

Catholics Fight Birth Curb Bill

Tricks Charged In Wording Measure

BOSTON (NC) — Leading Catholic clergymen throughout the State appeared at the State House Saturday to oppose a petition presented by proponents of birth control legislation under the claim of "medical freedom" in Massachusetts.

Presentation of the petition and the appearance of opponents and proponents took place at one of the largest hearings ever held in the State House. The measure in question is House Bill 3035, which would permit physicians to provide medical contraceptive care to married persons.

The proponents' petition contained 4,000 names. Many who had signed are believed to have done so because the petition was so worded that it was said to be for "mothers' rights." (To a majority of the State Senate.) Robert E. Eigner, charged that many of the signatures are fraudulent and requested that before spending \$50,000 to place the question on the ballot, the State should first attempt to verify the signatures.

Former Mayor La Crosse, His Eminence William Cardinal O'Connell, Archbishop of Boston, designated former Mayor Frederick W. Mansfield, of Boston, as special representative in opposition to the birth control petition, declaring that "these proponents are asking for medical freedom, but what they are really going to get is the death of the human race in Massachusetts."

Mr. Mansfield opposed the bill on the grounds that it is a religious question which has no place on the ballot under the provisions of the Constitution. He presented a large group of doctors and clergymen to prove that the bill is unnecessary and will lead to immorality.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Quinlan, Archbishop of Boston, designated Director of Parochial Schools and Rector of St. John the Evangelist Church, Winthrop, voiced the strong opposition of 1,000,000 Catholics in the Archdiocese of Boston, to the measure.

"I am here to register my opposition to House Bill 3035, as a representative of the Archdiocese of Boston," Monsignor Quinlan said. "In representing the archdiocese with a total population according to the last census of 1,041,356 Catholics, I speak also as Supervisor of Schools in the archdiocese. In this capacity I represent 107,148 pupils who are attending Catholic schools, as well as 3,348 teachers. As the supervisor of schools I feel I have a personal responsibility to over 100,000 boys and girls, their fathers and mothers, and every one in the community. I believe that the teaching and practice of birth control will undermine their virtue and will be a detriment to them and not only the moral welfare of all under my supervision but to the entire community.

School Drop Cited

"Every educator knows the reason for the drop in the numbers of children attending the public schools not alone in Boston but throughout the country. May I now call your attention to this alarming drop in the public school population, by simply citing the facts of a study over 10 years in the public schools of Boston. In the year 1927-1928 there were 13,593 pupils enrolled in the first grade in the Boston schools, in the year 1936-37 the enrollment had dropped to 10,177, a loss of 3,400 pupils. In the year 1937-38 in the first grades of the Boston public schools there were 70,419 pupils enrolled, and in these same grades in 1936-37 there were 58,428 a drop of 11,991.

"You have heard Mr. Mansfield show how loosely this bill is drawn. I maintain that this bill would let down the bars and make possible unscrupulous clinics which would pass the information to anyone even to high school students who are in the all important formative age."

Calling attention to the laws set up in 1879 enacted in Massachusetts prohibiting crime against chastity, morality, decency and good behavior, Monsignor Quinlan said the purpose of that legislation was to protect the virtues of chastity, purity, self-control and decency and to prevent the spread of immorality. "I think we may still take our standards by the standards placed upon our laws by men 62 years ago," he added. "I also believe that this proposed bill would open these clinics to boys and girls of high school age. If it passes it give a 'green' light to those who would do away with our traditional attitude of chastity."

Mr. Mansfield testified that already there are over 635 contraceptives on the market representing a \$575,000,000 industry.

In the Hawaiian language there is no word for weather.

Advisor on Schools



Rev. Dr. George Johnson, S.M., Director of the Department of Education of the National Catholic Welfare Conference and Secretary General of the National Catholic Educational Association, who has been named to the Committee on the Part of Schools under Nelson Rockefeller, Director of Commercial and Cultural Relations between the American Republics. Harris & Ewing photo. (N.C.W.C.)

Community Choir Wins Favor With Cantata

The newly organized Rochester Catholic Community Choir made an auspicious debut in its presentation of Theodore DuBois' sacred cantata, "The Seven Last Words of Christ," Sunday evening in Blessed Sacrament Auditorium.

Present to hear the choir a beautiful rendition of the difficult cantata was His Excellency, Bishop Kearney, the Rev. Thomas F. Conroy, pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church who sponsored the sacred cantata and several other members of the clergy. The Bishop who was guest of honor expressed his appreciation of the singing at the close of the program.

The choir was directed by Anthony J. De Surra, organizer of this well balanced Community organization.

In solo parts were heard these well-known voices, sopranos, Mrs. Mildred Wahl and Miss Helen Knops, tenor, Charles John Sullivan and baritone, Edward Russo. Mrs. Ann Dodge was accompanist.

The Rev. John A. Moran, assistant pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church, narrated the tragic story of Christ's suffering as the choir intoned "The Seven Last Words."

Stage manager was George J. Hankin. Business manager was Edward J. Lynd. Ushers consisted of James P. Connolly, Clement A. Doherty, William C. Esterhild, Edward E. Lynd, Daniel E. Macken, Francis E. Wolfe. Advertising and tickets were handled by James M. Hurley and Thomas H. Guest.

Urge Catholics To Back USO

(Continued from Page 1)

atmosphere in camp neighborhoods." Archbishop Mooney said "The Bishops, in their meeting last November, pledged the resources both in personnel and facilities of Catholic organizations in the fields of health, social welfare, education and lay groups to this great national effort.

"Our whole effort concerns the spiritual care of the men in the Army and Navy. We wish to provide a moral atmosphere which safeguards Catholic life. Morality is the best insurance for morale. Our Catholic people readily will recognize their duty of supporting this work."

Sometimes Outnumber Population

Mr. Hoving, in announcing the campaign for funds said 1,400,000 young men are now in uniform, many of them in huge training centers hastily built to meet a national emergency, and that "soldiers sometimes outnumber, by five to ten times, the adult population of nearby towns and villages."

"When the soldiers go into town they are by the thousands evenings and week-ends," Mr. Hoving added, "there is too often no place for them to go, nothing to do, no good friend to meet the lonely, no good place to build recreation. Boys stand aimlessly on the sidewalks wondering what to do, and those who seek to exploit the boys, sometimes viciously, are eager to supply the answer."

The United Service Organizations plan to bring our soldiers and youth in our defense industries a measure of the hospitality, the spiritual influence and the comfort which the people at home want them to have."

Missionary Letters 'Tonic' To SVD

GIRARD, PA. — An outstanding truth growing more evident every day is the solid constructive supra-national institution of the Catholic Church. The great leaven in the present jumbled world is the missionary program of the Church. The supra-nationality of the Gospel stands out in a particularly thrilling light through the unflinching work of the missionaries representing various and conflicting nationalities who labor side by side among peoples of shifting traditions and political trends.

In the Society of the Divine Word, American, Hollanders, German, Polish, Slovaks, Negro, South American, Chinese and Japanese Churches are dedicated to God under the patronage and title of one of more saints.

It is stimulating to read the missionary letters arriving at the Provincial headquarters of the Eastern Province in Girard, Pa. Some undergoing long delays in transit and censorship, yet all sounding the same note "We are busier than ever" and "Send us more missionaries, the harvest is great" or "Prospects are brighter than ever before, our work is being recognized." What a tonic after depressing headlines of destruction, defiance and death!

Easter Gospel In New Bible Text

Revision of Mark's Gospel for Easter Sunday Explained

By Rev. Dr. Edward H. Doane, S.M., General Secretary, Catholic Biblical Association of America. (Written for N.C.W.C. News Service)

The Gospel for Easter Sunday is taken from St. Mark, chapter 16, verses 1 to 7. This passage is given here as it reads in the revision which has been completed by the Catholic Biblical Association for the Episcopal Committee on the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine.

It is presented without the numerals which, in the printed form, appear in the left-hand margin and refer to the verses in the old text. Moreover, certain words in the text below are italicized, whereas they are not italicized in the printed form of the revision. The italics are employed here to show the places where changes have been made from the old text of this particular Gospel. In the old text, italics were used for two purposes: (1) to indicate quotations from the Old Testament, and (2) to indicate words which had been used to complete the thought in English, but for which there was no corresponding word in the Latin text. In the revision of the New Testament, quotations from the Old Testament are indicated rather than italicized. The second use which italics had in the old form of the New Testament does not arise in the revision for the additional words necessary in English expression by the thought are a real part of the translation, and should not be emphasized by the use of italics. Full appreciation of the improvement in the new text can be had only by comparing the general sentence structure with that of the old text.

The opening words of practically all the gospels in the misal are "At that time" This is an old liturgical introduction, which of course, will be kept in the edition of the Sunday Epistles and Gospels which the Catholic Biblical Association is publishing simultaneously with the appearance of the revised text of the entire New Testament. This edition is intended for pulpit use and will be available early in May.

The misal also occasionally changes a word or phrase to clarify a reference to something previously mentioned in the complete Gospel text but not found in the section read in the Mass. Thus in the Gospel "anoint him" is read "anoint Jesus." This latter reading found its way into some of the manuscripts of the complete text. In the edition of the complete New Testament the revisers follow the Latin text of the best manuscripts; in the edition of the liturgical selections the readings of the misal are followed.

In the old text the Latin participles were frequently translated literally, contrary to English idiom. Thus Chalon's text had "that coming, they might anoint" where we now read "that they might go and anoint"; "the sun being now risen" is replaced by "where the sun had just risen." Compare the old translation, "And entering into the sepulchre they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed with a white robe, and they were affrighted" with the revision, "But on entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting at the right side, clothed in a white robe and they were amazed."

'Red' Camps Ban Priests

CHICAGO — Many Polish priests have offered to accompany parishioners to Siberia concentration camps to help and comfort them in their misery, but have been refused permission to do so by the Soviet authorities. This is the story brought back by Mrs. Olga Kochanska upon her return to her native city here after seven months in a Siberian concentration camp. Her husband was formerly a violin teacher here and later a teacher at the conservatory in Warsaw. Six months before the Nazi invasion of Poland, he died and in June, 1940, the widow, unable to communicate with friends in America, was herded off to Siberia by the Soviets.

In the concentration camp men and women alike were ordered to hard labor in the fields under cruel superiors, she says. The food was bad and inadequate, while all were forced to endure the severe Siberian cold with little clothing and few blankets. Many thousands of Polish citizens, mainly from the intellectual classes, have been thrown into Soviet camps, Mrs. Kochanska says, and there are forced to live in dirty and wretched huts and deprived of all religious care. The instrumentality of friends in America.

New ACTU Chapter Formed in Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE — A chapter of the Association of Catholic Trade Unionists has been formed in Milwaukee.

Catholic workmen who belong to trade unions, C. I. O., A. F. L., or independent, are eligible for membership. The association has headquarters in New York and active chapters in Detroit, Chicago, Boston, Pittsburgh and other cities. Ability is a poor man's wealth.

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Boys Town Mayor, 25 Constituents To Get Diplomas

BOYS TOWN Neb.—The Mayor of Boys Town and 25 of his constituents will receive high school diplomas from the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward J. Flanagan at commencement exercises on June 2.

His Honor, Sam Bree, came to Father Flanagan's Boys Home from Omaha four years ago.

Distinguished guest at the graduation exercises of the 26 students who represent 12 states, will be J. Edgar Hoover, Chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Also scheduled to receive a diploma is Sam Turner, of San Antonio, who served two terms as Mayor during his five years at Boys Town. Sam is present City Commissioner.

Outstanding student in the class is 18-year-old Gabriel Calderon, from Omaha, who wants to study for the priesthood following his graduation.

Another student who intends to study for the priesthood or for law is Terry McKenna from Nevada. Mo. His brother, Pat, hopes to become a newspaperman.

Two promising Boys Town senior athletes, Ben Jankowski, of Superior, Wis., and Francis Plint of Dubuque, Ia., had traveled this Spring with the St. Louis Cardinals.

More fortunate than most of his classmates is Joe Kirby, of Ryan, Ia. He has a job waiting for him at the Stevens Hotel in Chicago.

Boy Hero To Get College Education

BURLINGTON, Vt.—(NC) — A college education is the reward Roland Boncher, 14-year-old pupil of St. Anthony's School here has received for rescuing five children from the icy waters of Lake Champlain on Lincoln's Birthday.

Roland was skating nearby when the youngsters plunged through the ice. He succeeded in pulling them all out of the water, but one was later pronounced dead.

Citizens of Vermont set up a fund to provide for the boy's higher education. Among the first contributors were Gov. William H. Will, of Vermont; Bishop Vedder Van Dyke, of the Episcopal Church in Vermont, and Mayor James Burns of Burlington.

The Vermont Legislature passed a resolution citing young Boncher for his bravery and efforts are being made to secure a Carnegie Medal for him.

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