

Pro-Life Leader Hits Carey, Samuels

Albany [RNS] — The two candidates for New York's Democratic gubernatorial nomination are equally deserving of opposition on their abortion stands, according to the director of New York State Right to Life.

Both Rep. Hugh Carey, a congressman from Brooklyn, and Howard Samuels, former head of the state's Off-Track Betting Corporation, are "pro-abortion," said Jack St. Leger.

He was reacting to a charge by editor Don Zirkel of The Tablet, news weekly of the Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn, that "politically naive" anti-abortion groups were working against Rep. Carey, who personally opposes abortion, while ignoring Mr. Samuels, "who favors abortion."

The Brooklyn editor has also drawn fire from the Human Life Coordinator for the Catholic Diocese of Rockville Centre, Long Island, Father Paul G. Driscoll.

In a letter to the editor published in The Tablet, Father Driscoll said the Right to Life movement attacked Rep. Carey because he did not act on congressional anti-abortion legislation, particularly an amendment to the Medicaid bill and the discharge petition on a pro-life constitutional amendment proposal.

"Like all of us," he wrote, "The Tablet has a right to root for

politicians of its choice. But the truth should not be concealed, and the truth is that Mr. Carey's record on abortion (like Mr. Samuels') is a poor one."

St. Leger said that although Carey expresses personal opposition to abortion, he takes the position that he would oppose any law preventing a woman from having an abortion if she chose to do so.

Citing a letter Carey had written a New York resident, Mr. St. Leger quoted him as saying, "I am personally opposed to abortion because I regard it as an act of violence. But my personal views do not mean I would impose those views on others as a matter of law."

He charged that Carey, who is Catholic, was "putting his religion on his sleeve. He is saying my religion compels me to object, but my principles compel me to keep my objection to myself."

He said he and other Right to Life members had tried unsuccessfully since last winter to interview Carey, whereas Samuels had granted an interview.

"We would label both candidates anti-life," he said. "We couldn't support either."

The Republican candidate, incumbent Gov. Malcolm Wilson, is a staunch opponent of abortion, he said.



Nominee

President Gerald Ford has nominated former New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller to be Vice President of the U.S. The American Baptist layman, has been involved in a number of religious controversies. His campaign to liberalize abortion laws, begun in the mid-1960s, met strong opposition from New York Catholics and caused his nomination as Vice President to be opposed by "pro-life" forces. In the late 1960s he backed several statutes providing state aid to non-public schools. These were later struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court. Rockefeller championed civil rights measures, supported limits on the death penalty, introduced a state lottery, eased restrictions on drinking alcohol and strengthened laws against drug pushers. [RNS]

Attica Groups Object To Rockefeller as VP

Leaders of the Attica Coalition have protested against the nomination of Nelson A. Rockefeller as vice president because of his role in the 1971 prison tragedy.

At a press conference last Thursday, Rahaam Karaja, a member of FIGHT, who is under indictment, read a statement which declared the Coalition's opposition to Rockefeller "because of his record of acts against the dignity, well-being, freedom and even lives of New York State citizens."

The coalition, of which Bishop Joseph L. Hogan is a member, offers support to prisoners and former prisoners indicted after the 1971 Attica rebellion that claimed 43 lives.

The statement came on the heels of the opposition voiced by the Attica Brothers Legal Defense. The defense group sent telegrams to Rep. Peter Rodino, Jr. of New Jersey and Sen. Sam Ervin of North Carolina declaring that Rockefeller had a "basic lack of humanity."

Charging the former governor of New York with "insensitivity and unworthiness," the coalition denounced him for his handling of the state's welfare system and the passage of the new drug law. His greatest liability, according to the statement, is his role in the Attica uprising.

"(He) refused to negotiate; he refused to allow negotiations to

continue, he ordered the assault. And since that bloody day he authorized the expenditure of at least four million dollars and he did not make available one cent for the defense of the Attica inditees."

In March, eight of the coalition leaders went to Albany to ask Governor Malcolm Wilson to establish an adequate Attica defense fund. While \$750,000 has been set aside, none of the money has reached attorneys' hands, said Carolyn Micklem, assistant director of the Judicial Process Commission. The coalition also called for a dropping of all charges levied as a result of the rebellion.

Mrs. Micklem said that the coalition is prepared to send witnesses to the confirmation hearings. The Attica Brothers Legal Defense also has offered to provide witnesses and documents. The House Judiciary Committee, headed by Rodino, and the Senate Rules Committee, headed by Sen. Howard Cannon of Nevada, are expected to hold hearings.

Other coalition leaders include: Rabbi Judea Miller, Brith Kodesh Congregation; Father Charles Mulligan, director of the Office of Human Development; Alan Newman, Monroe County Bar Association; Pablo Rivera, Ibero American Action League; Minister Raymond Scott, FIGHT; Reverend Carl Smith, executive presbyter of the Genesee Valley Presbytery.

CEF issues Report On State Candidates

The board of directors of Citizens for Educational Freedom (CEF) pointed out this week that both of the Democrats who seek the governorship of New York have ideas for the preservation of non-public schools.

Democrats will choose in the Sept. 10 party primary between Howard Samuels of Macedon, the designated candidate, and Rep. Hugh Carey of New York, the challenger. The winner will run against Gov. Malcolm Wilson in November.

In a newsletter to the CEF membership, stressing that it does not recommend candidates, the board sketched some views of the two contenders for the Democratic nomination.

Running for lieutenant governor in 1966, Samuels was the first state candidate at that high level to take a stand in behalf of non-public education, the letter said. He warned at that time that the collapse of non-public school systems would be "a catastrophe that would cost New York more than one billion dollars."

Believing that Supreme Court decisions in the interim have eliminated the possibility of direct public support, Samuels now proposes a broadening of the "charitable contribution" tax credit. He would add parochial schools and yeshivas to the non-profit enterprises to which tax-free contributions can be made and would allow every income tax payer a credit up to \$50 for such contributions. Samuels thinks, according to the letter, that the Supreme Court would find this constitutional. The directors indicated doubt.

Their letter outlined another Samuels goal: a \$47 million increase in funds for milk, breakfasts and lunches, textbooks, health services and the performance of state mandated services, security systems and transportation.

Rep. Carey, the letter continued, played an important part in the National Institute for the

Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology. "This sensitivity to those who have special needs in education has been one of the principal characteristics of his 14 years in Congress," the directors wrote.

Addressing a national CEF convention in Buffalo, Carey proposed "an equal dollar for every scholar," and he has worked in the House Ways and Means Committee on a tax credit proposal to improve the lot of children in non-public schools, the letter reported.

The directors advised the membership that "really substantive aid may have to come from the federal government" because of the difficulty of dealing with "Blaine" amendments in a great number of state constitutions. Supreme Court decisions, they added, "have made it seem likely that really effective aid can be obtained only as part of an over-all reform of the federal tax structure."

Other Religious Leaders Also Commend Stand

New York [RNS] — Top Protestant, Roman Catholic and Jewish officials warmly welcomed President Ford's call for "leniency" in dealing with Vietnam war draft resisters and deserters.

The Rev. W. Sterling Cary, president of the National Council of Churches, New York; Bishop James S. Rausch, general secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C., and Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, president of the American Jewish Congress, New York, were among those hailing Mr. Ford's initiative.

Each of the three, however, suggested in separate statements that the President's proposals be made more lenient — in the direction of unconditional amnesty.

In hailing Mr. Ford's call, Mr. Cary said, "This is an hour when understanding and compassion are vital to the healing of our

Ford Urges

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than the people who commands not only righteousness but love, not only justice but mercy," Mr. Ford continued.

"Unlike my last two predecessors, I do not enter this office facing the terrible decisions of a foreign war. But like President Truman and President Lincoln before him, I found on my desk, where the buck stops, the urgent problem of how to bind up the nation's wounds. And I aim to do that." As he went on to outline his plan, the applause was restrained.

Mr. Ford disclosed that during his first week in office he directed the secretary of defense and the attorney general to report to him by Sept. 1 "on the status of some 50,000 of our countrymen convicted, charged, under investigation or still sought for

violations of the Selective Service Act or the Uniform Code of Military Justice."

Figures on the number of men in legal jeopardy, or who are in self-exile and "underground" for opposing the war are often disputed. The 50,000 cited by President Ford seemed to be a tabulation of Defense Department figures, which some supporters of amnesty say are too low.

The defense department lists 28,611 men still "at large" as deserters between July, 1966 and December, 1973. The Justice Department says there are 4,400 men who remain fugitives on induction violations, and 9,167 were convicted for violations during the war.

While military authorities list 2,400 draft fugitives living abroad, some amnesty groups put the figure as high as 100,000 with 50,000 in Canada alone.

Mr. Ford said that once he receives the September reports, he will "then decide how best to deal with the different kinds of cases. There are differences. Decisions of my administration will make any future penalties fit the seriousness of the individual mistake."

While the President's Chicago comments were welcomed by some U.S. senators who have backed amnesty, the leader of a pro-amnesty group called Safe Return said, "Universal amnesty is the only position that is just. Conditional amnesty is absolutely out of the question; no one is going to accept it."

Mr. Ford said he wanted those abroad or "absent without leave from the real America" to come home "if they want to work their way back." His statement to the VFW continued:

"One of my last official duties as vice president, perhaps the hardest, was to present

posthumously 14 Congressional Medals of Honor to the parents, widows and children of fallen Vietnam heroes.

"As I studied their records of supreme sacrifice, I kept thinking how young they were.

"The few citizens of our country who, in my judgment, committed the supreme folly of shirking their duty at the expense of others, were also very young.

"All wars are the glory and agony of the young.

"In my judgment, these young Americans should have a second chance to contribute their fair share to the rebuilding of peace among ourselves and with all nations.

"I am throwing the weight of my presidency into the scales of justice on the side of leniency. I foresee their earned re-entry into a new atmosphere of hope, hard work, and mutual trust."

Archbishop to Be CDA Chaplain

New Orleans [RNS] — Archbishop Philip M. Hannan of New Orleans was appointed national chaplain of the Catholic Daughters of America in one of the first official acts of the CDA's new national regent, Mrs. Winifred L. Trabeaux of Plaquemine, La.

Besides the archbishop's appointment, Mrs. Trabeaux announced the launching of an extensive membership drive throughout the 200,000-member organization.

The CDA now has some 1,600 local "courts" throughout the continental U.S., Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, the Canal Zone, Guam, the Virgin Islands and Mexico.