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## Text of Bishop Hogan's Statement on King's Prep Closing

The following is the complete text of Bishop Hogan's announcement of the reasons for closing King's Prep this June.

Just two years after the founding of our diocese in 1868, the pioneer Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid began a minor seminary. Buoyed by the faith of his people and their generosity, he ventured upon a project which was considered an impossible dream for an infant diocese by most of his contemporaries in the hierarchy.

On Sept. 15, 1870, St. Patrick's Seminary began with 12 students

from the city of Rochester in the humble abode of what had been a stable behind the Cathedral Rectory on North Plymouth Avenue. It was the first day-school seminary in the United States. Before the year was over the name was changed to St. Andrew's Seminary in honor of the patron Saint of the English diocese of Rochester.

I inject this note of history because in the year of 1970 which I had looked forward to as a year for the joyful celebration of a century of grace in the history of our diocesan priesthood, I have been forced to make a painful decision.

I am among the many priests of the Rochester Diocese who recall with tender affection the great legacy St. Andrew's — truly our Alma Mater — gave to our formative years in preparation for the priesthood which has brought such fullness of joy to our lives.

Three years ago my illustrious predecessor, Archbishop Sheen, made a decision about the future of St. Andrew's Seminary. This decision reflected in part the attitude of many American bishops that the day of the minor seminary on the high school level had ended — that vocations would be fostered at a later level of maturity.

His decision, however, about the future of the school as a coeducational training center of Christian leadership was unique. I want it made very clear that I am in no way questioning the value of such a school as King's Preparatory. But two questions were being raised which demanded an answer:

Could such a school still be considered a part of the diocesan seminary system and be funded from the annual Seminary Collection?

Could such a program merit a diocesan subsidy on the basis of a unique contribution to the cause of secondary education on the high

school level throughout the diocese?

On my own I felt justified to make a negative answer to the first question. I know that this reflects the attitude of the priests of the diocese and has received endorsement by the authorities of King's Prep.

To answer the second question I invoked the principle of collegiality. In the spirit of my announced intention at the beginning of my episcopacy, I wanted co-shared responsibility for such important decisions.

To find justification for a financial subsidy for the school from diocesan funds received from every par-

ish in the diocese, I proposed at a January meeting of the diocesan high school principals that King's Prep be continued as an experimental school wherein new teaching techniques and educational methods might be "pioneered" for the benefit of the entire diocesan educational community. Through these principals I sought the reaction of all our secondary school personnel so that their collegial response could lead me to the best decision.

The high school principals and staffs gave generously of their time in discussing my proposal and sub-

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## Rome Sets Guidelines On Seminary Updating

By NC News Service

Vatican City — The Vatican has reinforced priestly celibacy in a 10,000-word guideline on seminaries, a document establishing priestly training norms that rank among the most important since seminaries began in 1556.

The document entitled "Ratio Fundamentals," which means a basic plan, was issued March 16 by the Congregation for Christian Education.

Its 101 articles encourage more attention in seminaries on teaching about sex, atheism, Christian unity and social justice.

The guideline leaves a wide margin for national bishops conferences to make decisions in specific cases — according to Cardinal Gabriele Garrone, leaving the document "flexible and open to various choices in its application."

The document sees a continuing need for minor seminaries, which boys enter about the age of 14. Cardinal Garrone defended as well major seminaries, which some critics have been saying are outdated.

"To claim to be educating priests in 1970 by contradicting the formal demands of a council of 1863 is surely to disqualify oneself from the start," he said.

The cardinal said the new rules were drawn up with the deliberate aim of flexibility. The new document, he said, must "be adaptable to different circumstances and leave room for traditions and development."

The papal directive stresses decentralization and adaptation but the Holy See retains its role as coordinator of the conciliar reform on seminaries. Among the points given importance is the wider opening of seminary life and of the seminaries to contemporary situations in the world and the personal factor in seminary life.

Guidelines are provided on spirituality based on pastoral, missionary, liturgical and biblical conceptions. At the same time it underlines what it calls the "classic virtues" of the priesthood of Christ, such as Eucharistic devotion, silence, celibacy, penance and poverty; the Mass, breviary, confession, spiritual direction and spiritual confessions.

The use of psychological tests to ascertain the suitability of candidates is welcomed, while the concept of larger seminary communities being divided into smaller groups is judged worthy of consideration. A greater participation of the seminarians in their own formation and in the organization of seminary life is also

recommended, as well as the application of authority in ways more in conformity with the contemporary spirit of youth.

Cardinal Reginald Pole, the last Catholic archbishop of Canterbury, who opposed Henry VIII on divorce, has been credited as the first to use the word "seminary" — a seed-bed or nurturing place for training candidates to the priesthood.

He proposed the idea in a decree to the London Synod of 1556. Cathedral schools had done the job in earlier times but, without seminaries,

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## New Courier April 8

The Courier-Journal will be presenting a new tabloid format beginning with the issue of April 8.

Along with the paper's change from the present standard size to tabloid, the paper's delivery date will be moved ahead from Fridays to Wednesdays.

Plans include increased emphasis on adult education articles, greater use of photo-journalistic techniques and interpretative articles, new columnists and wider coverage of events in various areas of the 12-county diocese.

It's all part of the aim to increase the paper's circulation in accord with Bishop Hogan's desire to reach all persons in the diocese through its official newspaper.



A Mother's Story

Mrs. Grace O'Brien, a Bergen County, N.J., housewife, tells a New York press conference how her 20-year-old son, Richard, died of a heroin reaction. Mrs. O'Brien urged parents to learn more about drugs. She said she had not known that her son had smoked marijuana or used amphetamines before he started taking heroin. At right is Director Robert W. Baird, director of the Haven Clinic in New York, an out-patient rehabilitation center for addicts. He is calling for a march on Washington to ask President Nixon for more stringent efforts to stop the importation of heroin. (RNS)

## Private School Aid ... a Surprise

The issue over whether the government should provide aid to private schools provoked heated debate.

The leader of one party suggested that supporting private schools would contribute to the disintegration of the public school system.

A member of the opposition party countered that "private schools have their place in the future school system. They offer an education of a kind that is not offered in the state schools."

The head of the education department predicted that the cost to the government would be substantially greater if students in private schools were to attend public schools.

The issue is familiar; the names are different — Trygve Bratelli, Lars Roar Langset, Olaf Kortner, Kjell Bondevik.

The place is not Capitol Hill in Albany but Parliament in Oslo, Norway.

Aid to private schools, including Catholic, to the tune of 70 to 100 per cent of the operating costs, was approved.

Schools for the handicapped will receive the greatest amount of assistance. For other schools to qualify they must either be based on a religious or ethical philosophy, be on an experimental basis or fill a need not covered by the public schools.

## Film Industry Ratings Termed Misleading

(Catholic Press Features)

New Orleans — The entertainment editor of a Catholic newspaper has suggested that the movie industry's new GP rating is intended to mislead the public and get more children to attend adult films.

The Motion Picture Association of America changed its M rating — "suggested for mature audiences; parental discretion advised" — to GP, which means: "all ages admitted; parental guidance suggested."

The MPAA said the change was made because the M category "was found to be the least understood by the public," meaning that many people thought there was an age restriction on attendance at M movies.

The new "clarifying" rating of GP, according to the MPAA, "seeks to bridge the knowledge gap by making it unmistakable that the theater will admit persons of all ages, but parents may still choose to obtain more information on the movie to guide the attendance of their younger children."

However, Joseph Larose, entertainment editor of the Clarion Herald of the New Orleans Archdiocese, noted

that the old M rating "made sense" and broadly hinted that the MPAA's switch was merely a ploy to get around the fact that too many parents were accepting the M rating at face value and keeping their children away from M films.

"This is the way I see the MPAA move," Larose wrote. "That M for mature audiences was interpreted by many parents to signify that the movie in question wasn't meant for children — and they were right."

"With the M now transposed to GP, the connotation of the G rating — for general audiences — is carried over. It's quite logical, you see: that GP can easily be interpreted as General Patronage."

Larose said the way GP is used in movie advertising is often designed to further mislead parents because the GP is printed in bold letters and "if the explanation accompanies the rating, it says 'All Ages Admitted' and, in smaller type — so Mama will have to put on her reading glasses or perhaps use a magnifying glass to read it — 'Parental Guidance Suggested.'"

"The emphasis, you will note, has been conveniently shifted from 'ma-

## Finance Problems Force Closing of King's Preparatory

King's Preparatory, a diocesan high school born in 1967 when the 97-year-old St. Andrew's Seminary was given a new name and structure, will close this June just a few months short of the 100th anniversary of its historic mother.

Bishop Hogan announced the demise of King's Prep to students and parents on Monday. Students will be accommodated in other Catholic high schools of the county but no plans have been made for the use or the disposal of the Buffalo Road property, he said.

His statement explained the harsh economic necessity and the painful search for priorities which required the closing of what was the "first day-school seminary in the United States."

The Bishop gave two reasons for the decision:

• King's Prep should not be financed from diocesan seminary funds any longer because it had become a coeducational high school and did not primarily serve the whole diocese as a seminary on the high school level;

• The school's continuance as an experimental high school had been rejected by diocesan educators and therefore it did not warrant heavy diocesan subsidy "in the light of many other demanding and necessary diocesan programs."

(The text of Bishop Hogan's statement on the King's Prep closing is printed above.)

St. Andrew's was opened on Sept. 15, 1870, by Rochester's first bishop, Bernard J. McQuaid, in what had been a stable behind the rectory of St. Patrick's Cathedral only 2 years after the diocese of Rochester was established.

St. Andrew's, with a 6 year course of studies leading to St. Bernard's Seminary, moved from Plymouth Ave. North to the Buffalo Road campus in 1950 after 80 years of starting high-schoolers on the 12 year road to the priesthood.

It became a four-year high school when Becket Hall on the Fairport Road was opened in 1965 as a diocesan house of studies for seminarians taking college courses at St. John Fisher College.

King's Prep, established three years ago by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, as a coeducational high school with a unique curriculum emphasizing "training in Christian leadership," almost totally changed the seminary character of its predecessor. Only 17 graduates have advanced to Becket Hall as seminarians and 5 more are expected from this year's graduating class of 28.

The present student body has 185

students (46 of whom are girls) and a faculty of 20 priests, Sisters and lay people.

Although the 185 students have been paying \$375 per year tuition, an additional average subsidy "of nearly \$150,000 from diocesan funds has been required annually at King's Prep

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## Tears Greet News at King's Prep

Tears and sobs of students — near-tears and defiance of some parents — pleas for alternatives — these were highlights last Monday as the diocese announced that it cannot continue to subsidize King's Preparatory High School beyond June.

Reacting with shock and disbelief, a majority of parents of the 185 students at the Buffalo Road school and many students themselves pleaded for reconsideration of possible ways to continue the school's "experimental education program."

At the close of a 2 1/2-hour session in the school Monday night, parents adopted a resolution that their executive committee appoint "a representative group" to meet with Bishop Hogan "to explore any possible alternatives to keep King's Preparatory School open."

Explosive as it was, the evening meeting was an anti-climax to an assembly of students at 2 p.m. when they were informed of the decision by Father Daniel Brent, diocesan superintendent of schools.

As the assembly ended, several of the 185 boy and girl students left the auditorium in tears. Some faculty members in the corridor were endeavoring to console students who embraced them in unabashed sobs. Other students went immediately to the chapel.

Said one tearful girl student to her lay teacher: "This is terrible ... it's like leaving my best friend."

"We will not accept this — there's got to be a way to continue!" This

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