VIEWPOINT

THE BATTALION
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

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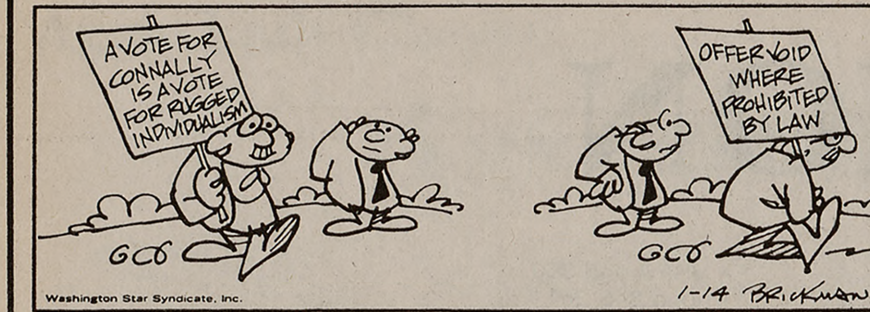
the small society **by Brickman**



A VOTE FOR CONNALLY IS A VOTE FOR RUGGED INDIVIDUALISM
OFFER VOID WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW
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GCO
Washington Star Syndicate, Inc.
1-14 BRICKMAN

Candidate argues GOP should unite

By DAVID S. BRODER

DES MOINES — For sheer eloquence, there was no one in the Republican presidential candidates' debate here the other night who bested Rep. John B. Anderson of Illinois. But Anderson was arguing a proposition which Republican conventions have rejected consistently for two decades — even when it was propounded by such lavishly financed progressive as the late Nelson A. Rockefeller.

The liberal congressman from Rockford with the low-budget campaign argued that Republicans should be "pragmatic" enough to realize that their normal conservative approach has enlisted the support of only "one of four voters in the country."

To become a majority party, Anderson said, Republicans must combine their "frugality and prudence" on fiscal matters with a demonstration that they are "compassionate on social questions."

That sounds like a sensible suggestion, but no Republican presidential nominee in a generation has sought to build a coalition with the kind of "independents and disaffected Democrats" Anderson has in mind — those who support social reforms and civil rights. Republicans win many elections at the state level that way, but not presidential nominations.

Yet it is obvious that there are "disaffected Democrats" of a somewhat different stripe who might be brought into a Republican coalition. One of them, Jeane Kirkpatrick, a Georgetown University political scientist, has expressed the views of her group in a provocative article in the new issue of Commonsense, the lively scholarly journal published by the Republican National Committee.

Kirkpatrick is one of the leaders on the Coalition for a Democratic Majority, an assemblage of Humphrey-Jackson-Moynihan supporters who, as she puts it, believe that "the Carter administration has given us a brand of McGovernism without McGovern that is, at best, only slightly less objectionable than the authentic, original product."

"We see its foreign policy as more worried about restraining the use of American power than about containing the new phase of Soviet expansionism," Kirkpatrick complains. "Its economic policies (are) too punitive of business interests, too careless of labor's concerns; its social policies . . . too coercive and too subversive of such fundamental principles as merit."

The alternatives to Carter within the Democratic Party — Ted Kennedy and Jerry Brown — are worse, Kirkpatrick says.

Are she and her friends then ripe for conversion to Republicanism? No, she says. "It is hard for people who care about politics to switch party," and, besides, "Republicans . . . remind us of corporate board rooms and country clubs." So much, it would seem, for John Connally and George Bush — and probably for Ronald Reagan as well. Who then?

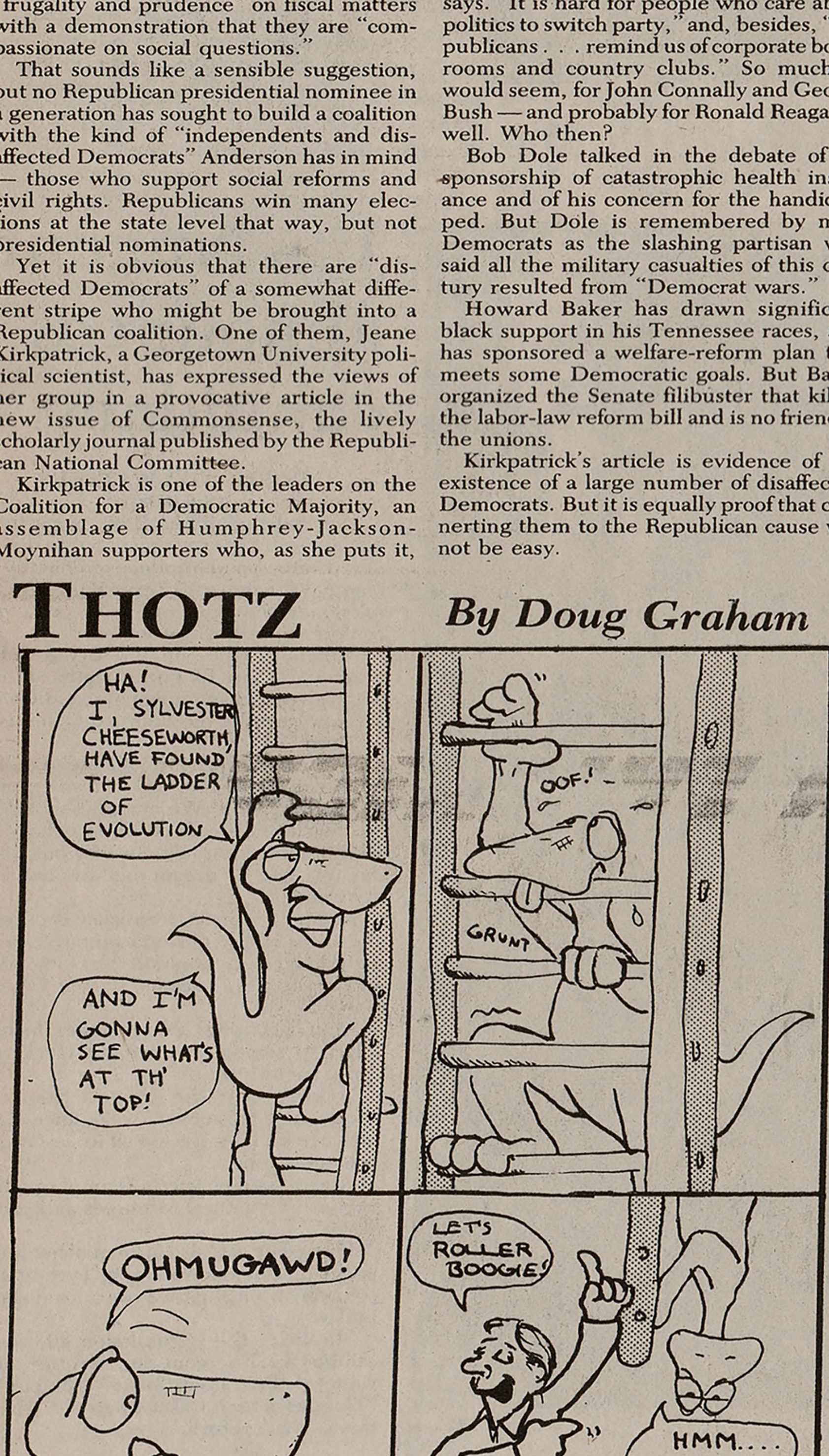
Bob Dole talked in the debate of his sponsorship of catastrophic health insurance and of his concern for the handicapped. But Dole is remembered by most Democrats as the slashing partisan who said all the military casualties of this century resulted from "Democrat wars."

Howard Baker has drawn significant black support in his Tennessee races, and has sponsored a welfare-reform plan that meets some Democratic goals. But Baker organized the Senate filibuster that killed the labor-law reform bill and is no friend of the unions.

Kirkpatrick's article is evidence of the existence of a large number of disaffected Democrats. But it is equally proof that converting them to the Republican cause will not be easy.

THOTZ

By Doug Graham



HA! I, SYLVESTER CHEESEWORTH, HAVE FOUND THE LADDER OF EVOLUTION
AND I'M GONNA SEE WHAT'S AT TH' TOP!
OOF!
GRUNT
OHMUGAWD!
LET'S ROLLER BOOGIE!
HMM.... WRONG END.
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DG

THE BATTALION

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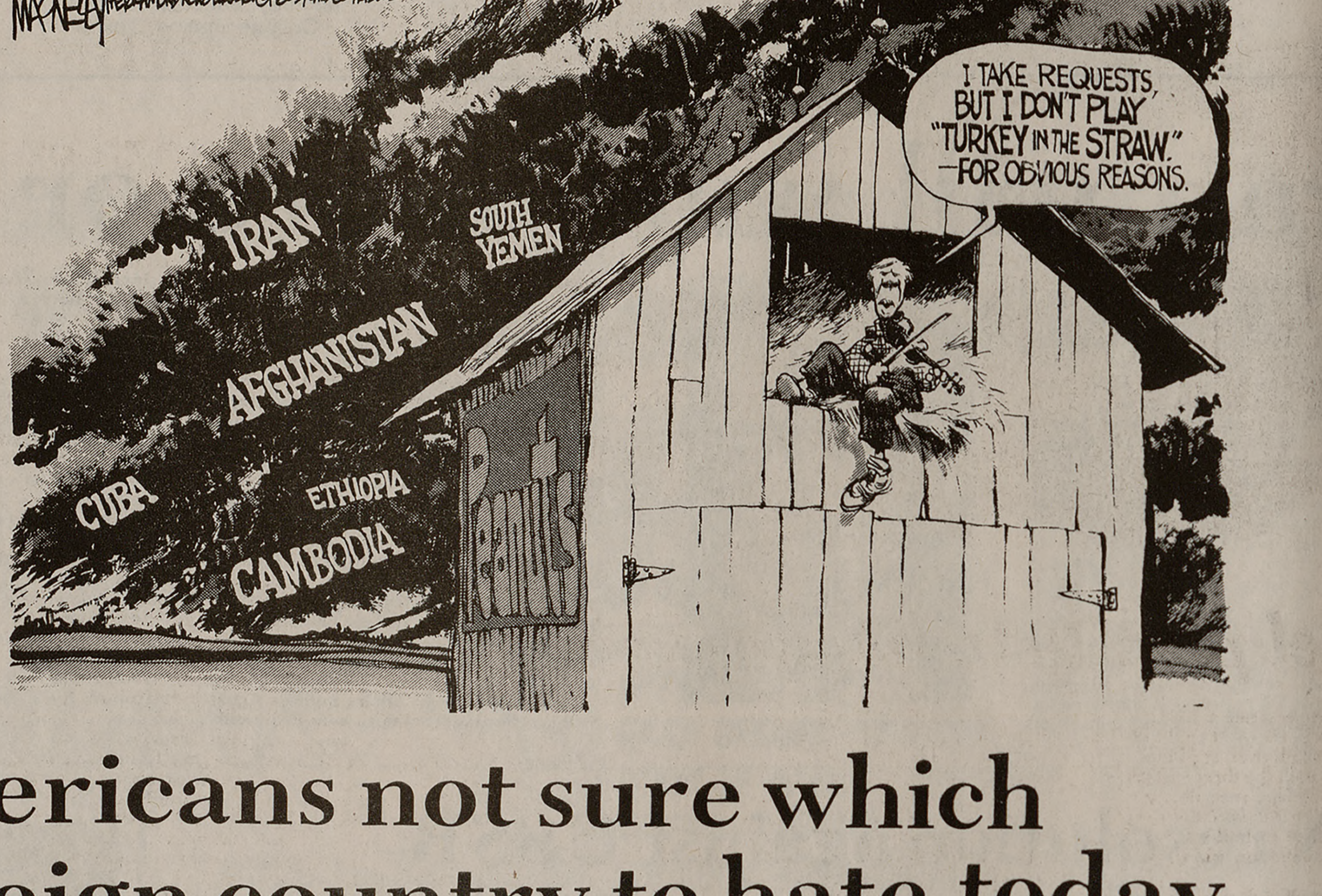


MacNELLY THE RICHMOND NEWS LEADER ©1980 BY CHICAGO TRIBUNE
I TAKE REQUESTS, BUT I DON'T PLAY "TURKEY IN THE STRAW." —FOR OBVIOUS REASONS.
IRAN
SOUTH YEMEN
AFGHANISTAN
CUBA
ETHIOPIA
CAMBODIA

Americans not sure which foreign country to hate today

By DICK WEST

Many citizens find themselves in the perplexing position of not being entirely sure which foreign country to hate the most in the world today.

Official policy itself apparently has not fully crystalized.

Seeking some guidance in this matter, I contacted a highly placed source in the office of the deputy vice assistant associate under secretary of state for national emnity.

"At the moment," he confided, "we are tilting toward Russia. I would say you could hardly go wrong if you directed the main force of your disaffection in that direction."

I said, "That's going to required a rather abrupt shift in momentum. My anti-Soviet animosity has been in a holding pattern even since the onset of detente, and I'm not certain I can get the pressure built back up to Cold War level. Could you give me something odious to focus on?"

"Glad to," the enmity expert graciously replied. "A good way to start getting worked up is by seething over the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, where they have installed a pro-Russian puppet government."

"But Afghanistan already had a pro-Russian puppet government," I pointed out. "It's a little difficult for me to fly into a rage over the overthrow of a pro-Russian puppet."

"Concentrate on it a little harder," my mentor advised. "Remind yourself the pro-Russian puppet overthrown by the Russians was not as pro-Russian as the puppet they brought in as a replacement. Also let yourself be provoked by the menace of Soviet troops in that country."

"I think I'm beginning to feel it," I said, voice rising. "Wherein does the chief menace lie?"

"The chief menace is to Iran. Once pockets of Moslem resistance have been eliminated in Afghanistan, Soviet troops will be in position to move across the border into Iran."

"Now I'm losing it again," I said. "No country that threatens Iran can be all bad. If Khomeini is overthrown by Soviet troops, he will be getting what he holly well deserves."

"Tush, tush," the emnity official admonished, which is the way they talk at the state department. "You must not allow the hostile feelings you harbor toward Ira temper your sense of outrage over the newal of Soviet aggression."

I said, "I'm just spitballing now, but s pose the Soviet troops now in Afghanis were to invade Iran, overthrow Khomeini regime and release the Am ican hostages being held in Tehran. T how would we feel?"

"In that event, we might have to reo our priorities," the official admitted. " xibility is the watchword in the en office. We have to keep our options op

You, of course, are free to let your pathy flow in any manner your choose. I intend to adopt a wait-and-see attitude my age, these sudden changes in animo can be hard on the spleen.

Parochial schools flourish in France despite government aid to state system

By FRANCOIS DUPUIS

PARIS — Sylvie Lucaire, a young Parisian mother, had such bad memories of her religious education that she once rebelled against all authority by joining a radical extremist group. A few months ago, she withdrew her two children from public school and enrolled them in a private Catholic institution run by nuns.

She is somewhat ashamed of herself, but she is no different from a growing number of French families that are abandoning a system of public education for which their grandparents fought bitterly to defend around the turn of the century.

Like most French, these families are not particularly pious, and many might, like Sylvie Lucaire, express anticlerical views. Yet they are increasingly critical of public schools that lack discipline and are frequently disrupted by both student and teacher strikes. Above all, they resent the reduction of educational levels to the lowest common denominator.

Of 12 million French school children, nearly 2 million now attend private schools. And the overwhelming majority of them go to some 10,000 Catholic primary and secondary schools. Very few French kids attend the kinds of private boarding and day schools that exist in the United States and Britain.

The proportion of those quitting the public system would undoubtedly be higher were it not for the fact that parochial schools, already bursting at the seams, are turning away candidates.

The director of St. Elisabeth's, a Catholic school here, reported the other day that she could only accept 200 pupils out of 500 applicants this semester. Father Bernard Faivre, principal of a Jesuit high school, says: "The demand for admission is so great that we could double the size of the student body."

The same refrain is echoed in provincial towns like Soreze, in southwestern France, where a Dominican school is now jammed after having been half-empty for more than a decade.

Much of this change stems from the anarchistic atmosphere that first pervaded the public schools during the spring of 1968, when Paris students escalated their grievances into a sort of cultural revolution that degenerated into riots. One legacy of that upheaval has been a rise of violence in the schools.

There is nothing here that quite compares with the blackboard jungles of America. But for French parents, who expect their children to behave in class, even rare cases of violence are shocking.

Such cases are becoming common in the sprawling suburbs of big cities like Paris, Lyon and Marseilles, where kids packed into huge schools insult teachers, scribble obscenities on walls and prowl in the hallways, interrupting classes.

A couple of months ago, in a suburban high school near here, a 12-year-old boy killed one of his friends with a knife. The incident, which might have escaped public notice in New York or Chicago, made headlines in the Paris newspapers. And it contributed to the panic of French parents, who have traditionally regarded schools to be as quiet and orderly as churches.

Like public schools everywhere, those here in France are overcrowded, with the result that teachers are hard put to offer pupils much attention. Parochial schools, in contrast, appear to be model institutions.

Their classes are small, with never more than 25 pupils. They do not hesitate to fail children whose academic performance is below par. And they demand strict obedience and good conduct. Unlike public schools, for example, Catholic establishments forbid kids from chewing gum.

Paradoxically, the parochial schools have benefited significantly from laws passed by a government that is supposedly dedicated to the improvement of the public educational system.

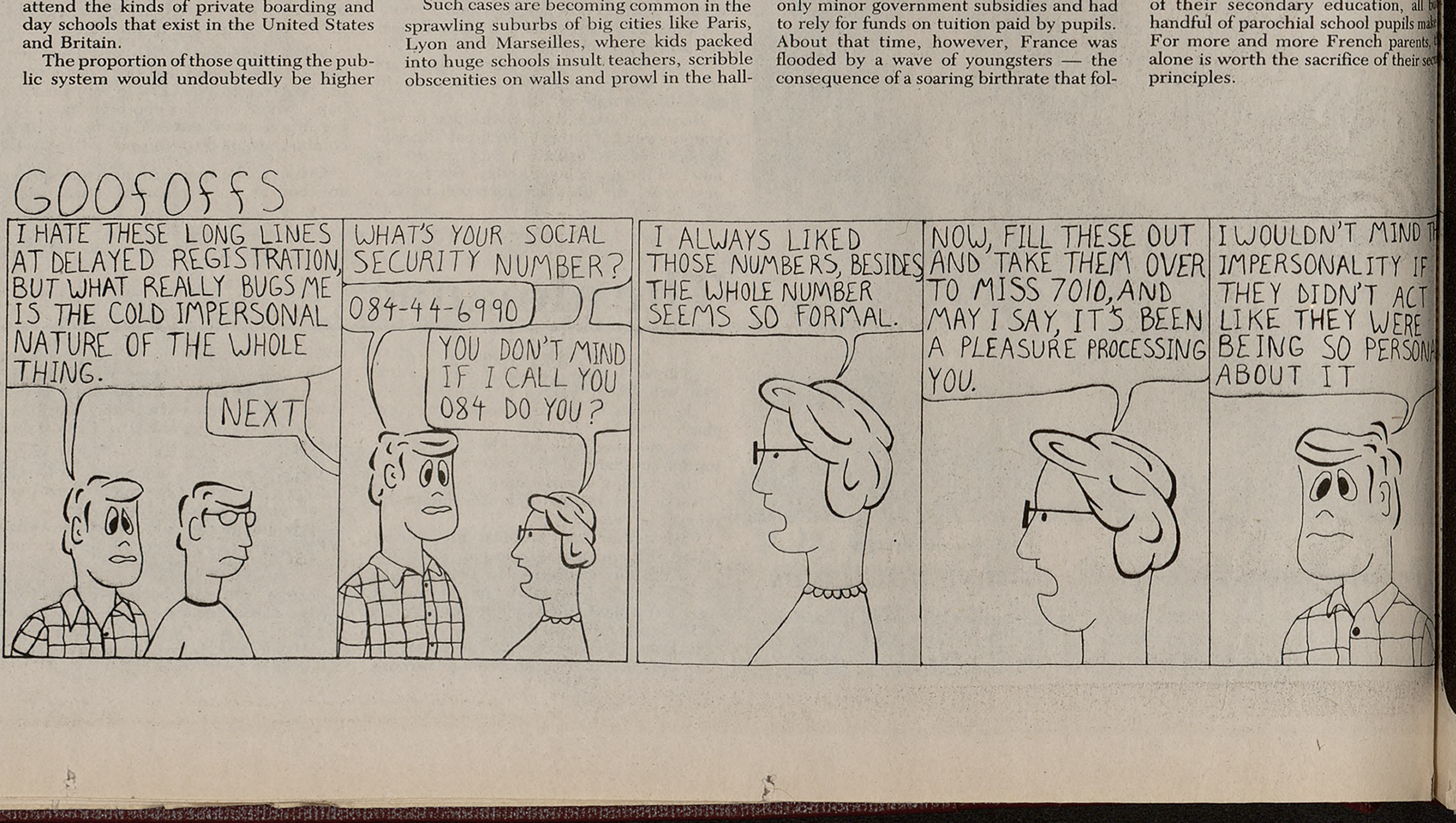
Unlike 1960, religious schools received only minor government subsidies and had to rely for funds on tuition paid by pupils. About that time, however, France was flooded by a wave of youngsters — the consequence of a soaring birthrate that followed the end of World War II.

The government faced the choice of c structing new public schools and trai teachers to staff them, or financing pa hial schools that had plenty of room accommodate the emerging generation took the latter course, mainly to eco mize.

Under this year's budget, Franc parochial schools will be subsidized to t tune of $2.5 billion. That is only 10 perc of the country's total expenditure on edu tion. But it is ample to cover the costs teaching the 16 percent of the school-a population that attends Catholic insti tions.

For one thing, parochial school teach are usually members of religious ord who work for lower wages than pu school teachers. In addition, their pu pay fees of about $250 per year, wh makes up the deficit.

Examination scores prove that the r gious schools are successful. While ba more than half of public school kids pass tough baccalaureate test that marks the of their secondary education, all bu handful of parochial school pupils make For more and more French parents, t alone is worth the sacrifice of their sec principles.



GOOFOFFS
I HATE THESE LONG LINES AT DELAYED REGISTRATION, BUT WHAT REALLY BUGS ME IS THE COLD IMPERSONAL NATURE OF THE WHOLE THING.
NEXT
WHAT'S YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER?
084-44-6990
YOU DON'T MIND IF I CALL YOU 084 DO YOU?
I ALWAYS LIKED THOSE NUMBERS, BESIDES THE WHOLE NUMBER SEEMS SO FORMAL.
NOW, FILL THESE OUT AND TAKE THEM OVER TO MISS 7010, AND MAY I SAY, IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE PROCESSING YOU.
I WOULDN'T MIND TH IMPERSONALITY IF THEY DIDN'T ACT LIKE THEY WERE BEING SO PERSONA ABOUT IT