

Capitol Letters

The House hearings on the nomination of Nelson Rockefeller as vice president of the United States are scheduled to begin Nov. 12 or soon thereafter.

The House Judiciary Committee members are Peter Rodino (D-N.J.), Chairman; **Republicans** Edward Hutchinson, Robert McClory, Henry Smith, Charles Sandman, Tom Railsback, Charles Wiggins, David Dennis, Hamilton Fish, Wiley Mayne, Lawrence Hogan, William Keating, M. Caldwell Butler, William Cohen, Trent Lott, Harold Froehlich, Carlos Moorhead, Lawrence Coughlin; **Democrats** Harold Donahue, Jack Brooks, Robert Kastenmeier, Don Edwards, William Hungate, John Conyers, Joshua Eilberg, Jerome Waldie, Walter Flowers, James Mann, Paul Sarbanes, John Seiberling, George Danielson, Robert Drinan, Charles Wangel, Barbara Jordan, Ray Thornton, Elizabeth Holtzman, Wayne Owens, Edward Mezzinsky.

Any member of the House of Representatives can be reached with the following address: The Honorable _____ U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515

(Compiled by Jeanne D. Sweeney, American Citizens Concerned for Life)

Life, Liberty and Law

Nancy Murphy

Up here in the Northcountry, Autumn wafts in every year on the scent of a cellar full of Macintosh apples. This exciting and deeply colorful season belongs in a very real sense, to the apple and the maple trees, to the oak and the acorn, the pumpkin, the frost, the warm plaids and the October winds, to the hearth and the home made bread. These things at least haven't changed as the generations of man have passed by. These at least are as they seem. But it is increasingly evident that not all things remain as true to their images as the Earth is to her yearnings.

The Girl Scouts, the PTA, the YWCA and certain Catholic organizations. The Supreme Court of the United States, and the Methodist Church, ladies campaigning for Congress, and UNICEF, many things are simply not what they seem. And I submit that it is the height of folly in this regard for us to assume anything.

According to at least one newspaper account, the Girl Scouts of Philadelphia in 1972 set up a pilot program for a "To Be a Woman" badge that proposed to instruct Cadettes in various sex-related subjects, including the termination of unwanted pregnancy. Cadettes are 12-14 years old. The New York State Congress of PTA, as well as the YWCA subscribes to the New York State Coalition for Family Planning, an organization which lists Planned Parenthood and Zero Population Growth as members. The NYSFFP openly embraces the philosophy that "unwanted children born by the thousands in New York State (are) a drain on the family resources, and on the educational, health, rehabilitative, social service and welfare systems." The Coalition encourages "a full range of fertility control including sex education, contraception, counseling, abortion, voluntary sterilization, and fertility stimulation."

Catholics for a Free Choice have pressed for Congressional action to prevent unwanted births, and I would guess that their families still receive the Sacraments, including Baptism.

The Supreme Court of the United States ruled against capital punishment, then decided in 1973 that as "child birth may deprive a woman of her preferred life style" she may destroy that innocent human life at her whim. The United Methodist Church distributes for a dollar an Abortion Packet which ignores the hundreds of thousands of happily adopted youngsters in America when it blindly proclaims that "most of the people now cramming our

COURIER DEADLINE

The Courier-Journal deadline is noon Thursday for articles intended for the following Wednesday edition.

correctional institutions are products of unwanted pregnancies." Thus the Methodists justify, in one peculiar interpretation of Christian love, the deliberate destruction of over a million unborn innocents.

Yes, things aren't always what they seem.

It is also folly to assume that political candidates, because they are Catholic or because they are women, are Pro-Life when in fact women candidates (who bristle when they are referred to as ladies) are often more strident and gruff in their advocacy of abortion than the gentlemen are. And some, although repelled by abortions for themselves because they know, as we all do, that a human life hangs in the balance, insist that it is perfectly alright for others to destroy innocent human life if and when they so desire. Equal rights do not extend equally, it would seem, to all just to "wanted" human life, convenient human life or quality human life.

In a letter to me dated May 29, 1974, Mr. Ward P. Allen, State Department Senior Advisor to the World Population Conference wrote: "There is no U.N. definition of family planning as such. But judging from the reams of elaborate and costly publications prepared by the United Nations, they are not Pro-Life. Notable among the loudest supporters of human control is the United Nations Childrens Fund, UNICEF, an organization funded in part from collections taken every year by small goblins equipped with funny faces and old booms.

According to one of their pamphlets published in 1974, "UNICEF Goes Into Action," that agency allocated \$700,000 for family planning in 1966, \$2.4 million in 1971, and \$4.2 million in 1973. Under such a policy structure, as one Pro-Life leader has pointed out, there is every indication that UNICEF funds collected innocently by children in one part of the world are used to promote the destruction of unborn children in another part.

Yes the winds of October are capricious. They can roar in from the west with the scents of Autumn, or they can bluster in from the nation's capital with the nonsense of our politicians. But human development is an ordered thing — it has a natural beginning, a natural end — and abortion is a violent deliberate unnatural intrusion. No amount of bluster, no set of redefinitions, no conveniently liberated theological manipulation will scatter that truth.

The winds of two Octobers have not blown away the American resistance to abortion.

The issue has not disappeared.

And it's not likely to.

Lay People Offered Leadership Course

Mark Gibbs, director of a British organization that specializes in laity education, will conduct a two-session course at St. Bernard's Seminary Nov. 1 and 2 entitled Christian Leadership in a Technological World.

Protestant Church Congress and general secretary of the Christian Frontier Council, London.

Further information may be obtained from Sister Anne Mary Dooley, director of continuing education at St. Bernard's.

According to the seminary announcement, the non-credit course will center on "the educational mission of the Church from the perspective of helping the laity to grow in understanding of their specifically lay and secular vocations." The schedule is 7:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1; 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Saturday. The fee is \$20.

Gibbs, who was educated in modern history at University College, London, taught in boys' schools from his graduation in 1940 until 1964. He is executive director of the Audenshaw Foundation, located in Yorkshire, a tax-exempt organization that advises such bodies as the National Council of Churches, the United Church of Canada and the Bergamo Roman Catholic Center in Dayton, O. He is a member of the Church of England, an associate member of the Iona Community in Scotland, chairman of the ecumenical committee of the German

Pieta Copy At Sibley's

A priceless bronze casting of Michelangelo's masterwork, the Pieta, is now on display at the Age of Discovery festival in Sibley's Downtown store.

The reproduction was cast in 1945 by the renowned Marinelli foundry of Florence, Italy, from a plaster mold made two centuries ago from the original work.

Michelangelo completed his original in 1500, when he was 25 years old. It is the only piece he ever signed. The statue is now on display in St. Peter's Basilica, Rome.

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