

People and Events Of the World and Nation

Government Limits Said Not Affecting Abortions for Poor

The government's refusal to fund abortions has not significantly affected either the total number of abortions or the number of illegal abortions performed, according to the government's Centers for Disease Control.

After the Hyde Amendment drastically reduced government spending for abortions, abortion foes predicted that more poor women would carry their pregnancies to term. Pro-choice advocates predicted a rise in illegal and self-induced abortions.

Neither prediction has proven true, according to a report by Dr. Willard Cates Jr., chief of the disease control Abortion Surveillance Branch in Atlanta. In the year after the restrictions were enacted, 94 percent of poor, pregnant women who would have been eligible for Medicaid abortion payments had abortions anyway, Dr. Cates said.

He said states which continued abortion payments to low-income women without the same restrictions imposed by the federal government picked up the tab for 65 percent of those women affected by the amendment. Some 29 percent of low-income women financed their abortions themselves or with the help of clinic aid or charity. Only five percent of women who might have sought abortions before Medicaid funding was withdrawn carried their pregnancies to term — a figure that accounts for 14,000 births. — Religious News Service.

Reagan Tax Cut May Reduce Gifts to Charity

Washington (RSN) — President Reagan's tax cut will have the inadvertent effect of an \$18 billion drop in charitable giving over the next four years, according to a study by the Urban Institute here.

Initial elation over tax-cut provisions which will stimulate charitable giving among lower income taxpayers turned to shock as charitable groups realized that the total effect of recent changes in the tax code would be to reduce overall giving substantially.

The study projected a decline in total gifts to charity over the next four years from \$228.1 billion (the amount expected without any change in tax law) to \$209.8 billion — a difference of roughly \$18 billion.

The Independent Sector, a coalition of 320 leading foundations, corporations with giving programs and volunteer organizations, commissioned the study from the Urban Institute, an independent research and education organization that often does studies for private organizations and for the government. One cause for the drop, explained Lester M. Salamon, one of the study's supervisors, arises from tax reductions awarded to higher-bracket taxpayers.

Salamon, a political economist at the institute and former deputy associate director of the Office of Management and Budget, said that some 40 percent of individual donations to charity traditionally has come from persons in the 70 percent tax bracket. Total giving incentives under the old tax law was higher, he explained, because in this bracket, 70 cents of every dollar given to charity would have gone to the government anyway.

Now, those same tax reductions which the administration is counting on to spur investment will put many of the rich into a lower tax bracket. In a lower tax bracket, these potential investors now will be out of pocket 50 cents instead of only 30 cents, for every dollar they donate. In addition,

Salamon said, what these taxpayers would have been taxes in earned income, they are now able to save, providing less incentive to give the money away.

Tax Protest Small To Arms Race, According to IRS

Pittsburgh, Pa. (RNS) — For Suzanne Polen, a part-time research microbiologist here, President Reagan's recent decisions to increase arms spending mean that she will no longer pay that portion of her taxes she says would fund national defense.

"The government is buying weapons which will eventually kill me," said the 45-year-old tax protester. Instead of paying her full tax bill, she plans to deposit about 50 percent of the money into the Pittsburgh Fund for Life, which describes itself as a peace and justice organization.

She chose the fund, administered by the Thomas Merton Center here, because "the Roman Catholic Church teaches that the arms race is theft from the poor."

However, the Internal Revenue Service is unlikely to sympathize with tax protesters. "We don't distinguish income tax evaders according to their reasons for withholding payment," a spokesman said.

Since the Vietnam War ended, the number of those who have withheld taxes to protest activities have been "miniscule," said Wilson Fadely, IRS communications director.

New Head Named For Vatican Unit On Divine Worship

In an announcement from Vatican City, Pope John Paul II has named Archbishop Giuseppe Casoria, a veteran Roman Curia official, as pro-prefect of the Congregation for Sacraments and Divine Worship.

He succeeds Cardinal James Knox, the Australian who has been its prefect since 1974 and who has been named by the pope to head the Pontifical Council for the Family.

The title of pro-prefect is given temporarily when the prelate named is not yet a cardinal. Archbishop Jean Jadot, the former apostolic delegate in the United States, is currently pro-prefect of the Secretariat for Non-Christians.

According to Religious News Service, the pope apparently was planning to name a new group of cardinals but the action was postponed by the assassination attempt on his life last May.

CRS to Ship Dairy Products To Poland

New York — Catholic Relief Services will purchase up to 20 million pounds of dairy products from the government for distribution in Poland. The agreement is an extension of a short-term CRS emergency program which began during the Spring to help alleviate severe food shortages in Poland.

The program, titled "Tribute to Poland," has already provided milk, flour and baby food for that Eastern European nation.

The agreement with the U.S. government came about as the result of the intervention of Cardinal John Krol of Philadelphia who is chairman of the effort. Under the agreement, CRS will purchase nonfat dry milk, processed cheese and butter from inventories held by the government's Commodity Credit Corp. The foods will be shipped and distributed to the sick, aged and school children.



Vincent Price At Nazareth

Entertainer Vincent Price will officially launch "A Celebration of the Arts" at Nazareth College this month commemorating the 15th anniversary of the Nazareth Arts Center. Price will give a public performance and participate in other activities during a three-day residency beginning Sept. 24.

Bike-A-Thon To Fight Diabetes

Bicyclists are being encouraged to participate in the American Diabetes Bike-A-Thon from noon to 5 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 27. The event will benefit the Rochester Regional Affiliate of the American Diabetes Association.

More than 500 bikers are expected to try the 17-mile course through Brighton, Pittsford and Perinton. Riders have sponsors who pledge a certain sum of money for each mile. Proceeds will be used to support the association's program of research, education and summer camp in the Rochester area.

BIKE-A-THON

The Rochester Institute of Technology and its residence hall association will sponsor a bike-a-thon to benefit the Leukemia Society of America, at 9 a.m., Sept. 19, in the school's G and H parking lots.

Store Raises \$1,403 For Leukemia Society

William B. Burks, president of McCurdy & Co., recently presented a check for \$1,403.30 to the Leukemia Society of America, Finger Lakes Chapter. Accepting for the Leukemia Society were Ronald A. Hawes, vice president, and Tina Latin-

Schroeder, executive director.

The money was raised through the sale of tickets to McCurdy's Seventeen Show, a presentation of teen fashions sponsored by McCurdy's and Seventeen Magazine, at the Eastman Theatre last month.

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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