

K. of C. Meeting to Focus On Pro-Life Proposals

Miami Beach, Fla. — The Knights of Columbus will give top priority to the protection of unborn human life when the society's Supreme Council meets here Aug. 19-21.

Numerous resolutions urging passage of a pro-life amendment to the U.S. Constitution have been introduced by various jurisdictions of the 1.2-million-member society of Catholic men.

Other pro-life measures urged include initiation of an educational effort in parochial schools; opposition to the use of public funds and insurance benefits to finance abortion facilities and programs; and recommendations that state and local units of the order provide money, services and manpower to agencies offering practical alternatives to abortion in local communities.

Almost 400 delegates from the international society's 62 jurisdictions will consider some 200 resolutions covering a variety of topics at the 93rd annual Supreme Council sessions. The Supreme Council is the top legislative and policy-making body of the fraternal organization that has its headquarters in New Haven, Conn. Members belong to 5,966 councils or local lodges in the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Guatemala, Guam, the Virgin Islands and the Panama Canal Zone.

In addition to 17 resolutions on respect for human life, the delegates will consider such

topics as aid for Catholic schools; ways to promote decency on television and to stem pornography in the theater, films and print; advocacy of prayer in public schools; support for rural life projects; the promotion of vocations to the priesthood and religious life; and active involvement in events surrounding the U.S. bicentennial.

Resolutions from differing state jurisdictions specifically mentioning an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to ensure the sacredness of human life take strong issue with the U.S. Supreme Court's Jan. 22, 1973, decisions on abortion.

One asks that the Jan. 22 date be set aside annually throughout the order as "Respect Life Day" to memorialize the millions of children victimized by abortion and to stress the need to respect all human life. Another notes that the high court verdicts have endangered that "most precious principle," the right to life, and warns that liberalized abortion "may lead directly to mercy killing."

UKRAINIAN FETE

Music, dancing, demonstrations of Ukrainian arts and crafts, and carnival rides are being readied at St. Josaphat's parish for a four-day festival that opens at 6 p.m. tomorrow. A stage show and free dance will highlight festivities Saturday and Sunday, after 1 p.m. Advance tickets for rides are available at a discount at the rectory, 940 East Ridge Road, 467-6457.

talking about a 'right to die' and a 'right to choose death' (they) insist, at least at first, that euthanasia should be a matter of voluntary choice. A suffering person should, it is claimed, have the right to ask for a death: dealing drug; or, since a person who is in extreme pain or is senile would not be capable of a rational decision, he should be allowed to draw up a previous declaration, asking in advance for euthanasia... and the doctor should be legally free (immune from law suit) to implement this decision.

"It is significant that the arguments advanced for euthanasia are exactly parallel to those advanced for abortion. It is argued that the fetus is human only potentially; that he is not a free or rational person; that he is kept alive only through the life support given by others.

"In exactly the same way, it is now said that the incapacitated or senile person is only 'a piece of human wreckage'; that he is only a vegetable; that he is being kept alive only by the kindness of relatives (at their expense), and the life support systems of medicine.

"It is in fact impossible to construct a definition of abortion in such a way as to justify abortion but forbid euthanasia."

Advocates often refer to dying as degrading or disgusting — or as a useless and expensive twilight life. They seem to insist that pain and dying are unnatural, and must be corrected by law. But there is dignity in the imperfect body; there is dignity in old age; there is dignity in human pain and suffering — not because of man's law, but because of Divine law.

And when we neglect the voiceless, when we allow definitions and legislation of their convenient deaths, we have in fact rejected their humanness. And rejection is the mortal enemy.

Legislation drawn by man is unnecessary and out of place in matters of the spirit.

Next week: L'Osservatore Romano on the International Women's Year Conference.

Drug Council Announces New Fall Workshop

This fall the Drug and Alcohol Council will offer a variety of workshops. These will explore the effects of marijuana use, the social acceptability of alcohol, and the underlying needs that prompt people to use drugs. Basic information on drugs and the hallucinogenic experience will also be available in separate workshops. Another special series will introduce adults to the youth culture through the medium of rock music.

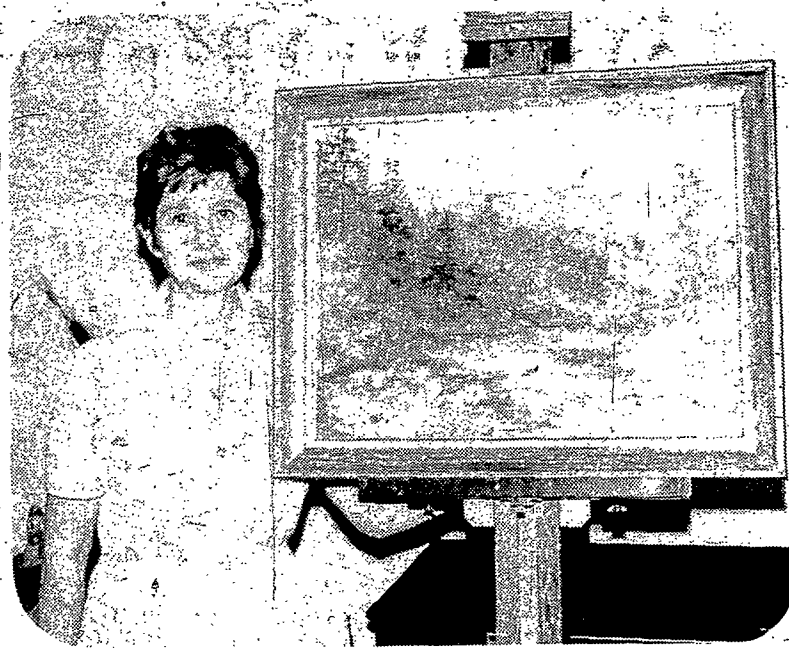
For the professional, workshops are designed to introduce the educator to alternate ways of drug education and to strengthen the clergy's skills to reach and deal effectively with drug-related cases.

The counselor workshop will be for those who want to help others. Those who complete the counselor workshop may enroll in the Transactional Analysis workshop to be conducted by Eric Fairchild, director of the Springwater Institute and a clinical member of the International Transactional Analysis Association.

Additional details may be obtained from The Drug and Alcohol Council, 9 Lawrence St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.

AUTO REPAIR CLINIC

WOMANSPACE, at 264 Arnett Blvd., has scheduled a free auto repair clinic for women for 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7. Oil changes and spark plug gapping and replacement will be taught, the announcement said. Events nearer at hand at the women's center are a coffee house program at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 22, and a film, Antonia, at 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 24.



Artist's Gift

Helene Chudyk, who has shown paintings in the annual Finger Lakes Exhibition at Memorial Art Gallery and is a member of the gallery's sales and lending department, is shown with the landscape that is her contribution to the St. Pius X Country Fair. The fair is scheduled for Aug. 23 and 24 at 3000 Chili Ave.

Life, Liberty and Law



Nancy Murphy

(Second in a Series)

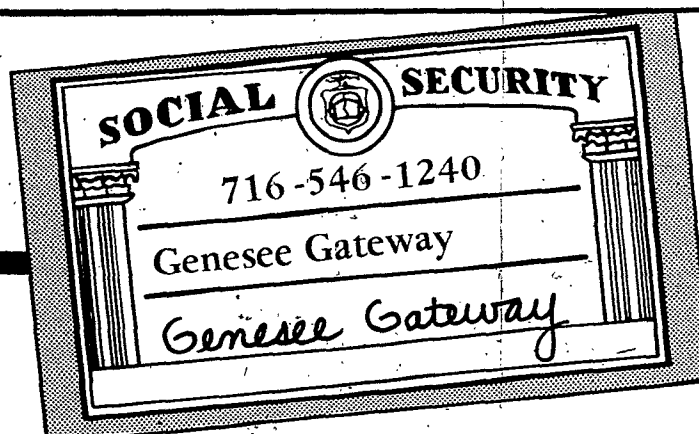
"No man, no human authority — no medical, eugenic, social, economic or moral indication — can offer or produce a valid legal right for disposing directly of innocent human life."

These words of Pope Pius XII were quoted by the Bishops of Ireland in their recent Pastoral Letter, Human Life Is Sacred. At a time when scholars, theologians and doctors ridicule traditional moral principles as "pre-technological" and therefore meaningless in the modern world; this pastoral letter demands an active return to the law of God. Reaching far beyond the popular but limited scope of those in public print who concentrate on definitions and redefinitions of human life and its "value," the letter touches all stages and facets of human development, raising them from the common level of social fads and intellectual exercises and returning them to the heights of moral duties. It overlooks no one. It isolates no one. Birth regulation, contraception, pre-birth life, abortion, childhood, parenthood, education, drugs, marriage, alcohol, family life, sexuality, idolatry, political violence, moral pollution, pornography, pain, illness, age, dying and euthanasia.

With euthanasia bills before at least 16 states this year (including New York) I shall quote from Part II of the Irish letter — Euthanasia.

"The delicate tip-toeing into the legalizing of abortion has been succeeded, now that abortion has arrived on a grand scale, by an equally delicate tip-toeing into the field of legalizing euthanasia.

The advocates often begin by



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