

# Parochial Supporters, Opponents State Views

The controversial aid to non-public schools proposal is being torn apart by Lansing legislators faster than a hot potato—and most of the lawmakers would rather let it pass than grab it.

In order to learn the official positions what could be the two opposing sides on the issue, the Observer Newspapers have secured position statements from both organizations.

Supt. James Ruan, head of the Plymouth Community School District and president of the Michigan Association of School Administrators, has issued the statement of his group. Charles Drouillard, state and federal coordinator of the Livonia District Catholic Schools, has issued the position statement for Livonia non-public schools as indicative of the feeling of his group throughout the state.

Rossman's statement is that of the MASA relative to the appropriation of public funds for the support of non-public schools. It is as follows: The Board of Directors and the Council of the Michigan Association of School Administrators reaffirm the position of the Association adopted in convention assembled at Grand Rapids on January 19, 1967.

THIS REAFFIRMATION by the Board of Directors and Council is taken at this time when legislation is being considered which would directly or indirectly appropriate tax money for the support of private and parochial education. The basic tenets as expressed in the stated position of this Association are supported by the following principles:

1. The separation of church and state is a basic premise of our democratic society.
2. It is the responsibility of the State to provide tax supported public education for every child and conversely, duplicated services based on personal interests or desires should not be the responsibility of the State.
3. The right of citizens not to be taxed to help support private schools is a basic right.
4. Over a period of more than two decades legislation, has been developed to reorganize school districts into efficient units to provide a comprehensive educational program for all children.
5. This Association is concerned with the possible escalation of appropriations in this nature toward total tax support of privately controlled institutions and the ultimate formation of additional institutions.

This means a potential savings of \$400,000 in local tax dollars and \$240,000 in State tax dollars will not occur.



\$3,000 CHECK is given to Dr. Donald Friedrichs (left), chairman of the Board of Management of the Livonia "Y", by Walter Goodman, general manager of Wonderland Center. The donation is the Center's second annual installment of its \$9,000 pledge to the building fund.

This is part of the price that is being paid by not recognizing the financial crisis in the non-public schools.

## C'Ville Board Takes A Stand Opposing Aid

The Clarenceville Board of Education, in a resolution sent to all senators and representatives in the state legislature, has taken a position against the proposed legislation to aid parents of non-public school children.

The Board became one of the first in the communities covered by the Observer Newspapers Group to take such a positive action.

In the communication, the Board stated it does not believe that an influx of non-public school students into the public schools will damage the public school system.

"Rather," the resolution reads, "The Board believes that the people, acting as a concerned unit, will solve any and all problems resulting from a potential increase in numbers of public school students."

THE TRUSTEES ask the legislators to do all in their power to oppose passage of the Non-Public School Aid Bill of 1968.

The Plymouth Registered Nurses will tour the intensive care units of University Hospital, Ann Arbor, Tuesday, March 19.

Members are asked to meet in the Dunning House Library parking lot at 7:30 p.m. Those interested in the tour may call 453-5239.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Clarenceville Board of Education strongly requests that you do all in your power to oppose passage of the Non-Public School Aid Bill of 1968 and that you use your influence to persuade your colleagues of the impractical nature of this legislation to the general and educational objectives of a democratic society."

The Board also issued a statement to electors to write to the legislators stating their personal reaction to the passage of such a bill.



FORD MOTOR'S Livonia Community Relations Committee is shown presenting a \$2,500 check to the Livonia Chamber of Commerce for the Chamber's new building on Farmington Road. Carl Pellman (left), chairman of the Ford committee, and David Saylor (center), past chairman, give the contribution to Chamber Manager Phil Tangway.

## Archdiocese Slates 'Open House' In Schools Sunday

The 20 Catholic schools in the communities covered by the Observer Newspapers Group will join the 355 schools in the eight-county Archdiocese of Detroit in the largest open house welcome ever planned in the state. The affair is scheduled for Sunday March 17, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Every Catholic school in the Archdiocese will throw open their doors to men, women and children.

Of the 4.5 million persons residing within the Archdiocesan boundaries, approximately 1.5 million are Catholics. Each is asked to renew his acquaintance with the schools they support and to bring along their friends as guests.

"WE WILL BE pleased to have every single one of the 4.5 million residing in the area come to see what we do and how we operate," said Rev. Father John E. Zwiers, superintendent of Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese.

"We look forward to welcoming all who are interested and we believe the visitors will thoroughly enjoy the experience."

A special invitation to residents of the Overland area has been extended by Chairman of the local open house committee, Allan Johnson of Livonia.

Other committee members are: Frank Murphy of Livonia; William Pops, Westland; William Penn, Plymouth; J.F. Daugherty, Garden City; James Brown, Redford Township; and Richard Abowd, Jr., of Farmington.

They are being assisted by John Scallie, Westland; John DeMattia, Robert Gleason and Laurance Frietag, Livonia; Stanley Krotczyk, Garden City; John Henige and A. Joseph Lavich, Farmington; Edward Hoban, Jerome Van Loosen, James Ashton, Frank Hoff and James Downs, of Redford Township.

AREA SCHOOLS participating: LIVONIA—St. Edith, 15089 Newburgh Road, St. Genevieve, 2823 Jamison Ave., Lakewood High, 14880 Newburgh Road, St. Maurice, 32801 Lyndon Ave.; and St. Michael, 11311 Hubbard.

REDFORD TOWNSHIP—St. Agatha, 19750 Beech-Daly; Bishop Borgess High School, 11685 Appleton; St. Hilary, 23915 Elmira Ave.; St. John Bosco, 12100 Beech-Daly; Our Lady of Loreto, 17175 Olympia; St. Robert - Bellarmine, 27150 Westfield; and St. Valentine, 25900 Dow.

GARDEN CITY—St. Dunstan, 1515 Bellon Road; and St. Raphael, 5735 Merriman Road.

WESTLAND—St. Bernardine of Siena, 31448 Ann Arbor Trail; and St. Damian, 30055 Joy Road.

PLYMOUTH—Our Lady of Good Counsel, 1151 William.

FARMINGTON—St. Fabian,

32265 Red Clover Road; Our Lady of Mercy High, 29300 Elyon Mills Road; and Our Lady of Sorrows elementary and high school, 23619 Powers Road.

FATHER ZWERS said the idea for the open house was copied from St. Louis, Mo., where Catholic schools have held open house days for three years.

"This should be titled our first annual open house," he said. "Because we hope to make this welcome to our friends and annual occasion. We believe the community generally will benefit by comparing our schools with the public schools in the area. We learn from the public schools and we hope our schools offer some ideas for our friends in public education."

Visitors to each school will be invited to meet the faculty, trade ideas with them, tour the buildings, examine a display of textbooks and students' work and observe demonstration classes.

The Archdiocese of Detroit includes the counties of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw, Monroe, Lenawee, St. Clair and Lapeere. There are 95 Catholic elementary schools and 40 high schools in Detroit; 103 elementary schools and 37 high schools in the suburbs of Detroit; and 59 other elementary and 18 other high schools outside the metropolitan Detroit area.

In the 260 elementary and 95 high schools, there are 185,000 students. Of these approximately 142,000 attend the elementary and 43,000 the high schools.

Members of religious orders outnumber lay teachers only slightly. There are 2,137 teaching Sisters, Brothers and Priests and 1,943 lay instructors in the elementary schools. In the high schools, there are 1,302 members of religious orders and 855 lay teachers.

## State And Local

THE STATEMENT from Drouillard for those supporting aid for non-public schools follows: Over 4,000 youngsters living in Livonia are educated in non-public schools. These children would be the responsibility of the Livonia School District if they were not in these non-public schools.

To provide education in the public school system, were it not provided in the non-public schools, would require an additional \$2.6 million in additional operating funds for the Livonia School District. Taxpayers would not only have to come up with this money, but with an additional \$6 to \$9 cent on land and buildings to house these students.

We are not satisfied in educating 4,000 children, we want to increase our enrollment. Over 10,000 children of interested parents are attending public schools and most of them could be attending non-public schools if operating funds were available. Every child who is educated in a non-public school saves the taxpayer an expenditure in Livonia of about \$640 per year and that figure is going up. \$240 of this amount comes from State tax sources and the other \$400 from your local tax payments.

THE LIVONIA Catholic Schools educational costs are currently less than half those of the public schools.

Due to a lack of operating funds 25 additional non-public school classrooms with a capacity of 1,000 students will not be in use during the next school year in the Livonia School District.

A NATIONAL GUARD recruiting campaign, aimed at 2,000 Negro veterans in the Detroit Metropolitan area, was announced Monday in Lansing by Maj. Gen. Clarence Schnipke, state adjutant general. A letter is being mailed to each of the Negro veterans in the area, who is assigned to the nationwide reserve mobilization pool. The reorganization of the Michigan Guard has resulted in an increase of 300 spaces in the Detroit area and General Schnipke hopes to fill most of the vacancies with Negro veterans.

THE STRIKE of Teamsters against the Detroit News that started the newspaper in metropolitan Detroit 118 days ago may end this week, but the newspapers probably won't be publishing for some time. The Teamsters Union has reached a tentative contract with the News but it has to be ratified by the membership. Meanwhile, the Pressmen and ITU (Printers) have issued strike notices and are picketing both the News and Free Press. All of which appears to point to a long time before newspapers will appear again.

THE UNITED AUTO WORKERS warned American Motors Corp. Monday it will strike the corporation on March 20 unless union members have accepted a contract with the company. The UAW placed a deadline of noon on Thursday for receiving contract proposals from AMC, the only major U.S. auto maker lacking a nationwide pact with the union.

## New Amendments Aid Military Men

Editor's Note: This is the ninth in a series of articles by Sam F. Tasi, Social Security district manager in the Detroit-Northwest Office, telling what the Social Security Amendments of 1967 mean to you and your family.

Of special interest to military men and women and their dependents is a provision in the new Social Security law which promises greater protection for them and their families.

Under the old law, only a person's military base pay was counted toward Social Security benefits. Starting with January 1968, an additional \$100 will be counted for each month in which the person in military service is receiving active duty pay.

Sim's Social Security benefits are based on average earnings over a working career, you and your family may be able to receive higher benefits later because of the additional credits.

These earnings credits will automatically be credited to your Social Security account, and you do not have to make any kind of application to receive them. They will not mean additional Social Security contributions from your paycheck, but will be attributed to the general funds of the Treasury.

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**Second Front Page**

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