



From Courier-Journal Services

An all-Protestant, anti-abortion organization, the Christian Action Council, has endorsed a call by the U.S. Catholic Bishops for a "united front" against legalized abortion and endorsed the bishops' campaign to work for passage of a human life amendment. . . . A special Mass of thanksgiving was celebrated in New York City's St. Patrick's Cathedral in honor of St. Oliver Plunkett, recently ordained Ireland's first saint in 700 years. Cardinal Terence Cooke celebrated the Mass. . . . Msgr. James T. McHugh, director of the U.S. Bishops Committee for Pro-Life Activities has endorsed a pending Senate bill to assist teenage parents. Provisions of the bill include nutritional, prenatal, childbirth and post-natal care for the mother; nutritional and pediatric care for the child through age 1; pregnancy counseling centers; counseling services and continuing education for unwed mothers, and continued efforts to remove the social stigma often attached to unwed mothers and their children.

In Spain, Cardinal Vicente Enrique Tarancon of Madrid called on the new king, Juan Carlos I, to "offer all citizens" free and active participation in national life and government. Saying that the Church does not presume to meddle in governmental affairs, the cardinal nevertheless demanded "freedom for all." . . . Anti-abortion forces in Austria, with almost a million signed supporters, are expected to force the government to alter or repeal a legalized abortion law passed 11 months ago. In Austria, 200,000 signatures are required to force discussion of any issue in parliament. . . . Cardinal Jean Villot, the Vatican secretary of state, has dispatched a telegram to the apostolic nuncio in Beirut, Lebanon, expressing Pope Paul's sorrow over the Israeli air attacks on Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

Passage of a restrictive abortion law in Illinois, which included the override of a veto by Gov. Daniel Walker, was accomplished primarily by lay groups with little aid from the official Catholic Church, anti-abortion activists reported. . . . A measure on handgun control, which a spokesman for religious groups believes is "too weak," has been reported out of a Senate subcommittee on juvenile delinquency to the full Judiciary Committee. The Handgun Crime Control Act, sponsored by Sen. Birch Bayh, would prohibit the commercial sale of all easily concealable non-sporting handguns.

## Reagan on Abortion: He's Sorry Now

**Minneapolis [RNS]** — Republican presidential candidate Ronald Reagan says he would now veto a liberalized abortion law he signed in 1967 as governor of California "in the light of what I know now."

Reagan also said in a copyrighted interview in the December issue of National Right to Life News that he continues to support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution severely restricting abortion.

His change of mind on the California law came because of "the loopholes that people could find in it." He said, however, that "I still believe in my theory of the right of the mother to self-defense" as a condition under which abortion is permissible.

Explaining his theory, Reagan said, "I believe in the right of a mother to protect herself against even her own unborn child if the birth of that child threatens her life."

Reagan said the mother should be able to exercise the self-defense right "if medical testimony as such or medical belief or diagnosis (indicated) that it (carrying the pregnancy to term) would permanently injure or maim her."

As he explained it, however, he was "disappointed in the manner in which the law was enforced."

When it came to the actual implementation, I found, particularly in the psychiatric field, that there was little or no real policing of this.

"When a 15-year-old girl can have, under Medicaid, at the taxpayers' expense, three abortions with the same psychiatrist each time simply giving a quick, off-the-cuff diagnosis that she has suicidal tendencies, this was not what I had in mind."

## Pope Again Denounces Marxism

Vatican City [RNS] — Pope Paul, for the second time in recent days, has denounced Marxist socialism.

Speaking at a general audience in the Vatican's Audience Hall on the theme, "Love Your Neighbor," the pontiff said that love of one's neighbor was central to Catholicism, and that "from this fundamental theological-moral principle" Christianity had sprung, giving rise to "civil society."

But, he went on, this principle had been superseded by "something more impetuous and radical, which today is promoted as modern socialism." In this new form, he said, "Christ would be succeeded by Marx."

Taking issue with the Marxist concept of "class warfare," the Pope argued that "the ideal way of life will not result from fighting, from violence, nor from the oppression of one class by another."

He said that contemporary history offered plenty of evidence that the new system, "opposed to the one we profess," in fact violated the principles of "true socialism," which "respects the fundamental rights of man, human dignity, liberty, and equality."

"Collective egoism is no remedy for personal egoism," he declared, and added:

"If social love is deprived of its religious motivation, from a motivation based on the Gospels, it will soon become ineffective, and give rise to opportunism and egoism, and even degenerate into violence and passion."

## Business In The Diocese

The Society of Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters has conferred the professional insurance designation of Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter on Frederick L. Murphy of 380 Earling Road, Rochester.

Murphy received the designation at the recent national conferment ceremonies of the society in Dallas, Texas. Murphy is a vice-president of Johnston Paviour Sibley, Inc., insurance and bonds, 1000 Sibley Tower.

Murphy holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from St. John's University, Brooklyn. He is a member of the Board of the Monroe County Insurance Agents Association, a member of the board of the O'Youville College Parents Association, which he served as president for two terms, and is a member of the Knights of Columbus. He formerly was treasurer and a member of the St. John the Evangelist School Board and was a member of the Mercy High School Parents Board. Murphy and his wife Patricia are the parents of two daughters, Patricia J. and Jane P. Murphy.

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