numbers of disillusioned Czechoslovakians, including a number of diplomats, who have quietly "disappeared" into the free world. Bluntly speaking, I hope that the liberty-loving Czechs won't be dissuaded by the rising cost of freedom.



Remember pledging allegiance to the flag in school? It's a different scene now. Times have changed. A young man old enough to know better--nineteen--wore the American flag as a poncho. His elastic concept of civil liberties landed him behind bars. The judge sentenced him to four months and fined him \$250. This boy isn't alone in his counter-cultural reaction against our American traditions. A national magazine displayed a full color picture of a model in bed, draped in flag-patterned sheets, with pillow cases to match. The American flag is parodied in bikini bathing suits. Trouser patches. Shirts. Ties. Obscene films. And what have you. Must we accept this abuse? Wouldn't we be well-advised to return to the values and standards on which our country was founded--a love of liberty and a healthy respect for law, order and tradition?

If you had invested, directly or indirectly, in Uganda, the Sudan or Somalia, to help these fledgling African nations get a foothold in the modern industrial world, you might be in for a

costly disappointment today. Recently, the governments of these developing countries confiscated a great percentage of foreign companies doing business there. Many of these firms are American. Now the problem is compensation. Who pays the rightful owners for their investments and financial losses? (Or does anyone?) Nationalized industry may be nice for the newborn nations today, but what will they do tomorrow when they need further investment and advice? Once bitten, twice shy. Americans, look out!

Texasans pride themselves on growing things bigger and better than the rest of us. Texas Congressman, Senator John Tower, has introduced a bill which promises to balance our country's one-sided labor legislation. Senator Tower obviously isn't impressed with the activities of the National Labor Relations Board, and to my mind, he is quite correct. The NLRB, a politically-appointed, five-man group, is supposed to rule impartially on employer-worker disputes, but the consistently pro-labor-leader pattern of its decisions has caused many a snicker in Washington. Now, Senator Tower has suggested replacing the NLRB with Federal Courts in order to give all participants in labor controversies a fair shake. My vote for labor law reform--and quick termination of the prejudiced NLRB--goes to the Towering Texan. The acceptance of his proposal may put the union chieftains' noses out of joint, but they've been on a winning streak far too long. Isn't it time for the "little man"--you and I and the union rank-and-file member--to have a turn?

Another dose of one-sided justice meted out by the National Labor Relations Board: a handful of women unionists--mothers who had to work to make ends meet--returned to their jobs during a strike. The union levied heavy disciplinary fines against them amounting to \$500 each. Incidentally, they earned something like \$1.75 an hour. Their sympathetic employer protested against the excessive fines and attempted to represent the women against the union. The NLRB said, "No!" Decisions such as this--pro-big union, anti-little individual--are typical of the NLRB. But it doesn't serve the best interests of society, the workers, or our economy, in my opinion.

**HIT THE MARK --USE
 CHRISTMAS SEALS**

