

# U.S.C. of C. Backs Bronx On Religion In Schools Stand

DISTRICT NEWS

5/15/48

## Bronx Aids In Air Safety Program

**By Times 6/6/48**  
The Bronx will be the first New York City Borough to have an air marking program to guide aircraft without radios to suitable landing fields, Thomas V. Tozzi, President of The Bronx Board of Trade announced last week.

He revealed that the Board of Trade is working with the Civil Aeronautics Administration of the Federal Department of Commerce to inaugurate the program here. Tozzi said that Robert M. Brown, Superintendent of the Plant and Structures Division of CAA met last week with Bronx Works Commissioner Arthur V. Sheridan and Donald Darcy, Executive Secretary of the Board of Trade, to discuss the program.

A request has been made to place an air marking on the roof of The Bronx County Building and Bronx business men are being asked, thru the Board of Trade, to cooperate by marking the roofs of their plants and buildings in desired areas.

### Cities Confuse Airmen

Declaring that "the vastness and complexity of the Metropolitan area as seen from the air can be confusing to even experienced airmen," Tozzi said that many small craft, not equipped with radios, and dependent entirely on air markings for direction, will be flying over The Bronx in the Summer months ahead.

Tozzi further revealed that small craft flying over Metropolitan New York without radios are not permitted to land at LaGuardia and other leading airports. They must be directed to the Teterboro Air Terminal in New Jersey, the Flushing Long Island airport, or the Westchester County airport at Rye, New York, he said.

Mr. Tozzi said that any air marking installed in The Bronx area could properly indicate the direction and distance to any and all fields, and would thereby direct an aircraft pilot to a safe landing area that should be within a reasonable flight distance for emergency landing.

Earl O. Shreve, President of the United State Chamber of Commerce, was asked yesterday to have the National body follow the leadership of The Bronx Board of Trade "in creating sentiment in favor of the value of released time religious education in the public school system" by Thomas V. Tozzi, Bronx Board of Trade President.

The Bronx Board of Trade, a charter member of the U. S. Chamber, is concerned with the implications that might follow as a result of the recent U. S. Supreme Court decision in the McCollum case, prohibiting voluntary religious educational classes in the public schools of Champaign, Illinois, Tozzi declared.

Continuing he added "It is my firm belief that we are the first business men's organization in the Nation to take a position with reference to the Supreme Court decision and in taking the forward steps in crystallizing public sentiment for the continuation and preservation of voluntary education in the schools in New York City and throughout the United States."

Tozzi, in a communication to Shreve, said: "We can attribute the tremendous growth and development of our country to our basic religious concepts. However, the great inroads of atheistic communism are due largely to the breakdown in religious training, which becomes more evident every day."

Continuing he added "It is the considered judgment of our Board of Directors that religious education is the foundation of good government and citizenship and serves to create respect for law and order."

Tozzi's letter further stated that the Supreme Court's decision will create a "field day" for atheists and free thinkers, some of whom have already embarked on a program of litigation, seeking to deprive millions of public school children of the right to voluntarily attend religious classes outside of school grounds.

He added "There are additional implications in the Court's decision, such as whether it is illegal to teach religious music, religious architecture or even read the Bible in the public schools, and whether it is illegal to give Federal aid to parochial schools."

Tozzi's letter concluded that he believed greater emphasis should be placed upon safeguarding Freedom of Religion rather than freedom from religion, and that it is "carrying out the wishes of the greater number of the people of our country to encourage education and thereby preserve the deep-rooted religious principals enunciated by our fathers."

## Tozzi Protest Shelving Of Fort Schuyler Transfer

**By Times 6/13/48**  
In a telegram issued Wednesday, June 9 to U. S. Senator Chan Curry (Rep. S.D.), Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Thomas V. Tozzi, president of The Bronx Board of Trade "strongly protested" the Committee's decision to shelve the transfer of the New York State Maritime Academy at Fort Schuyler by declaring the title change to come under the Surplus Property Act.

Tozzi's protest was based upon an exclusive report of the proceedings made known by Stephen Feeley, Washington correspondent. No official announcement of the Congressional body's stand has been formally announced.

"Under the terms of the Surplus Property Act," Tozzi declared yesterday, "the property at Fort Schuyler would have to be appraised by the Federal Government and the chances are strong that the State would have to pay a substantial sum to acquire the reservation." He said that he believed Senator Ives (Rep. N.Y.) is mistaken when he suggested the transfer if fee could be acquired for \$1 if the property is assigned to the War Assets Administration for disposal.

Tozzi added "The Bronx Board of Trade has fought to effect this transfer for more than ten years." He explained that a concurrent resolution was passed by the State Legislature, with Governor Dewey's approval in 1944, calling upon Congress to enact the necessary legislation to transfer The Bronx military reservation.

**PATTERSON**—Mrs. Lillian C. The officers and directors of the Bronx Board of Trade recently with profound sorrow the passing of Mrs. Lillian C. Patterson. Her capacity for community service and high leadership in civic affairs has been of immeasurable benefit to the Bronx and all its citizens.

THOMAS V. TOZZI, President.  
DONALD DARCY, Exec. Sec'y.