

# Bilingual help coming for students

Two Oakland County teachers are taking classes to meet the challenge of teaching bilingual, bicultural students.

Julie Najor Hallihan and Josephine Sarafa are enrolled at Mercy College of Detroit to learn more about teaching Arabic, Chaldean and Spanish-speaking children.

Mrs. Hallihan is director of the Chaldean bilingual program for Southfield schools. Ms. Sarafa, director of the Birmingham schools' bilingual program.

required by the state to provide bilingual instruction for those children.

Following a survey by the Oakland County Intermediate School District of Birmingham, Southfield and Oak Park students, the largest group of foreign-speaking students was identified as Chaldean. Birmingham, alone, estimated it would need one teacher counselor and four teacher aides to teach its Chaldean-speaking pupils.

MERCY IS an especially appropriate

training center for the Oakland teachers. It is the first and only college in Michigan to offer a program in Arabic and Chaldean endorsed by the State Department of Education.

The course Ms. Sarafa and Mrs. Hallihan are taking is designed to sensitize educators to their students' cultures, to develop an awareness of culturally conditioned behavior and to enable teachers to eliminate or minimize the possible trauma of a child in the process of assimilation.

The education department at Mercy College offers the graduate level program to degree teachers seeking certificates.

Sr. Margaret Mary McGill RSM, assistant professor of education at Mercy observes, "After teaching a full schedule, a teacher must have more in mind than pay raises or job security to attend three-hour classes. There is an evident dedication one must admire and foster."

## Counterfeiting on the rise

Blame it on the rising cost of living. Puny money is staging a comeback.

After a three-year decline, counterfeiting is on the rise again. More than \$48 million in bogus bills was printed last year, mostly tens and twenties. Only \$3.6 million reached the streets, the rest was seized fresh off the printing presses by federal agents.

Modern technology has encouraged the new blizzard of phony bills. The ease and speed with which large quantities of counterfeit currency can be produced using modern photographic and printing equipment make it very tempting," explained Lewis McClam, a special agent with the United States Secret Service, the agency charged with tracking down counterfeiters.

Counterfeiting has been a problem in the United States from the very beginning. Major headaches plaguing early banks were forged checks and bad notes.

IN 1818 a newspaper reported that it appeared "quite reasonable to believe that not many less than 10,000 persons, paper makers, engravers, signers etc. wholesale dealers and retailers of counterfeit money, are wholly or in part engaged in swindling the honest people of the United States."

Things got so bad that banks in Philadelphia, New York, and Baltimore formed protective unions and spent large sums to detect and apprehend counterfeiters, according to the book, "Two Centuries of American Banking" The Smithsonian Institution issued it in conjunction with a new American banking exhibit.

A bank teller had to be endowed not only with a good eye but with an impeccable memory. Some bogus bills were printed from perfectly genuine plates. Their only shortcoming—the issuing bank had gone bust.

Sometimes an engraver who had gone out of business sold his plates to a forger, who then provided bills with fake names, signatures, and numbers.

ABOUT THE TIME of the Civil War, banks were relying on special-

ized firms to print their money. The security measures used by the companies were worthy of Fort Knox.

The engraving of a single "vignette"—the little image or portrait adorning a note—often took four months.

Once the drawing for a note was cut into metal, the plate moved into the lathe room where skilled craftsmen used "geometrical lathes" to turn out the intricate designs of rosettes, also called checks and counters, which sur-

rounded the large materials on notes.

The same vignettes could be used by various banks as long as the precise combination differed. The American Bank Note Co. once kept some 8,000 plates in a special room under heavy guard.

Adoption of a national currency in 1863 ended the many designs, but counterfeiting never ceased. "It is still a problem and represents a potential danger to the Nation's economy," said the Secret Service.

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