

# Shared Services May be Answer To School Plight

By BARBARA MOYNEHAN

Shared services might help solve the private schools' financial problem, some veterans in the field suggested last week during a discussion of education funding.

A panel sponsored by the League of Women Voters discussed the Fleischmann Commission's proposal that the state assume full financing of education in order to assure that districts spend the same amount per pupil.

Former State Sen. Thomas Laverne, who was a member of the commission which spent three years studying the financing and cost of secondary and elementary education in New York State, disagreed with the commission's recommendation that private schools should get no state aid.

"A middle ground should be taken, partial aid should be given to private schools to slow down the phaseout," he said.

Dr. William Leonard, area planning coordinator for BOCES No. 2 of Monroe County, recommended "trying ways to meet needs of students wherever they are."

Leonard added that for private schools he "leans toward shared services providing for needs in specialized areas of study."

Dr. Paul Reason, assistant superintendent for business affairs

in the City School District faulted the Commission's recommendation on full state funding for being "silent" on text book aid to private schools, transportation for private schools, and health services that already exist.

"After all simmers down," he said, referring to various education financing plans now under discussion, "I don't think there will be a retrenchment on the aid to private schools that is already established."

John Woods of the Greece School Board, director of the State's School Board Association, stated that "if we are going to really do anything, we should do shared services."

He called such attempts for state aid as reimbursement for mandated services, tax credits and tuition reimbursements, "gimmick proposals," and admitted to "feeling more and more that they are introduced with full awareness they won't get by into effect."

Private school students can go to BOCES or other schools for expensive education courses while still getting their religious, moral teaching, said the graduate of both private and public school systems, and he forecast that religion will be taught in public schools in the future.

## Diaconate Program

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the Personnel Board said. Applications should be sent to: Permanent Diaconate Committee, c/o Bishop Dennis Hickey, Pastoral Center for the Diocese of Rochester, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624.

It will be the coordinator's job to focus the work begun by the committee. The deadline for coordinator applications is Feb. 15.

Married men who are ordained deacons may now perform all priestly functions except saying Mass, hearing confession and giving the last rites.

They may baptize, preach, distribute Communion, counsel and officiate at weddings and funerals. They usually retain secular jobs.

"I am most excited about holy orders being given to married men, who thus become members of the Church hierarchy," Father Metzger said. "This to me is a real escalation of Christian Witness."

He feels that married men as deacons, as Church men, is most startling and adds that because "we respect what Pope Paul said recently on women's role in the Church" women won't be ordained permanent deacons.

## Sisters Vote War Protest

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Before the split vote was in considerable discussion took place in order to clarify that the letter would be only from those at the meeting, not from the 1200 nuns in the diocese.

Other action at the Council's first meeting of 1973, held at St. Joseph's Motherhouse in Pittsford last Thursday night, included a report from Father Raymond Booth, pastor of Mount Carmel, of a job opening.

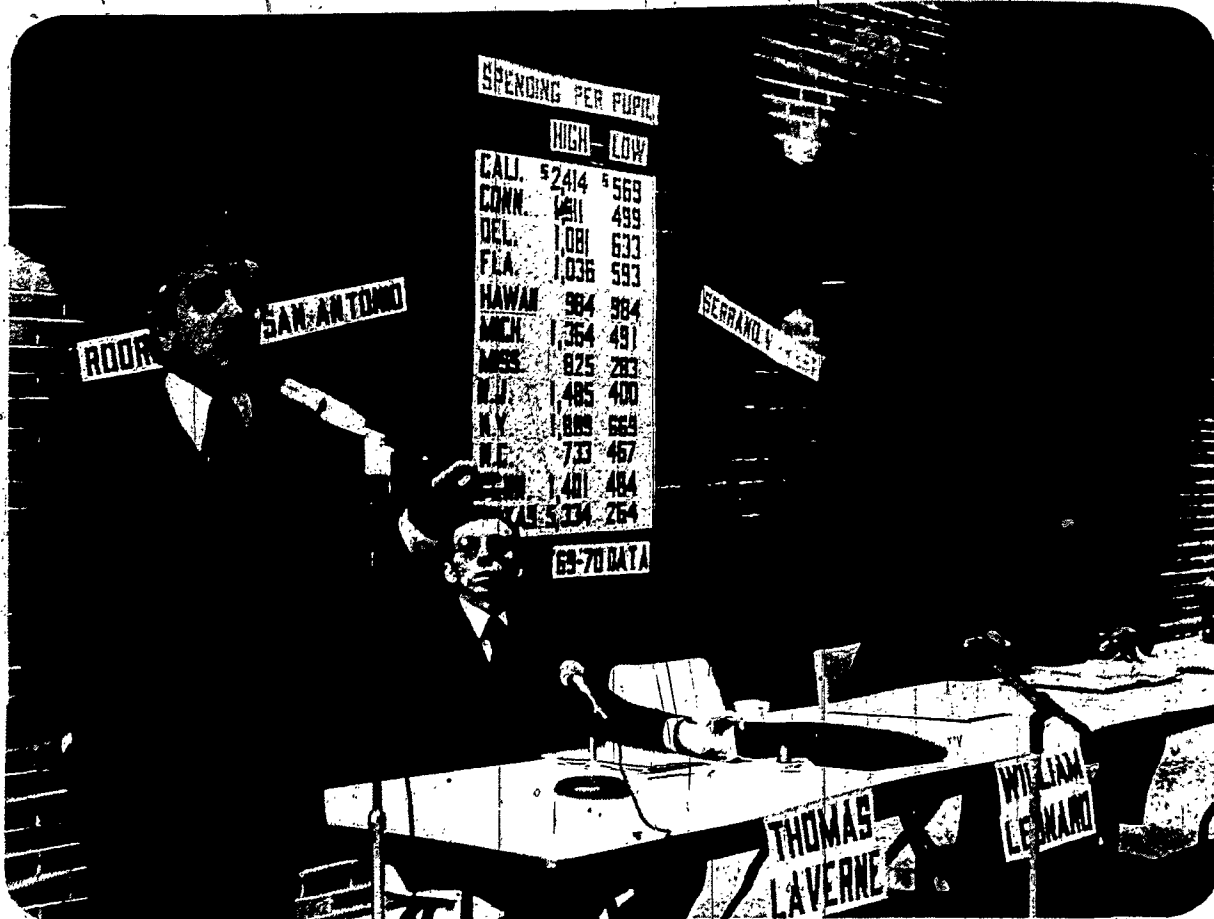
Father Booth, a member of the committee that has been working on planning the permanent diaconate program here, asked the sisters to spread the word to their constituents and in their own houses that the diocese is looking for a coordinator of the diaconate program.

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The coordinator will have to plan on the volunteer job for three to five years. Father Booth explained, until the program is well underway. He also said that it is not yet decided if the job will go to one or two people.

The coordinator's first duties would be education of the public on what a lay deacon would be. The second stage of the job would be recruitment of men (the diaconate is closed to women), followed by training of the deacons.

It was also decided that a workshop for diocesan sisters scheduled for the Spring would be postponed until the Fall so the sisters could concentrate on regional organizing for the present.



Thomas Laverne, Dr. Leonard, John Woods, and Dr. Reason.

## Latin Masses Announced

The winter schedule for the monthly Latin high Mass at the Cenacle Retreat House has been announced as Jan. 14, Feb. 11 and March 11.

All the masses, which are sponsored by The Eastman School Newman Club begin at 4 p.m. and feature both the traditional plainchant and figured music by the Eastman School of Music's Gregorian Chant Choir, under the direction of Dr. Erich Schwandt.

## Msgr. Cocuzzi

## Attends Meeting

Huntington — Msgr. George Cocuzzi, pastor of Holy Family Church, was among the members of the executive board of the Priests' Councils of New York which recently held its fourth Provincial Assembly at the Immaculate Conception Seminary here.

Father Walter Burghardt of Woodstock College, Father Frank Bonnike of the National Federation of Priests' Councils and Msgr. Colin MacDonald of the Committee on Priestly Life and Ministry addressed the priests.

## OHD Offers Parish Leader Training Course

A course to prepare instructors for parish human development groups will be offered at St. Bernard's Seminary on Tuesday evenings, Jan. 30 through April 10.

Classes, limited to 20, will meet from 7:30 until 10:30. Completion of the course entails an obligation to assist in two parish training programs during the following year.

Announcing the course, the Office of Human Development invited interested priests, religious, seminarians and lay people to enroll before Jan. 24. For interviews and cost information they should call Father Sebastian Falcone at St. Bernard's, 716/254-1020; Sister James Lynch, at the Pastoral Center, 328-3210, or Joe Torma of OHD, 328-6400.

Instruction will include the following topics:

Faith as a foundation of freedom, in the Old Testament; Jesus and decisive response to suffering; the role and technique of shared prayer; community action research; consensus building and decision making.

Wednesday, January 10, 1973

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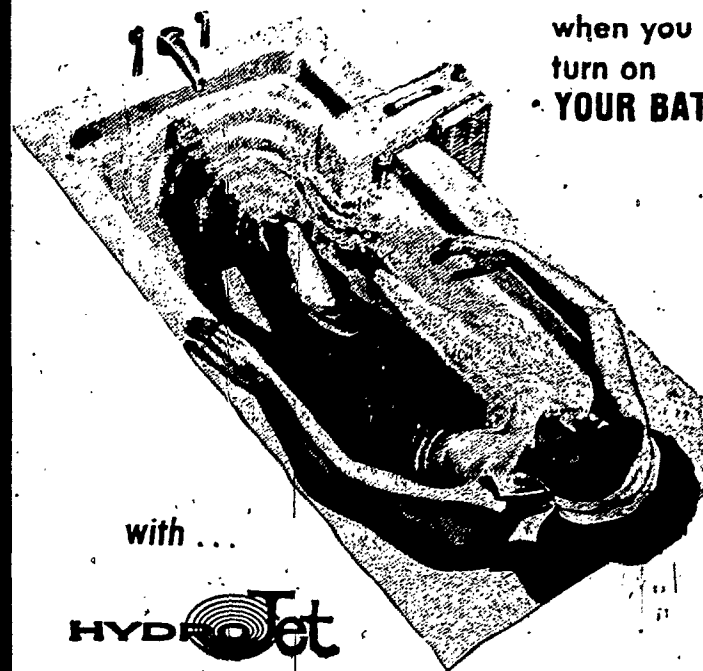
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