

# Hornell Knights Present Abortion Forum

By PEGGY REASE

Hornell — The Knights of Columbus Council No. 243 recently presented an open forum on abortion.

Francis H. Sally, district deputy of the Knights of Columbus Elmira District introduced and directed the program.

A new film, produced for the Knights, entitled "The Reality of Abortion" was shown and guest speakers included Miss Margaret Hanley, R.N. psychiatric mental health nurse specialist from Elmira, Dr. James Frisk, a pediatrician from Elmira, Dr. James Mark, an obstetrician-gynecologist from Elmira and Miss Jane Callahan, president of the Chemung County Right to Life Committee and a teacher of English in the Horseheads school system.

The film depicted the advancement of a baby from conception to birth, showing aborted babies and the process by which they were aborted.

Dr. Mark noted a decline in the deliveries of unmarried girls and pointed out, that as a consequence, there are fewer babies available for adoption.

"A great deal of our efforts will be with education," he said. "Education will show them that there is an alternative to abortion."

He said, "oftentimes, the attitude of the parents influences the girl to have an abortion. The fetus is not just a mass of cells but a perfectly formed fetus early in pregnancy."

Dr. Frisk said that "at 12 weeks gestation, the sex of the baby

can be determined and that the 'grasp reflex' occurs at 16 weeks gestation. Life exists from the first day."

Miss Hanley presented the psychological aspects of abortion stating that many believe it is an "anti-motherhood culture" we are living in today. She said, "it is a materialistic culture and we are un-American if we have more than 2 children. In mental health, she said, "we look at what type the person is who seeks abortion. The unhappy-at-home girl or the girl intent upon proving her femininity. If the girl interprets her parents as being too strict, she will experiment sexually to get back at them."

"It can be a bid for love from the parents. In most cases the person is entirely dependent upon her parents for financial support and by the parents coercion, will go ahead with the abortion. Miss Hanley said, "the resulting guilt feelings grow deeper and deeper and we have people coming to us for counseling even 25 years after their having had an abortion." She concluded by saying, "we cannot predict how someone will react to her situation."

Miss Callahan determines the moral values of her students by integrating a film dealing with the attitudes of young people to the stresses of elderly people. "What should be done for the infirm, the elderly, help them or ignore their problems?" In most cases Miss Callahan stated, "my students have great compassion for those in need and seem to have deep-seated moral values. 'Up' until a child is 15 years old, the parents' guidance is unquestioned and then it is time for the young person to be responsible for his actions, to choose the path he or she will follow."

"Respect for Life must be instilled in our children. There must be the moral concept, not merely a concept of fragmentation."

Miss Callahan summed up her remarks by saying, "We must realize the unpleasant truth of abortion. Abortion is not a way of life. A new organization called 'Birthright' is being formed in the area and will be implemented by several doctors. It is a marvelous organization and needs help from those interested in becoming involved. It is quite a job just to keep up with the 'Abortionist' literature. This material has to be read and takes very much time, indeed."

The program was sponsored by the Knights as part of a statewide program in support of repealing the liberalized abortion laws in New York State. The



(L.-r.) Miss Hanley, Dr. Frisk, Dr. Mark and Dr. John Kelly, an obstetrician from Hornell

## Hornell Area Notes

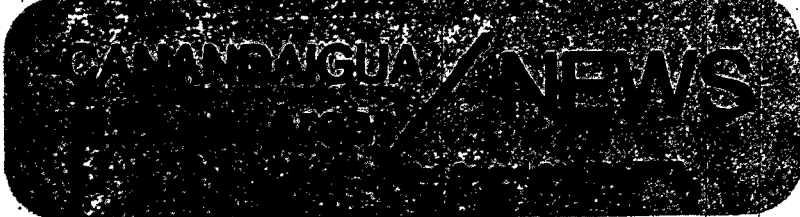
Hornell — Court St. Ann No. 194, Catholic Daughters of America will conduct a poetry contest for Catholic students in Hornell public and parochial schools.

Dansville — The Women's World Day of Prayer will be held March 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lutheran Church.

Canisteo — There will be a parish dance at St. Joachim's, Saturday, March 3 at the Center featuring "The Four of Us."

Bath — The St. Mary's Rosary and Altar Society Smorgasbord Dinner will be held tonight, Feb. 28, at Murphy's Lobster House at 6:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be Father Eugene Sweeney, associate pastor of St. Patrick's Church in Corning.

Bath — Jennie A. Gaudino, a senior at Haverling High School, and a member of St. Mary's Parish, has been named the school's 1973 Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow.



Canandaigua — The Rosary Altar Society of St. Mary's is making plans for a dessert card party to be held March 6, at 8 p.m. in the school auditorium. Co-chairmen of the event are Mrs. Norman Donovan, Mrs. John Johnson, Mrs. William Morris, and Mrs. Robert Gillespie.

Canandaigua — Mrs. Martha Nuttleman of Syracuse will be the speaker at the Canandaigua observance of World Day of Prayer. Mrs. Nuttleman is the executive assistant of the N.Y. Conference of the United Church of Christ. She will speak on, "For Women Only — But Men Are Welcome." The service will be held at the Canandaigua Congregational Church at 10 a.m. There will be coffee following.

Shortsville — The four churches of Shortsville and Manchester will combine to observe the World Day of Prayer. Services will be held twice in the Methodist Church at Manchester, at 10 a.m. and again at 7:30 p.m. on March 2. This year's theme is "Alert In Our Times," and the speaker will be James Ferguson, president of the Genesee Valley Ecumenical Ministry. There will be a nursery at the 10 a.m. service.

Victor — St. Patrick's Rosary Society officers for the coming year are Mrs. Pat Ryan, president; Mrs. Kathy Emmons;

vice-president; Mrs. Theresa Ryan, secretary; Mrs. Carol Norman, treasurer. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at the School of Religion, at 7:45 p.m.

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## HORNELL NEWS

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Mrs. Peggy Rease 807-324-3263

committee making the arrangements included: Anthony Miller, community activities chairman; Tom McLaughlin, James Gessner and Joseph Dessena.

Right to Life president, Thomas Gibson stated that the film will be shown to a Confraternity of Christian Doctrine class in the near future, in the area.

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