

Sister to Address Priests Council

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

For the first time in its history a woman will address the diocesan Priests Council.

In the past, priests spoke for nuns but on Dec. 14, Sister Bonaventure Hall will speak for the Sisters Council on matters important to both groups.

Women religious seem to be as frustrated by a man-dominated church as many career women are by the man-dominated business world.

The diocesan Sisters Council was established in September 1970 to enable women religious to cooperate and participate in the policy-making and decision-making processes which affect their lives in the Church and in society in general.

At its first meeting, Bishop

Joseph L. Hogan challenged the Sisters to "exert tremendous influence" and encouraged them, saying: "Our diocesan planning needs the feminine maternal principle of the Sisters. Any organization run totally by men, lacks something."

But the influence of the 23-member council on diocesan planning seems to be foiled by such problems as convent expenses and personal salary which can only finally be cleared up with the cooperation of their pastors.

To deal with financial discrepancies in a uniform way, from convent to convent, a committee on Sister's Maintenance was set up a year ago by the Priests Council. Sister Bonaventure Hall, president of the Sisters Council, along with Sister Jacqueline Demars, Sis-

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Outlook Seen Dim For Heavy Parochial Aid

By DICK BAUMBACH

Elmira — All four principal speakers at the second annual legislative meeting on aid to non-public schools held here last week said the outlook is "bleak" for large amounts of state and federal funds to be received in the near future for the operation of private schools.

However, one ray of hope was held out by Father Daniel Brent, superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Rochester, when he said, "We expect to lose our case on obtaining funds under the Secular Educational Services Act, which is now being argued in federal court; but we believe we can win the case involving the Mandated Services Act which has not yet been heard in the federal courts."

The hearing was held at Notre Dame High School here. More than 300 persons showed up to hear Father Brent, Father Charles M. Whelan, S.J., State Sen. William T. Smith (R-Big Flats), and State Assemblyman L. Richard Marshall (R-Elmira) speak about the possibilities of state and federal funds being given to Catholic schools to help them continue to operate.

Father Brent said, "I am extremely proud of what you have done down here with regard to consolidating your Catholic schools. We are holding you out as an example to other areas in the diocese to show them what can be done to consolidate schools where the people get interested in helping to further Catholic education in their own localities."

The legislative meeting was sponsored by the Chemung County School Board. The board oversees the recent consolidation of six Catholic elementary and one junior high school.

The principal speaker at the meeting was Father Whelan, associate editor of America, a Jesuit magazine, and a law professor at Fordham University.

Father Whelan became the first Catholic priest to argue

orally a case before the U.S. Supreme Court. The event happened Monday.

Father Whelan in his remarks Thursday referred to last June's Supreme Court decision which declared Pennsylvania and Rhode Island's non-public school subsidy laws unconstitutional. He told his audience that the one-sided decision indicates the measure didn't have much of a chance to begin with.

The only hope given by the decision, said Father Whelan, is that non-public schools can still receive busing, books, lunches and health services.

Father Whelan said the current position of the Court is one in which non-public schools

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Board Named To Assist Courier Journal

Formation of a Courier-Journal editorial advisory board was announced last week by Anthony J. Costello, general manager, and Carmen J. Viglucci, editor.

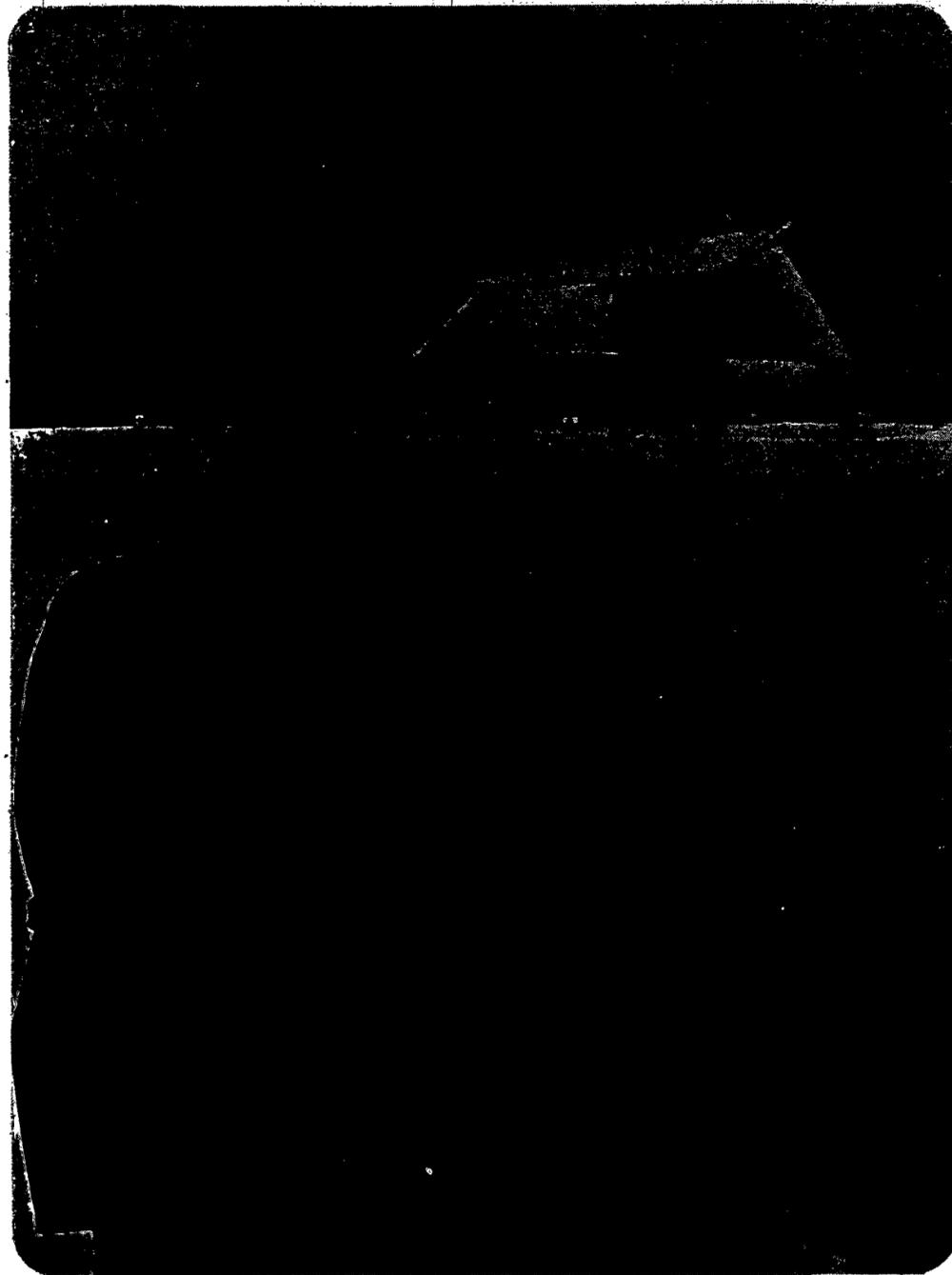
Father Louis J. Hohman, episcopal advisor for the Courier-Journal, will serve as chairman of the new board.

The board will assist the editorial staff by making critiques of the newspaper and offering advice for its improvement. The board met for the first time Dec. 2.

In addition to Father Hohman, members of the board are Mrs. Mildred Boylan, Mrs. Arnold Ciaccio, Roger Gorman, Mrs. Nancy Kennedy, John C. Menihan, John Needham and David Rebolz.

Costello and Viglucci are ex-officio members.

The board fulfills the wish of Bishop Joseph L. Hogan to involve more laymen in diocesan activities.



Neither Rain Nor Snow . . .

Deacon Jack Zimmermann trudges through ice and snow towards St. Christopher's church in Chili, where he is serving a year as an intern in a new program for men becoming priests. See Centerfold for story on life of deacon.

Having Furnace Problems? Choose Contractor with Care

About this time of the year, many homeowners receive telephone calls from heating contractors requesting permission to do furnace checks.

Most dealers are, of course, reputable, but a few may be out to make some easy money, preying upon your natural concern for your family and worry over explosions or fires.

Even an unscrupulous dealer may do a satisfactory job of cleaning the furnace but then he may say the furnace is not in good working condition, the

cost of repairing would not be worth it. He then advises that the furnace be replaced, usually adding a hint of urgency.

Before the customer knows what has happened, he's signed a contract, the furnace is replaced, and they realize they've made a mistake.

How does the average homeowner avoid such a situation?

Michael Rhode of the customer service department of Rochester Gas and Electric, and William Simino, the managing director of the Oil Heat

Institute Inc. in Rochester, have advice.

Simino said that 90 per cent of the cases they deal with are misunderstandings, not dishonesty. But he admitted that the "doorbell-pushers" who high pressure the customer do exist and usually prey on the elderly or those with language handicaps.

"And before they know what happened their furnace is out of their house and there is no evidence that it didn't need to be, so we can do nothing," he said.

Rhode stressed that people with furnace troubles should always check with the Better Business Bureau before signing any contracts.

He stated that only about 5 per cent of the 250 furnace contractors in Rochester are considered "unscrupulous," and suggested ways people can guard against becoming their victims.

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