

# King's Prep Decision Holds, Bishop Says

The decision to close King's Prep this June is "final", Bishop Hogan told the Parents' Association of the school last week after a careful study of their April 30 proposal for financing its continuation.

"It is the unanimous judgment of all consulted — my financial and legal advisers and many other qualified persons — that the proposal is both legally and financially unsound and therefore could not be accepted as a viable alternative," the Bishop wrote George T. White Jr., spokesman for the committee which formulated the survival-proposal in the name of the Parents' Association.

The Bishop had announced March 16 that the school would have to be closed for financial reasons. Parents and students reacted with sorrow and asked for a reconsideration of his decision. He agreed to study their suggestions and put May 1 as a deadline.

In their proposal the committee asked approval to:

- Use the presently-empty St. William House (once the dormitory hall when there were boarders at the prep seminary) as housing for welfare families now living in Rochester hotels with their rent being paid by the County Social Services Department.
- Raise tuition from \$375 to \$425.
- Increase registration from the present 185 to 225, and eventually to 325 and 400.
- Cut the costs of running the school.
- Inaugurate various fund-raising projects.

Bishop Hogan's stated position two months ago on the need to close King's Prep was that the diocese could no longer justify a direct annual subsidy of about \$150,000 to operate the school beyond the \$375 tuition fee paid by the 185 families.

He announced then that King's Prep's excellent curriculum and high spirit did not warrant running the school at a deficit because it was not serving the whole diocese as a preparatory seminary and was not,

in the opinion of diocesan secondary educators, worth the price as a laboratory-school for innovations and experiments in high school teaching.

The Bishop's principal objection to the welfare housing proposal made by the parents' committee was stated in a principle covering "the philosophy of the Church's mission to the poor":

"We must be scrupulously careful lest we manifest our concern for the helpless by taking advantage of their adversity to maintain our own institutions".

He said the diocese could not take the stance in which "one of our institutions would become the landlord of the poor, using the misfortunes of the dispossessed as the intended means of realizing a considerable profit — little or none of which would be used for the education of the disadvantaged."

Bishop Hogan cited other reasons for not accepting the proposal:

- excessive renovation and maintenance costs needed if the former dormitory building was used for housing the proposed 9 to 14 welfare families at a time;
- the school would be unable to maintain the innovative programs which have made it uniquely desirable if the enrollment increased;
- tuition increase and other fund raising efforts would be insignificant in meeting operating deficits.

• it is diocesan policy to dispose of real estate wherever feasible.

The complete text of Bishop Hogan's letter to the spokesman of the special committee of the King's Prep Parents' Association follows:

Dear Mr. White:

I acknowledge your letter of April 30 outlining the proposal for King's Prep.

The plan submitted has been studied carefully by myself, my financial and legal advisors and many other qualified persons. It is the unanimous judgment of all consulted that the proposal is both legally and financially unsound and therefore could not be accepted as a viable alternative.

The renovation and maintenance costs would be prohibitive. The gross income figures in your proposal fail to consider the extensive renovations necessary to prepare the St. William House for occupancy and maintain it with dignity.

In addition, the Diocese could not, nor does it have any intention of assuming the role of landlord. It is our policy

to dispose of real property wherever this is feasible.

Increasing the student enrollment to 325 or 400 would certainly bring on such overcrowded facilities that the innovative programs could no longer be maintained. Other items mentioned in your proposed budget, such as a tuition increase, fund raising, student effort, etc., are insignificant when compared to the operating deficit.

Overshadowing all these considerations is the philosophy of the Church's mission to the poor. A principle is at stake. We must be scrupulously careful lest we manifest our concern for the helpless by taking advantage of their adversity to maintain our own institutions.

You will understand then that we could not accept any concept whereby one of our institutions would become the landlord of the poor, using the misfortunes of the dispossessed as the intended means of realizing a considerable profit — little or none of which would be used for the education of the disadvantaged.

I appreciate the good will shown by the parents of King's Prep, and I know that the high

quality program of King's has motivated their efforts. I am confident you will understand, however, from what has been stated above, that I cannot accept your proposal, and the decision to close King's Prep in June 1970, as previously announced, is final.

With a blessing, I am  
Sincerely yours,

*Joseph L. Hogan*  
Bishop of Rochester

## REPRESENTS AREA

Sister Mary Lee Bishop, language department chairman at Nazareth Academy, represented the Rochester area at a special colloquium of foreign language teachers last week in Albany.

The conference, on the place of foreign languages in the curriculum, was attended by a small number of teachers selected by the directors of the State Federation of Foreign Language Teachers.

**DAY or NIGHT  
CALL 454-4930**

**MEDICAL PERSONNEL POOL**

When you need a nurse (any category) or companion, call us — a National Service — providing nursing help, when, where, and for as long as needed.

Our employees are experienced, screened, insured and bonded.



An Equal Opportunity Employer



**TIME TO CHANGE TO**



**GAS HEAT & AIR CONDITIONING**

Let us show you how easy it is to change to International of Utica gas heat. Doesn't cost a fortune... heats like a million. Sound investment too—with International's unparalleled 20-YEAR WARRANTY! Come in... or call for free heating survey. No obligation.

**NO DOWN PAYMENT • EASY CREDIT TERMS  
CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATE  
CALL ANYTIME 458-2846**

**ROCHESTER AUTOMATIC HEATING CORPORATION**

1459 LAKE AVE., near Kodak  
COMFORT FOR SALE

end of the Persian era in Mangurian's Oriental Carpet Dept.

**Savings to 50%**

on sale now!  
over 500 pieces in our entire inventory of

**PERSIAN ORIENTALS**

After 47 years we're "closing out" our Persian Oriental Dept. due to import problems. Yes, Mangurian's entire inventory of Persian Style carpets is on sale at 30% to 50% off. And it's a fantastic collection. Choose from Heriz, Sarouk, Kerman, Hamadan, Babicabad, Kasvin, Ghoum, Bakara and many others. In all sizes, of course. Don't miss this unusual opportunity to save on famous orientals. The finest, most exquisite Persian carpets in the country. Come early for best selection.

**Mangurian's**  
furniture showcase

531 MONROE AVENUE, ROCHESTER, N. Y.