

Court Upholding Parents' Rights In Child Care Lauded By Prelate

SEATTLE — "The recent decision of the Washington State Supreme Court defending the sacred rights of parents to the control and care of their children is an inestimable service in the cause of liberty and human welfare that should be given widest recognition," said the Most Rev. Gerald Shaughnessy, B.M., Bishop of Seattle in a statement given to The Catholic Northwest Program, Sunday.

"Whoever defends the family, the home and the rights of individuals against aggression, however well-intentioned and from whatever source, is defending the very citadel, the inner sanctuary of all human liberty and happiness," said His Excellency.

The Bishop was referring to the decision "in the matter of the welfare of Patricia Hudson," wherein the State Supreme Court overruled the King County Juvenile Court's order for the amputation of a little girl's arm over the objection of her mother.

Mankind's Prime Enemy
"Our Supreme Court did more than preserve the maternal rights and vindicate the instincts of one mother," said Bishop Shaughnessy. "Its forthright decision strengthened the bulwarks for every American's liberty, and this at a time when the far-spreading contagion of totalitarian aggression is mankind's prime enemy and source of an anguished world's woe."

Patricia Hudson, age 11, was born with an abnormally large left arm. Two physicians recommended amputation of the arm, saying that the abnormal enlargement is a drain upon the girl's strength. They added the operation involved a fair degree of risk of life.

Patricia's mother decided the operation was too great a peril to her daughter's life.

The King County Juvenile Court did not merely speculate: it said, in effect that the mother's decision was wrong and ordered the girl's left arm amputated.

The Supreme Court, reviewing the case did not pass upon the correctness of the mother's decision, but it held that the right to make the decision was the mother's and that the juvenile court's contravening order was a wrongful invasion of a sacred right.

The manner in which the Juvenile Court interpreted statutes to provide jurisdictional basis for its order, was commented upon at length by the Supreme Court in reversing the lower tribunal. The Juvenile Court judge decided that the statutory definitions of "dependency" were broad enough to include a child who is not receiving proper medical or surgical attention that the word "destitute," as used in the statute, need not connote lack of finances. And said finally, "When a child is in need



TRAPPED SABOTEURS by his wit. Coast Guardsman John Cornelius Cullen, 21-year-old parishioner of Saint Robert Bellarmine Church, Bayside Hills, L. I. is congratulated by Vice Admiral Russell R. Waesche, U. S. Coast Guard Commandant for outwitting four of the eight Nazi saboteurs now on trial. INP Photo (N.C.W.C.)

Nazi Spies He Helped Nab Were 'Not Clever' Says Catholic Coastguardsman

NEW YORK—John C. Cullen, 21-year-old Catholic Coast Guardsman whose fame has swept the nation in 48 hours for his part in the capture of eight Nazi-trained saboteurs, said

Seattle Trailer Chapel Is Serving Army Unit

SEATTLE — The motor chapel of St. Paul, designed to serve the needs of rural areas in the Diocese of Seattle, is now "in the Army" and serving the religious needs of men from New York City. One of the first automobile trailer chapels in the country, it has been turned over to the Catholic chaplain with an anti-aircraft unit from New York stationed in the Seattle area. The unit was 70 per cent Catholic, according to a count made when it left the East.

of necessary medical or surgical attention and is denied same by the child's parent, the home in which such child lives in, by reason of that neglect, an unfit place for the child."

The Juvenile Court did not appoint a guardian, as is called for by statute in cases where a home is declared "unfit" for a child, but indicated that Patricia might go back to her home, if she survived the operation. The Supreme Court commented upon these facts in reversing the decision.

After thus finding that the child was a "dependent child" (in effect, a ward of the State) because she was "destitute," the judge made an order directing amputation of Patricia Hudson's left arm.

Parent's Custody Upheld
"Justice William J. Millard's decision, concurred in by all but one member of the Supreme Court," said Bishop Shaughnessy, "is an exhaustive review of the Common Law, organic law and statutory enactments, which he sums up as conclusive that a parent's right to custody and control of minor children is a sacred right with which courts may not interfere unless the parent has abdicated or forfeited his right by vicious or indisputably neglectful conduct."

"Courts do not have the right or power to take the custody of children from their parents," said Justice Millard, "unless the parents show that they are unfit to have such custody and the children are treated with cruelty or exposed to immoral or debasing conditions. Parents primarily have the constitutional right to the custody and control of such minor children and may give to those children such attention and training as, in the judgment of such parents, may seem best for the welfare of the child or children and for the good of society."

"And, further, the opinion reiterates: 'As long as parents properly exercise their duty under their natural rights, to rear, educate and control their children, their right to do so may not be interfered with solely because some other person or some other institution, might be deemed better suited for that purpose.'"

In a press interview here that the four men whom he encountered as they landed on Long Island from a Nazi submarine did not live up to the popular concept of clever enemy spies.

Promoted to the rank of Coxswain for his prompt action and quick thinking, Mr. Cullen appeared for press interviews and pictures at the offices of the Third Naval District.

If the leader of the spy group had come up to expectations in cleverness, he said, "I wouldn't be here now." Mr. Cullen had intended to accept a bribe for silence from the leader of the group of four whom he found on the beach at Amagansett, L. I., but when they released him he immediately reported to the Coast Guard Station and his information led to the rounding up of the four, as well as of four more who landed in Florida.

John Cornelius Cullen is a member of an outstanding Catholic family of St. Robert Bellarmine's parish, Bayside Hills, Queens, and they are "very proud of him," according to his mother, Mrs. Michael Cullen.

Another press interview took place yesterday at the Cullen home. The young hero's father, younger brother and four sisters and their pastor, the Rev. Joseph J. Hyland, all chorused agreement as his mother said: "He's a fine brave boy. He always wanted to do his bit for his country."

The youth was promoted from the rank of seaman, second class, to coxswain by Vice-Admiral Russell R. Waesche, Commandant of the United States Coast Guard. Admiral Waesche praised him for his alertness and deft handling of the situation when he encountered the saboteurs.

K. OF C. SUPREME BOARD DENOUNCES ATTACK ON SENATOR DAVID WALSH

NEW HAVEN — A resolution adopted at the regular quarterly meeting of the Supreme Board of Directors of the Knights of Columbus and released at the national headquarters here denounces an attack made on the character of United States Senator David L. Walsh of Massachusetts. The resolution praises the "record of unselfish devotion to the general welfare of his country" established by Senator Walsh; asks the Department of Justice to prosecute those responsible for the attack, and calls upon the postal authorities to refuse further use of postal facilities to the newspaper in which the attack was made.

Assailing charges made in the newspaper as "the vilest and most despicable libel ever circulated against a person occupying an ex-

3 Sculptors Vie For Statue Of Christ At Capital

WASHINGTON—(N. C.)—The project of an impressive and monumental statue to Christ the Light of the World, in the Nation's Capital, was brought a step further toward realization this week.

A jury of five men, distinguished nationally and internationally as sculptors and architects, for two days examined and consulted upon models for the statue, submitted by 44 sculptors representing all parts of the country in this art. Those submitting models included many of the most widely known men and women.

As a result, the jury selected three sculptors from among whom the artist who will execute the statue in the National Capital will be chosen. They are:

Robert C. Keppeler of the Dayton Art Institute, Dayton, Ohio.

George Kratina of Brooklyn, N. Y., who has executed many fine statues, among them two in the Church of St. Peter Claver, Montclair, N. J.

Susanne Nicolas of New York City, who executed a set of Stations of the Cross for a Carmelite monastery in New York, and who is the wife of the celebrated Dutch artist, Jozep Nicolas.

The judges voted to request these three sculptors to submit revisions of their original models, whereupon the jury will reconvene and select the winner who will execute the statue. The revised model regarded as next best will receive second prize, and the third sculptor will, together with four others, receive third prizes.

The completed statue, together with the facade of the new headquarters building of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, will comprise the memorial of Christ the Light of the World, in Washington.

The monument to Christ the Light of the World, is to consist of the 90-foot white stone facade of the new N. C. W. C. building, which is of monumental proportions and dignified classic design, together with a statue of Christ, standing in a semi-circular niche, cut from top to bottom into the plain wall of the facade. The statue, for which the competition was initiated, will be a 16-foot figure of the Saviour in bronze and will stand on a powerful block of stone now set in the center of the semi-circular niche. The whole structure was conceived as serving both a monumental and a func-



ONE OF THREE models of Christ the Light of the World submitted in competition is above executed by Susanne Nicolas of New York City.

tional purpose, with neither impaired by the co-existence of the other.

Execution of the project has been in the hands of a Committee composed of the Most Rev. Edward Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit and Chairman of the N. C. W. C. Administrative Board, the Most Rev. Hannus A. Sertler, Archbishop of Chicago and former N. C. W. C. Administrative Board Chairman and presently a member of the Board, and Bishop Hall, who is a member of the Administrative Board.

This committee asked the Liturgical Arts Society to conduct a competition to determine what sculptor should be entrusted with the making of the monumental figure of Christ. The Society conducted the competition according to the best professional norms and with the advice and assistance of the Committee on Cooperation Program of the National Sculpture Society.

'Equal Right' Amendment Hit As Threat To Family

WASHINGTON — The so-called "Equal Rights" amendment, now before Congress, is "dangerous" because it threatens family life, the "foundation of our democracy," Miss Mary Anderson, Director of the Women's Bureau, United States Department of Labor, declared in a radio statement Sunday.

Miss Anderson was one of three speakers opposing adoption of the amendment. She participated in an American Forum of the Air Discussion, broadcast from the Shoreham Hotel here over the coast-to-coast network of the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Other speakers for the negative were Miss Helen Blanchard, Vice-President of the New York Women's Trade Union League, and Mrs. Charlotte A. Hankin, prominent Washington attorney who testified in opposition to the amendment at hearings before a Senate Committee.

ailed place in our national government," the K. of C. Supreme Board also called upon the Federal Communications Commission to prohibit a radio commentator, "the co-conspirator in this loathsome conspiracy" from further use of broadcasting facilities.

"The amendment is unnecessary," Miss Anderson said. "Even if it were adopted the laws that are unequal would still have to be removed one by one through State action. Moreover, special provisions due to prejudice and custom can be presented not by law, but by education."

"The amendment is vague. The term 'equal rights' is meaningless. The amendment sets up no basic or standard for equality. Therefore it would lead to endless confusion and conflicting interpretations by judges the country over. Altogether it is legally unsound."

"Finally, the amendment is misleading. It masquerades as a progressive measure, whereas it is really dangerous to women. It cuts into all phases of family life, which is the foundation of a democracy."

Nuns In First Aid

San Antonio—A group of sisters completed daily training in all instructors' class in first aid at Our Lady of the Lake College here last week and a new class beginning today will prepare another group as first aid instructors.

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