



Kuhn, O'Neil Hedge On School Aid Issue

James F. O'Neill and George Kuhn are two suburban office holders who usually have strong views.

But on the issue of whether non-public schools should get state aid, they're hedging.

O'Neill, a Republican from Livonia, is a member of the State Board of Education. Kuhn, a West Bloomfield Republican, represents several Overland communities in the State Senate.

TENS OF THOUSANDS of letters have poured into the offices of Gov. Romney and top legislative leaders, all seeking aid under the so-called "voucher" system—in which a check would go to a non-public student rather than directly to the school.

Individual legislators are to be the next target of the barrage (see an earlier story on the Public Affairs Page, 10E).

"I'M COMPLETELY open-minded," said O'Neill. "There's a need to study all the facts."

"We (the State Board) had the spokesmen for Citizens for Education Freedom (CEF)—the group boosting the aid idea in to explain their side. We're going to hear the opponents in a couple of weeks."

"The opponents seem to feel that to give this kind of aid would encourage more private schools. They point out that the state constitution provides for 'public schools,' not 'general education.'"

"I've said before that this would be a controversial issue. The State Board of Education insisted on bringing non-public schools into the study of all school financial problems, a study that was issued last month."

"PAROCHIAL schools have 330,000 students, or about 15 per cent of the two million pupils in Michigan," O'Neill said.

"In the fall of 1966, the parochial schools wanted to cut their pupil-teacher ratios. This added 20,000 or 25,000 students to the public schools."

—And in further defense of the non-public schools, O'Neill pointed to the State Board-funded study which showed that non-public schools are doing a better job of integrative education at the elementary level in the inner city than are the public schools.

U.S. Approves New Livonia Bank Facility

Elvin D. Dougherty, president of Livonia National Bank, announced Monday that approval has been received from the Comptroller of the Currency, Washington, D.C., on the construction of a new drive-in facility on the northeast corner of Farmington and Five Mile Roads.

Livonia National Bank also announced future plans to erect a multi-story structure to provide enlarged office quarters for its rapidly expanding customer and business services at the Farmington-Five Mile location.

Dougherty said that the construction of the new office facility is contingent upon approval of rezoning by the city enabling the bank to proceed.

"LIVONIA NATIONAL Bank's expansion has gone hand-in-hand with the expansion of Livonia. The new drive-in, only facility at the intersection of Farmington and Five Mile Roads and the planned new main office structure pending rezoning, will enable Livonia National Bank to better serve the customers of our bank and the community," said Dougherty.

Dougherty anticipated that the new drive-in office at this main intersection would serve customers for a large area. Preliminary plans are now underway and will be announced shortly.

COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS, under the direction of Edna Herig of Detroit Edison, will be given Thursday and Friday at Ward's Wonderland store. Miss Herig will offer hints on preparing children's lunches and economical ways to prepare meals. The demonstrations will be held at 2, 4 and 7 p.m. each day.

Palmer To Be Named 'Amateur Of The Year'

Ray Palmer, veteran Grosse Ile golfer who won the national senior's championship last summer, will be given a new honor Friday night.

He will be named Michigan's "Amateur of the Year," at the annual mid-winter sports dinner at Meadowbrook Country Club.

In his new role, Ray will join such well known former winners as Cazzie Russell, U. of M. basketball star; Bob Timberlake, U. of M. All-American quarterback; and Terry McDermott, Olympic speed skater. Adolph Rupp, basketball coach at the University of Kentucky who now is the winningest coach in the country will be the main speaker, with Bob Reynolds, WJR Sports Director, as the hostmaster.

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