

Letters to the editor

Column's conclusion wrong
life begins at conception'

The article on abortion by Frank Touby (Mississauga Times July 12) requires a reply since it contains some very serious and tragic misconceptions of the real issues surrounding the problem of abortion.

His implication that it is merely a theological conclusion human life begins at conception is totally incorrect.

At the most distinguished scientific meeting of the last decade, the International Conference on Abortion, held in Washington, D.C. in 1967, this question was considered in depth by world authorities in medicine, biology and genetics and they concluded that human life begins at conception.

Only twenty per cent of the delegates were Roman Catholic, the decision being made on purely scientific grounds?

The common law of property has for centuries

treated the unborn child as an autonomous human being. Within the last several decades the advances of scientific knowledge of fetal life has led to the courts in fifteen jurisdictions in the United States to award compensation to an unborn child for pre-natal injuries even though he was stillborn.

In addition in January, 1972, the Ontario Supreme Court held that even though the mother was in early pregnancy her unborn child was a legal person and therefore could be named as a participant or plaintiff in a legal action. To state the unborn child has no legal rights is utterly fallacious.

No one would deny that a woman has the right to avoid a pregnancy but after the pregnancy exists then not one body but two are involved, not the rights of one human being, but the rights of two.

It is tragically naive to

state that wide abortion laws do not lead to euthanasia. Euthanasia bills have already been placed before the Florida and Wisconsin State Legislatures.

When a bill to study the feasibility of euthanasia was placed before the Hawaiian State Legislature in 1972, the preamble to the bill stated that since Hawaii has shown that it has already taken control of men's destiny through its abortion laws (Hawaii has the widest abortion laws in the United States) there would appear to be no reason why it should not consider euthanasia.

It is not without a significance that three leading proponents of abortion in the United States are also members of the Euthanasia Society of America.

Last but not least, Mr. Touby apparently does not know that wide abortion laws

do not cut down the number of criminal abortions. According to a report issued in February, 1972, by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in Britain, there was little or no decrease in the number of criminal abortions in Britain since their wide abortion act came into effect in 1967. This finding verifies a previous study completed by two doctors at the Mayo Clinic in 1971.

I might just add that according to Statistics Canada, the number of actual deaths of women due to abortions has increased since the abortion law was widened here in August, 1969. According to the latest figures from Statistics Canada there were thirteen maternal deaths from all abortions—illegal, legal and spontaneous in 1969, but in 1970 after the abortion law had been widened for a year the number of maternal deaths from all abortions rose to fourteen. Clearly, widening the laws did not reduce the number of maternal deaths due to abortion.

C. Gwendolyn Landolt
Chairman
Right to Life Committee

'Craftsmen once
took pride in job'

I'm glad to see your newspaper taking a stand against shoddy building practices, especially in the case of private homes.

Many years ago, teams of skilled craftsmen took great pride in constructing a home and at the completion of their labours, they were rewarded not only with their wages but with the satisfaction of seeing a job well done. Today, of course, things are much different. It's usual to find mostly unskilled labour on a building project, under the supervision of a few people who know what they are doing.

After maybe a few hours apprenticeship at digging up tree-roots, the ex-cab driver is promoted to the nailing department and spends the next phase of his training, breaking big chunks of wood off of new window frames.

The most promising of the trainees graduates to inside work, learning how to hit floor nails through low grade plywood without contacting the wooden joist beneath.

A friend of mine, who recently bought a new home in Mississauga, was somewhat concerned to find that wherever he walked, apart from the basement, the floor continually squeaked.

After numerous complaints, the builder sent an unskilled inspector who advised that the only solution was for the home owner to install a humidifier on the furnace. This was done at a cost of about \$90 but it made no difference.

After several more complaints a semi-skilled inspector arrived and after a brief examination to see if the humidifier was squeaking, decided that the floor hadn't been nailed down properly.

It's a long story, but finally an expert arrived with a big hammer and promptly solved the problem by banging in a few thousand floor nails, straight through the carpet.

Of course, there are good builders and they build good homes but they're in the minority and their homes are usually expensive. We need legislation to protect the average buyer, we need stricter controls and much more rigorous inspections by qualified people who have the fortitude and the independence to act in the buyer's interest.

We also need responsible newspapers, so I hope you continue with the crusade.

Len Anderson
Mississauga



Alfred Howe eagerly opens prize he won during carnival for retarded children at Red Oaks School. Sharing his excitement is Carol Wingfield.

'Lost journals sought'

May we make an appeal to your readers for some missing documents?

The Historical Branch of the City of Edmonton Parks and Recreation Department has been researching information about the Hudson's Bay Company Fort Edmonton as it was during the 1840's, in preparation for an authentic reconstruction of the past.

Much of our knowledge of this fort in the 19th century is derived from Fort Edmonton Journals of Daily Occurrences which are now in the Hudson's Bay Company Archives. Unfortunately, all of the Journals

between the years 1834 and 1854 are missing but it is possible that they still exist somewhere, perhaps in a private collection.

If any readers have information concerning the whereabouts of these missing journals, we would sincerely appreciate hearing from them at:

The Historical Exhibits Building
10106 - 112 Avenue,
Edmonton, Alberta.
T5G 0H1

D. Babcock,
Research Consultant,
Historical Development and Archives Branch.

Calendar

AUGUST 23
Camp Totoredaca, Mississauga's day camp, is holding its 14th annual Parents' Night this evening beginning at 6:30 p.m. Visitors are invited to view the campsite and participate in activities run by the campers and counsellors. For more information call 279-7600, extension 377.

AUGUST 23
The Malton Minor Hockey Association holds bingo nights every Wednesday evening at the Malton branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. Games start at 7:30 p.m. and players can win anything from \$5 to \$500.

AUGUST 23
The Lamplighters Camping Club will meet tonight at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson, 8A Archibald Street, in Brampton at 8:30 p.m.

AUGUST 23
The Women Aware meeting tonight at Erindale United

Church beginning at 8 p.m. will present a talk by a representative from the Eleanor Fulcher modelling Agency. For further information please call Debbie Field at 277-8363 or Pat Dunn at 279-2205. This is the last program in the Women Aware series.

AUGUST 24
The Lakeview Centennial Library, 1110 Atwater Ave., continues its summer program for children with a day of music and instrument-making beginning at 10 a.m.

AUGUST 24
Today a series of surprises will end the summer program for children at the Malton Library, 3500 Morningstar Dr. The program begins at 10:30 a.m.

AUGUST 24
A summer swim team from the Clarkson Pool will compete at a regional swim meet today in Oshawa.

AUGUST 25
The Canadian Red Cross Society is holding a blood donor clinic at the Whitehall Laboratories, 1060 Middlegate Rd., from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The clinic is open to all companies in the area.

AUGUST 26
Two 11 year-old girls and their friends are holding a Neighbourhood Muscular Dystrophy Carnival at 13 Hiawatha Parkway today from 1 to 4 p.m. Included in the program will be a penny toss, a pitch ball, balloon kick, fortune telling, furl house, white elephant sale and guppies for sale. All proceeds will go towards muscular dystrophy research and patient service. For additional information call 278-3208 or 278-8909.

AUGUST 26
A dance and buffet will be held tonight at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall (Branch 82), Port Credit, to raise money for mentally retarded children in the Ontario Hospital at Orillia.

Approximately 350 people are expected to attend. Proceeds from ticket sales will be used to purchase a piano and other musical instruments. Anyone who would like to buy tickets to this event or who has any musical instruments to donate to the children should call 278-4995.

AUGUST 26
The Cawthra Hockey Association's Minor-Atom tryouts are being held today beginning at 7 a.m. at the Lakeshore Arena, 300 Birmingham St., New Toronto. The tryouts are for the Metro Toronto Hockey League and anyone under 10 years (no older than 10 in 1972) is eligible.

AUGUST 27
The Mississauga Cycling Club plans to tour Kelso Park today. Anyone interested in going along for the ride should meet at Huron Park Recreation Centre at 9 a.m. An alternative outing also scheduled for today is a cycling tour to the Cycle Festival at the Woodbine Racetrack. Those

wishing to join this group should also meet at Huron Park at 9 a.m. In the event of rain, both trips will be cancelled.

AUGUST 28
The Canadian Red Cross Society is presenting a blood donor clinic today at Christ Church, Mazo Crescent, Clarkson, from 2 to 4:30 p.m. and from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Residents of Lorne Park, Clarkson and Park Royal broke an all-time record at the last area clinic held in February when there were 277 donors. Many regular donors are now on holiday so new donors are needed. Please attend this clinic.

AUGUST 30
The ladies' afternoon group of the United Church Women of Trinity United Church are holding a garden tea this afternoon at the home of Audrey Manville, 24 Catricken St., from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. Admission is 50 cents.

AUGUST 30
A Ride-A-Thon from Huron Park to the Canadian National Exhibition grounds

to raise money for handicapped children in the area is planned today, presented by the Mississauga Remedial Riding Association. Horsemen will be sponsored at a specific amount of money per mile. For more information, call Bahr's Saddlery at 279-1923.

AUGUST 31
A challenge donkey baseball match pitting Kinsmen sluggers against Hazel's Hurricanes (members of Streetsville's Town Council, led by Mayor Hazel McCallion) will be fought tonight at Streetsville Memorial Ball Park. The public is invited to witness the battle royal and all proceeds will be used to assist with local sports.

SEPTEMBER 5
Semi-finals for the Forest Glen Ladies Softball league are being held today at Fleetwood Park on Burnhamthorpe. The semi-finals are based on the team to win the best two out of three games. Games begin at 6:30 p.m. with the first series and 8:30 p.m. with the second series.