

# Pro-lifers Rap Bayh Subcommittee Action

**New York [RNS]** — The rejection by a Senate Subcommittee of various amendment proposals aimed at overturning the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court ruling on abortion has prompted a variety of responses by "right to life" groups in the U.S., all denouncing the subcommittee action.

Mildred Jefferson, a Boston physician who is president of the National Right to Life Committee, charged that Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.), chairman of the subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments, "and others like him who would thwart the will of the people to protect life," should be voted out of office.

The subcommittee, following 18 months of hearings on a variety of amendments, rejected all the proposals. One amendment proposal, which would have empowered states to regulate all questions involving life, including abortion and euthanasia, received a 4-4 vote, which is not sufficient to be reported out to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The Missouri Citizens for Life is organizing a rally and march on Sunday, Oct. 12, in St. Louis to show their support for a human life amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

In a statement issued at its export, Pa., headquarters, the U.S. Coalition for Life, said that the rejection of the proposed amendments "has stimulated the adrenalin of concerned citizens across the nation" who will take the "Birch fiasco" in stride and fight harder "and with greater political wisdom" in the future.

The chairman of the New York State Right to Life Committee, Joanna Jankowski, said the subcommittee action "does not come to pro-lifers as a complete shock." But she added that "no judge, politician or social planner will ever defeat the people of this great nation who value all human life."

Two Roman Catholic prelates, Cardinal Terence Cooke of New York, chairman of the U.S. Bishops Pro-Life Committee, and Cardinal Humberto Medeiros of Boston, had already expressed disappointment over the subcommittee action. But both stated that the Senate Rejection is not the "final word" on the human life amendment cause.

Cardinal Medeiros, in his statement, cited the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court which made abortion "a practice protected under law," and said it had prompted "a widespread effort to obtain needed legal guarantees for the rights of the unborn."

"The value of life at all its stages has been of paramount concern to all who have been saddened by the continued official approval of abortion. This latest action, coming at a level which should be more expressive of the people's wishes and votes, should serve to step up the efforts of pro-life groups."

Declaring that "this is not the time to grow weary in the struggle which has to do with the very beginnings of our life as the children of God in this world," Cardinal Medeiros alluded to the Boston school desegregation crisis and said: "At this very moment we are seeking to insure the constitutional civil rights of people who have been the victims of man's unjust laws for over a century."

"Fortunately for our nation," the prelate continued, "the conclusions of Sen. Bayh's subcommittee do not close the door on further discussion and on a different decision concerning the ultimate value and quality of life. The cries of those who speak out in behalf of the unborn will certainly not be stilled by those who tragically fail to listen to the voices of their own consciences, nor by those who unhappily seek to justify more than one million abortions a year in the U.S."

Dr. Jefferson, in her statement, said that Sen. Bayh "appeared to be a reasonable man during the hearings on the human life amendments to the Constitution." But she added that

"the admission now that his mind was made up before the hearings makes a mockery of the democratic process and a sham of the Congressional committee procedure."

"Mr. Bayh has betrayed the trust of those who expected him to be fair in a manner unworthy of a U.S. Senator, or an aspirant to the U.S. presidency," the physician said.



NAMED TO BANK BOARD

**Sister Anne O'Neil, treasurer of the Society of the Sacred Heart's New York Province, has been elected to the board of directors of First Commercial Banks Inc., based in Albany. Sister O'Neil holds degrees from Manhattanville College and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and has served in various capacities in the field of education. She is the first woman to serve on the board of First Commercial, a \$1.5 billion bank holding company with 117 banking offices from Long Island to Central New York, plus subsidiary leasing and life insurance companies. [RNS]**

## CWU Lists Events

The Catholic Women's Club of Rochester noted last week that its current membership drive appears to be "very successful." The drive is under the chairmanship of Mrs. Dorothy Teall and Mrs. Alice McDonald.

A new brochure, which outlines the purposes and activities of the 800-member club will be available to anyone interested in joining. Anyone interested in learning more about the CWC may call the club office — 275-0173 or 586-5896.

Miss Regina K. Kennedy, program chairman, also announced the following events:

**Oct. 11** at the Maplewood Inn, Mrs. Melbourne Porter, chairman of the Business Women's Group, will hold a noon luncheon, business meeting followed by David Munro speaking on "Decorating Ideas for Apartments and Small Rooms."

**Oct. 25:** The well-known musicians, Mrs. Adele Kent (pianist) and Mrs. Ruth Fleischman (operatic soloist), will present a program on "The Life and Times of Nathaniel Rochester" at St. Ann's Home at 1:30 P.M.

**Nov. 16:** A Memorial Mass for deceased CWC members will be offered at 11 a.m. in the Nazareth College Faculty House Chapel, followed by Brunch served in Medaille Hall.

## Harvest Festival Sunday

**Naples** — The second annual outdoor Harvest Festival and Dedication Service sponsored by the Naples Council of Churches will be held Sunday, Oct. 5, at 3 p.m. in the field at the farm of John and Mary Braun on Hunts Hollow Road.

Participating in the service with local clergy and lay persons will be Rodney S. Lightfoote of Geneva, Ontario County Cooperative Extension Agent, a longtime farmer near Geneva, Mr. Lightfoote is a Ruling Elder of the Seneca (No. 9) Presbyterian

## UFW Urges Boycott Until Contracts Final

Despite the passage of the California farm labor act which went into effect Aug. 28, providing for secret ballot union elections, the United Farm Workers union is urging the continuance of the boycott of non-UFW lettuce and grapes. According to information received at the diocesan Office of Human Development the following areas of contention tell why.

Disagreement continues over the bargaining unit. UFW contends that each of 150 lettuce growers in the Salinas area should be considered a separate bargaining unit. Both the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the Western Growers Association assert that the bargaining unit should comprise all growers.

The UFW has demanded the dismissal of Walter Kintz of the Agriculture Relations Board, established by California Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. to oversee the elections. Kintz is accused of entering into agreement with Western Growers Association to impound ballots. Hearings on the matter are being held.

The right of UFW union workers to speak to the workers in the fields at lunch and before and after work is also being contested. The Agriculture Relations Board initially ruled that such action would be permitted, but the growers took that decision to court on the grounds that it violated their property rights. A

temporary retraining order has been placed on the union workers, and hearings are being held.

The California border patrol is accused of impeding elections. Bishop Roger M. Mahony of the Fresno diocese, head of the Agriculture Relations Board, has urged U.S. Attorney General Edward Levy to investigate acts of the patrol, which reportedly arrested workers who had petitions for secret elections. According to Bishop Mahony, "They appeared to be selective in enforcement of laws. . . . Border patrol agents allegedly told Bishop Mahony that they 'will appear at election sites to inquire about alien status of voters.'" According to the Bishop, potential voters may be intimidated.

Of the elections that were settled as of Sept. 13, the UFW had won 23, giving it the right to bargain on behalf of 5,000 workers. The Teamsters had won 14, and the right to bargain for 4,000.

At least 20 elections are still unsettled, due to uncounted ballots, lack of majority votes, or legal disputes. One of those undecided is at the Gallo ranch, a major boycott target.

UFW urges the continuation of the lettuce and grape boycott until election results are final and actual contracts have been signed. It is felt that the boycott is the primary reason for their success thus far.

## H. J. Kearse Dies, Aided Church Drives

Mass of Christian Burial was said Thursday, Sept. 25, in Our Lady of Lourdes Church for Henry J. Kearse, 70 who died Sept. 22, 1975 in Strong Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Kearse had suffered a stroke several days before at his home in Pittsford. He had been ill for about two years and was going to retire this month as president and treasurer of H.J. Kearse, Inc., a firm which does grading and site development work.

In addition to founding and running the firm, Mr. Kearse was known widely for his work with fund-raising campaigns. These included the Joint College Fund for Nazareth and St. John Fisher colleges; a Sisters of Mercy campaign; the campaign for development of St. Agnes, Mercy, McQuaid and Kearney high schools, and a series of campaigns for Our Lady of Lourdes Church, school, rectory and convent.

He was a former member of St. Mary's Hospital board, a former



HENRY J. KEARSE

trustee of Our Lady of Lourdes, and belonged to many civic and professional associations.

Born in Rochester, Mr. Kearse attended the old Cathedral High School and studied engineering at Mechanics Institute, now Rochester Institute of Technology.

Survivors include his wife, Mary; a daughter, Sister Jean Marie, a member of the faculty at Mercy High School; a son, Henry W. Kearse, and one grandchild.

Church. For 15 years he has served as a Commissioned Lay Preacher of the Presbytery and currently is its Moderator.

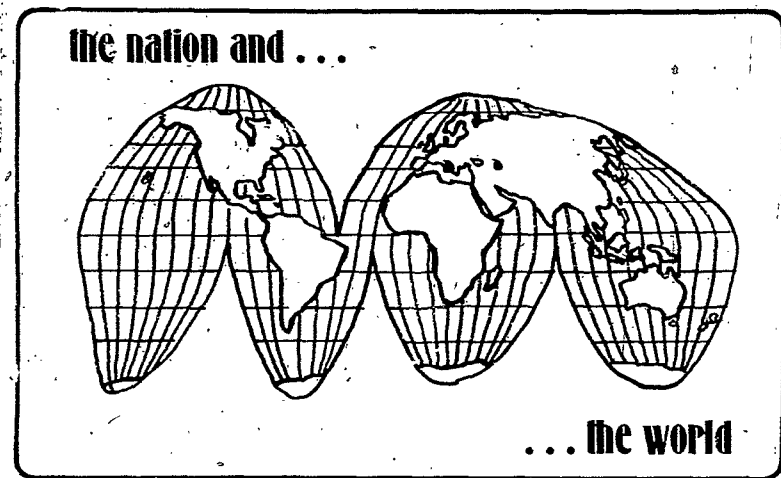
Music for the service will be under the direction of Father Robert G. Smith, of St. Januarius Church. The Rev. Gordon S. Proper, of Naples, retired Methodist minister, will preach.

Also sharing in the leadership of this service will be Donna Slating of Cohocton Street, the Rev. Thomas Bolles of the Bristol Springs Free Church, the Rev.

Gordon Pearsall joint pastor of the United Methodist and United Presbyterian Churches of Naples, and the Rev. Glenn Newberry of the First Baptist Church.

Offerings of money, food and other items will be received and dedicated to help a Vietnamese refugee family expected soon in Naples under sponsorship of the Naples Cares Committee.

In case of rain the Harvest Service will be held in the Baptist Church, at Main and Monier Streets.



A statue of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, at her shrine church in Manhattan, has been defaced by vandals with black paint. The statue stands on the site of a home in which St. Elizabeth, her husband and five children lived during the early 1800s. Workmen are now trying to remove the paint. Father Daniel Lyons, controversial and conservative editor-publisher-journalist, has asked for a leave from the Jesuits to consider whether he will request laicization. He has denied, however, an early report that he has already married. . . . Another Jesuit, Father Patrick Sullivan, associate secretary for communication at the U.S. Catholic Conference, has been elected an advisory chairman of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

The purpose of the Vatican's Commission on Justice and Peace is to make "the voice of the Church heard in the crucial questions of our time," Pope Paul assured it members and consultants, who were in Rome for the 10th plenary assembly of the agency that he instituted in 1967.

Despite sensational headlines in Italy to the contrary, "The Pope is well and will celebrate his 78th birthday in good health . . ." according to the official Vatican daily, L'Osservatore Romano . . . Thousands cheered and applauded in the Catholic Cathedral in Naples on Sept. 19 when a relic of what is believed to be the solidified blood of St. Januarius "liquified" and bubbled in its vial.

Msgr. Richard J. Mahowald, a priest of the Sioux Falls, S.D. diocese and former director of the graduate house at the North American College in Rome, has been named director of the Rome Bureau for the Pontifical Mission for Palestine. In addition, he also will serve as assistant secretary of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association in New York. . . . The head of Boston's Catholic schools has rejected charges circulating that parochial schools are an "escape hatch" for students seeking to avoid the federal court order on desegregation of schools. Brother Bartholomew Varden, CFX, also has figures showing that Catholic enrolment is down by 1,243 students from last year.