

# Community College Discussed at Hearing

A "standing room only" crowd attended a public hearing last Wednesday at the Mahoning County Courthouse to hear public discussion on a proposed Community College and Technical School for Mahoning County. Mr. James P. Griffin, chairman of the community college board, presided.

Although there were several items on the agenda, the item that most participants chose to address themselves to was the first item concerning the need for such an institution in Mahoning County.

Speaking for the community college board, Dr. Raymond J. Young of the University of Michigan discussed the findings of the countrywide survey that he completed. Dr. Young pointed out that according to his survey an independent community college could expect an enrollment of 6000 students by 1975. He emphasized that a community college Economics Dept., asked if the college could be effectively associated with an existing institution.

Among those speaking in support of such a facility were Al Shipka, President of the AFL-CIO council and the Reverend Nathaniel Lee of the NAACP. Both spoke on the need for a low cost institution in Mahoning County.

A number of other citizens also spoke in response to the item concerning educational needs of the community. Among them were several YU professors and administrative personnel, acting in an unofficial capacity, because as Dr. S. T. Roberts, Assistant Dean, said, "Only Dr. Jones can speak officially for the University." These professors raised questions and points that educators, taxpayers and community-conscious citizens would raise.

Dean Charles Aurand pointed out the financial assistance and scholarship programs available at YU. Dr. Philip Hahn of the community college board had considered the costs that might be involved in duplicating facilities, such as library and labora-

tory, that now exist in whole or in part. Prof. Pauline Botty of the Sociology Dept. raised points about the effect of a community college on an already existing institution.

All those participating in the hearing were subject to cross-questioning by the community college board members. The questions were sharp and frequently bordered on debate.

Mr. Griffin stated toward the close of the meeting that he had hoped that this meeting would have brought forth suggestions as to what the citizens of Mahoning County would like to have in a community college. He said this would have helped the trustees draw up a plan for such an institution.

Griffin emphasized that basic decisions have not yet been made by the board and that the hearing is part of the process of obtaining facts on which to make decisions.

He added that the board is anxious that no step will be taken which will injure Youngstown University in any way.