



DECEMBER, 1967

CATHOLIC EDUCATION - In many circles today, Catholic education is being discussed. Some of the interesting points we have heard recently are these:

During the past month, the American Catholic bishops met in Washington, D.C. At that meeting, they adopted a statement on Catholic schools. Our bishops reinforced public confidence in Catholic education; they reassured those of us who are involved and interested in Catholic education of their complete interest. They declared that the Catholic elementary and secondary schools are an indispensable component of the Church's total commitment to education in the United States. The bishops promised to continue to improve and strengthen these schools. They expressed hope that more young men and women will join religious congregations devoted to Catholic education. The Holy Ghost Fathers, Benedictine Sisters, Sisters of Mercy and Sisters of the Precious Blood who staff Gerard High School would welcome qualified candidates who are generous and who have a desire to help people in need. The bishops further pointed out that the best efforts of teachers are in vain unless the parents reinforce lessons on Christian living. Teachers need the backing of homes where virtue is practiced, serious study is encouraged, and the authority of the school is supported.

Fr. Andrew M. Greeley, a prominent sociologist who is with the National Opinion Research Center in Chicago, Illinois, gave an address at the annual convention of the National Catholic Education Association in Atlantic City, New Jersey, during March of this year. At that time, he said there could be no doubt, on the basis of the National Opinion Research Center's data, that Catholic high schools are much better academically than their public counterparts. In a report he presented on students currently in high schools, the evidence was overwhelming that students in Catholic high schools are more serious about their studies, work harder, do better in class, and are far more likely to plan to continue their education than students from other high schools. Even when all the various background factors were held constant, the Catholic high schools in the study emerged as places with rigorous academic demands and students who are fully prepared to put in the time, effort and energy necessary to meet these demands. A colleague of Fr. Greeley, Seymour Warkov, found in his studies that even with background factors held constant, the graduates of Catholic high schools obtained their graduate and undergraduate degrees more quickly than the graduates of other high schools. In that same address, Fr. Greeley brought attention to another important finding which is of interest to us. Donald Light, in a recent issue of the Review of Religious Research, calls attention to the discovery of the fact that an atmosphere of intimacy and friendship prevails in the smaller Catholic high schools. In this environment of charity, greater intellectual and emotional development is possible.

FACULTY DOINGS - Fr. Evanstock, Sister Mary Clement, S.M., Sister Mary Carolin, S.M., and yours truly attended the Arizona Education Association convention in Tucson early in November. At that time, Fr. Evanstock was elected state treasurer of the Arizona Association of Teachers of Mathematics, and yours truly was elected vice-president of the Arizona Association of Catholic Secondary School Administrators.

CAMARO COUNTDOWN - We are grateful to all faculty members, students, parents and friends who helped in our recent donation drive. On November 18, the 1968 Camaro was won by Mr. Arnold Edwards, 143 Garden Street, Prescott, Arizona. The winning ticket number was 596. The results of the raffle, which are reported below, were not as great as we had hoped for, but we are thankful to all those who helped in any way on this project.

Receipts from sale of tickets	\$6,426.00
Price of car	\$2,575.13
Printing of raffle tickets	96.76
Prizes (top salesman, top class, etc.)	198.00
Miscellaneous car expense (gasoline, etc)	10.00
	<u>2,879.89</u>

Net profit realized from Camaro Countdown \$3,546.11

FAMILY NIGHT - The Family Night was a great success. Well over a thousand people came to Gerard on November 18, had a delicious barbeque dinner, enjoyed free amusements, patronized the booths, and spent a pleasant evening with members of the Gerard family. Our sincere thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Spresser, their wonderful committee, and to all who helped to make this evening so successful. The charity of the Catholic high school was in great evidence that evening.

THANKSGIVING PROGRAM - The same great charity was demonstrated in a fine way on the day before Thanksgiving when the Gerard faculty and students worshiped together at a Mass of Thanksgiving and then enjoyed a buffet lunch together. Our gratitude goes to all those who helped to make this event so memorable.

GERARD HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING - This regular meeting will be held on Thursday, November 30, at 8:00 p.m., in St. Thomas More Hall. Sister Mary Clement, S.M., will present a program introducing the Gerard Film Festival for 1967-68. She will show two very short movies which will help the audience to better evaluate films. No admission will be charged for this program. After Sister Mary Clement's program, refreshments will be served and parents will have an opportunity to meet with the individual teachers in their classrooms. Parents have had a good opportunity to scrutinize the first-quarter report cards, and any questions about them should be directed to the appropriate teachers.

IN-SERVICE PROGRAM - The faculties of Bourgade High School, Brophy Prep, Good Shepherd School for Girls, St. John's Indian School, St. Mary's High School, Seton High School and Xavier High School will meet with the Gerard High School faculty in St. Thomas More Hall on Monday, December 4, at 1:00 p.m., for another session of the In-Service Training Program. Dr. Nelson Haggerson, Chairman of the Department of Secondary Education at Arizona State University, will conduct the program. Classes will be dismissed at noon. No students will be allowed to remain on the campus that afternoon.

FILM FESTIVAL - The first film of the 1967-68 Film Festival, "Nobody Waved Goodbye", will be shown in St. Thomas More Hall on Wednesday, December 6, 1967, at 8:00 p.m. Four other films

will be shown throughout the year on the dates listed below:

January 24	David and Lisa
February 21	Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner
March 27	La Strada
April 24	Wild Strawberries

The season ticket for adults will be \$4.00, for students, \$2.00. Admission to single films will be \$1.00 for adults and 50¢ for students.

GERARD HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING - The Board Meeting for December will be held on Wednesday evening, December 13, 1967, in Room 122 at 8:00 p.m.

FREE DAYS - Friday, December 8, is a Holy Day of Obligation and there will be no classes at Gerard High School that day.

Friday, December 15, will be a holiday for those students who sold \$25.00 in tickets for the Camaro Countdown.

Christmas vacation will begin at 12:00 noon on Thursday, December 21, 1967, and will end at 8:20 a.m. on Tuesday, January 2, 1968.