

Msg. Randall Retires

Institutions and events are often connected in history with the personalities who gave them an image and led them in the full notice of the public. But there are always men behind the scenes who with unflinching self-sacrifice carry vital burdens of management unseen and unappreciated.

Msgr. John S. Randall was such a manager. When he retired last week after close to 40 years of service in this diocese, nearly every charitable, educational and religious organization owed something to his managerial skill. But only those who knew how hard he worked to give these institutions life would associate him with their present public image.

Our factual summary of his accomplishments as the director of the Propagation of the Faith, as pastor of Rochester's Immaculate Conception Church, as manager of the Courier-Journal, as coordinator of immense fund-raising drives, as director of diocesan wartime projects, as national leader in the Catholic press, can do little more than list dates and totals and titles.

The reader must read between the lines and conceive the energy, stamina, attention to detail, tension, persuasion and stubborn drive which he poured into every cause he was asked to manage.

Msgr. Randall's priestliness, in his parish, as chaplain for the cloistered Carmelites and spokesman for the missions of the world, was unselfish and zealous. By pulpit appearances in about 40 parishes a year for nearly 15 years of his tenure in the Propagation Office, and by tireless stimulation of mission interest among students, he created the spirit which brought this diocese to rank among the top ten in the nation for mission support.

The editors who have given character to the Courier-Journal were all Msgr. Randall's choices. But he never interfered with their positions nor told them what to print. The paper's fiscal structure, circulation policies and physical appearance were his charges. His 28 years as managing editor have given this paper a foundation and a growth beyond the contribution of any other single person.

The Courier-Journal and the Diocese, in gratitude for the myriad ways Msgr. Randall influenced them, wish him happiness in his retirement.

Taxing Thought

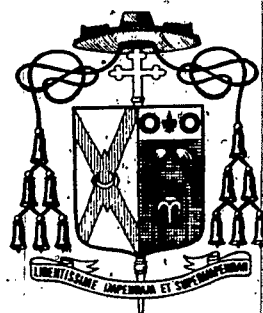
Washington, D.C. — (RNS) — Pentagon officials have announced that a new liberalized approach to abortion for servicemen's wives is now being implemented by the armed forces.

Under new regulations, the wife is allowed an abortion at the government's expense at a civilian hospital even if her military doctor opposes the operation.

The policy applies only to civilian hospitals in states where abortion is legal.

So that's how your tax dollar is spent.

Bishop Hogan's Public Appointments



FEBRUARY

- 1—Meeting with Liturgical Commission — 3 p.m.
- 1—Press/Radio Banquet — Hickok Dinner, Holiday Inn — 6:30 p.m.
- 2—Priests' Council Meeting — Becket Hall — 10 a.m.
- 4—Talk to Men's Club — Third Presbyterian Church — 6:15 p.m.
- 8—Meeting with Elmira priests — Bishop McCafferty's office, Elmira — 10 a.m.
- 8—Talk — Rosary Society of St. Ambrose Church — Dailey Hall — 8:30 p.m.
- 9—Clergy Conference — Becket Hall — 10:15 a.m.
- 10—Advisory Council — 2 p.m.
- 14—Confirmation, Sacred Heart Church, Auburn — 2 p.m.
- 16—Concelebrated Mass with Class of 1967 — Bishop's Residence — 5 p.m.
- 21-23—Private Retreat — Our Lady of the Genesee Abbey — Piffard.
- 26—Carmelite Monastery — Preside at triennial elections — 10 a.m.
- 28—St. Casimir's Church, Elmira — Mass and Homily — 10 a.m., Homily — 12 Noon.

Courier-Journal

Letters to the Editor

Doctors Join to Back Condemnation of Abortion

Editor:

On Dec. 2, 1970, the Catholic Bishops of New York State addressed themselves to their people to express the condemnation of abortion. Terence Cardinal Cooke said, in part: "Tragically our age has seen the growth of a movement that belittles human life and urges the destruction of unborn children. This ruthless assault on human beings in the first stages of life has now been written into law of New York State."

"Once more we denounce this outrage against humanity. Together with all the bishops of the world we hold and teach that abortion is an unspeakable crime."

As physicians we have sworn an oath to protect and preserve life. It is not within our prov-

ince to destroy life at any stage whether it is the unborn fetus or the mature adult. Our training, both medical and ethical, geared to healing, cries out at the crime of this legalized murder.

As Catholics we express publicly with our bishops that, "abortion is an unspeakable crime". Let all physicians, of every religious persuasion, search their consciences and join together in condemning legalized abortion.

Robert J. Schaffer, MD., Joseph F. Rowley, MD., Robert E. Lubanski, MD., Joseph T. Birardi, MD., Joseph Graceffo, MD., Francis R. O'Brien, MD., James D. Rose, MD., Marie Rose, MD., Donald F. Hoffman, MD., D. D. Althouse, MD., Patrick J. Buttarazzi, MD., Richard H. Unger, MD., B. J. Hartnett, MD.

The Word for Sunday

Be Like a Pillar of Iron

By Father Albert Shamon



A book every high school student of Cicero should read is Taylor Caldwell's A Pillar of Iron. She spent nine years writing it. She wrote it because she believed "those nations who ignore history are doomed to repeat its tragedies."

I mention the book for its title which is culled from next Sunday's First Reading. There, the vocation of Jeremia and the opposition he will encounter are described. So fiercely was Jeremia persecuted that the Liturgy of the Church likens him to Christ suffering. However, as Jesus stood firm like a pillar of iron against the Nazarenes, as Cicero did against the enemies of the Roman Republic, so God promised to make Jeremia a fortified city, an iron pillar, a brass wall — impregnable, unshakable, and impervious to the heated hatred of his countrymen against him and the theocracy.

Baptism confers on each person a prophetic mission. Like the prophets of old, the baptized must speak out the truths of God. Today, more than ever, because of a regressive abortion law, he must hold his ground regarding the dignity of human life like a pillar of iron. It is good, therefore, to see Christians exercising their prophetic role by organizing Right to Life Committees throughout the State. We commend these committees. We urge all men of good will to support them.

The aim of the Right to Life Committee is L-I-F-E. "L" stands for "let" — let lawmakers know your opinion on the nefarious abortion law. "I" stands for "inform" — inform yourselves in depth on all the implications of such a law. "F" stands for "foster" — foster educational programs and debates on human life. "E" stands for "express" — express your convictions on the subject in talks with others. In a word, change your mind, change the community's mind, change your neighbor's mind, change the law on criminal abortion!

Remember —

1. The 14th amendment provides that no person shall be deprived of life without due process of law.

Wednesday, January 27, 1971

School Editorial Commended

Editor:

Father Tormey's editorial comments (Courier Journal, 1-13-71) on the "First Report" of the "Diocesan Education Task Force" deserve our thanks. He pointed to certain flaws in that report, questioning "the justice" of educating "a quite minor proportion of parish children" with "the major portion of parish income."

He stated that "actual co-operating effort may evolve too bloodily and too slowly to save schools in many cases" because of "smug parochialism, plus inertia, jealousy and indifference to a neighboring parish's problems."

Last among the targets of his constructive criticism were that "the report only slightly suggests a renewal of the philosophy of Catholic education, never hints at imaginative reform of curriculum and leaves to later study... how to guarantee the best religious education to every Catholic child in any school."

A feature of the "Task Force Report" that disappointed this writer was its obvious lack of interest in the "dual enrollment plan" by which "children could enroll in both public and parochial schools, spending a half day in each."

The practical advantages of such a "plan" are clear. There would be no need to worry about the "Blaine Amendment", no controversy about state aid to religious schools; religion would be taught where it should be in the parochial schools only; the excellent qualifications of the Sisters could certify them as teachers in, and automatically eligible for the higher salaries in the public schools.

Certainly if tuition had to be lowered, there could be no better proof that it must be lowered than the fact that the child is in a Catholic school for only half a day.

John J. A. Overlander
Wimbledon Road
Rochester

Nuns in Portugal Need Help

Editor:

My daughter, Sister Mary Irene, OP, who is a cloistered Dominican Nun in Fatima, Portugal, writes of an urgent need for financial assistance to pay their heating bill.

These good Nuns receive no assistance from any government — they are an English speaking convent with no Portuguese Sisters within. They spend their time in praying the Rosary — 24 hours per day — for peace in the world — and in reparation to God for the sins of mankind. They also pray for people's special petitions. If any readers could spare at least \$1 it would surely be appreciated by the Sisters. Please send check only (never cash) to: "Mother Priorella — Monastery Pius XII — Cova da Iria — Fatima, Portugal."

Eldora Scott
Holcomb

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