

SCHOOLS

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the poor. The obvious need is to make the public schools better, not to abandon them.

But that is what a tuition tax credit would encourage. Its proponents claim the credit would give poor families an alternative to public education, but that is not true. By definition, a tax credit goes only to people whose taxes exceed the amount of the credit. By definition, poor people would be frozen out.

And even moderate income families would not benefit since they would have to make up the difference between the credit and the full amount of the tuition.

The kicker here is that once a tax credit is passed, tuition bills would rise. The credit would encourage inflation in private education. It would also encourage proliferation of second-rate schools out to exploit a newly created market.

The public schools would be seriously damaged, however. Drained of many middle class pupils, they would be likely to be placed on a starvation diet by state and local governments as voters would be reluctant to tax themselves for schools their own children no longer attend.

If public education is

to be saved, it will not be enough just to fight the tuition tax credit. Those schools will have to achieve the excellence they are capable of. They will have to become more accountable to parents, and to make the internal reforms that allow them to serve today's poor as yesterday's schools helped earlier generations get the skills that enabled them to rise from poverty.

The answer to the nation's educational problems lies in improving public education so that all have equal educational opportunities, not in subsidizing unequal opportunities and class division.



GIRL SCOUT MEMBERS — Of the 1981 Wyoming Trek return from their 13-day trip to National Center West, a wilderness camp near Ten Sleep, Wyoming. Picture from left to right are: Sharon Beatty, Justina Boyd, Ina Dorman, Alice Smith, Tanya Bowser, Denise Jackson, Charisse Neal, (back row) Queenie Johnson, Tania Neal, and Shirnice Dorman.

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Church

The Sin Of Omission

By Bishop E.N. Webb, Jr.

"Whoever knows what is right to do and fails to do it, for him it is a sin." James 4:17.

Medical personnel often face dilemmas in



Bishop E.N. Webb helping people in emergencies. Compassion compels them to help. They are also aware that they may be financially liable. Many states have passed the "Good Samaritan" laws exempting medical per-

sonnel from liability for helping in emergencies.

The story of the Good Samaritan shows that the man helping the stricken Jew fulfilled God's requirement of loving thy neighbor. The priest and the Levite,

the victims of natural catastrophes need food and clothing, they will be first to respond.

Christians are mindful of God's action toward them. God could have let the world floun-

Bishop E. N. Webb is the Presiding Bishop of the Church of God In Christ, State Of Nevada

der in sin. But instead He sent His Son into the world for the salvation of all. God's love is the sent His son onto the world for the salvation of all. God's love is the power working in them so they can do what should be done.

For us God has set a standard higher than that of the Law. Not a stern commandment but the love of God in Christ constrains Christians to be ready to help. When

Lord, may I never sin against You by refusing to help.

Ice Cream Social At St. Luke Church

"Churches Coming Together" is celebrating the building of a new church structure in the community with an ice cream social at the Greater St. James Missionary Baptist Church on August 28, beginning at 7 p.m. The church is located at D and Madison Streets.

Ice cream cones will be available in four flavors — vanilla, chocolate, strawberry and butter pecan.

Entertainment will be provided by the choirs of St. James Baptist Church, St. James' Roman Catholic Church and St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, with everyone present invited to "sing along."

"Churches Coming Together," formerly known as UNICO is an ecumenical, multi-racial group of churches presently serving as a sponsoring committee in an effort to bring together churches in the greater Las Vegas area. The public is invited.

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