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Friday, Feb. 17, 1922.

Enlightened

John S. Kennedy has come along fast since he left Corning about a quarter of a century ago where he was railroad station agent and local correspondent for out of town papers—notably the *Union and Times*. Backed up by the political influence of Senator William J. Tully and possessing the friendship and influence of George W. Aldridge, then a State Railroad Commissioner, John was elected Secretary to the Railroad Commission when John S. Kenyon died. He made such a good record that he was retained as Secretary of the up-state Public Service Commission when that body was created as the result of suggestions from Charles Evans Hughes, then Governor of New York State. In fact, Mr. Kennedy was the only important official of the old regime who was retained by Governor Hughes.

That the arduous and ceaseless labors of John Kennedy was the backbone and background of whatever measure of success was attained by that first public service Commission of New York State is now history. In fact, John all but wore himself out in that Secretaryship. When he retired in the days of Dix and Sulzer, to become the director of welfare service for the Bell Telephone Company in the New York city headquarters, he was to use the vernacular "all in" or would have been if he had continued on in the same capacity.

In the new capacity John again made good. But his public office days were not yet over. In the days of Charles S. Whitman's governorship, John Trammone, who was for years the Associated Press representative in Albany while Mr. Kennedy was with the Public Service Commission, had become the Secretary of the New York State Commission on Prisons, and there occurred a vacancy in the Commission. Jack suggested that his old friend Kennedy return to public life as a Commissioner. After much persuasion, from real friends of prison reform, Mr. Kennedy consented and his name was sent to the Senate. Confirmation was unanimous.

New York State records show that Commissioner Kennedy shows as much energy in prison work and real constructive ability as when he guided the destinies of the Public Service Commission. In a recent magazine article on "Prison Reform—Wise and Otherwise", Commissioner Kennedy thinks it is the better plan to treat the unfortunates committed to state reformatory institutions as human beings who may some day with right training become serviceable to society. He would make genuine reformators out of our penal institutions. He would also differentiate between criminals as a class. "Give the hardened professional criminal the limit the law allows, but try to improve the errant youth"

When Jack McInerney and the other Brightonites go to the bat they know how to reach the City Hall—and farther.

In the death of Thomas A. Kirby, of Albion, the State lost a valued son and the Church a loyal follower.

Victor J. Dowling

Victor J. Dowling, a score of years ago, was much in the public eye. His prominence in the then comparatively new fraternal order of the Knights of Columbus, his commanding position in the New York State Senate, kept him in the forefront and his name was frequently mentioned for governor and other high office. His contributions to American Catholic history and his appearance as a speaker all over the country added to his prominence.

But Dowling had aspirations along different lines. His mind was cast in judicial type. Like his friend and chum, John J. Delaney, he accepted nomination to the Supreme Court bench in New York city. Election followed and soon the public knew Justice Dowling less but his legal and judicial associates soon listed him as a great judge. His masterly handling of the second Thaw trial when he relegated to the background and kept out of the court records much of the filth that polluted the records of the first trial and added shekels to the coffers of the salacious yellow journals won great praise. It was not long before Justice Dowling was promoted to the Appellate Division—that goal of the justice who expects to a lifelong judicial career. Soon his fourteen year term expired and he was re-elected for another and re assigned to the Appellate Division, Justice. He has come into prominence for a brilliant opinion denying the "Russian Socialist Federated Government" right to sue in New York state to enforce performance of an alleged contract because the said Government not having been recognized as such by the Government of the United States has no standing in law and hence its allegation that it is a Sovereign State is not conclusive upon the New York State courts where the truth is otherwise as proven by public matters of which the court is bound to take judicial notice.

The New York "World", never over friendly to any adherent of the political entity known as Tammany Hall—it is commonly understood that to Charles F. Murphy was Justice Dowling indebted for his original nomination, describes the Dowling decision as if "commanding importance in international law." The Russian Soviet not having been recognized by the United States it cannot sue or be sued here; it is a legal nonentity in America. To the lay citizen, this learned presentation of the case will bring a new understanding of the sanction of international law.

Right Choice

To the outsider, the new Pope appears to be a general favorite with the world at large. The English Catholics hail the choice, as well as the Belgians, the French, the Austrians and the Poles. The Germans interpose no protest while the Italians of all shades appear jubilant that the Archbishop of Milan has been chosen to preside over the Church Universal.

Physically a giant; mentally vigorous and thoroughly equipped; versed in industrial problems; schooled in diplomacy and statecraft, Pius XI seems to have assumed the Chair of St. Peter at a propitious and providential time.

With world-wide well wishes the reign of the new Pontiff opens auspiciously. That it will be a happier one than those of his two immediate predecessors is the wish and prayer of all Catholics.

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A Great Success

Rochester Council in particular and the Knights of Columbus in general and as an Order has reason to be congratulated on the success of its recent drive for new members and in the splendid manner in which it conducted the campaign and the fine style in which it planned and carried out the big initiation at Exposition Park last Sunday.

The affair was a credit to any organization and it is a good thing for the K. of C. boys to show that within their organization here in Rochester there are men who can plan and execute affairs so big and comprehensive. The K. of C. in Rochester is on the map and on the map to stay, if wisdom and prudence continue to characterize the leadership in the new era opening so auspiciously.

Father Cameron, M. R.

While somewhat unexpected, no one gainsays the statement that our Right Reverend Bishop made a happy choice in selecting Rev. Joseph S. Cameron to be pastor of the Immaculate Conception parish and one of the irremovable rectors and consultants of the Diocese of Rochester.

Not only is the Immaculate Conception parish a big responsibility but Father O'Neil had come to occupy a peculiar position in the civic world of Rochester. Father Cameron is young and robust and, moreover, he is intellectually equipped and possessed of the requisite personality to follow in Father O'Neil's footsteps.

The many older Catholics who know and respected and loved "Honest Joe Cameron", the watchdog of the treasury in the lamented C. M. B. A., will rejoice at the honors that have come to his son and regret that he could not have been spared to receive Father Joe's blessing in the new parish and to witness the ordination of another son, Rev. Ignatius Cameron into the holy priesthood.

The Catholic Journal congratulates Father Cameron on his new honors and wishes for him a long and happy rectorate in his new parish. That it will be successful goes without saying.

President Harding's address to the Senate upon presenting the treaties negotiated by the Washington Disarmament Conference was strong and to the point.

The Post Express cannot find language sufficiently vitriolic to characterize Senator James A. Reed because he objects to Truman H. Newberry in the United States Senate but the same Reed was a demi-god to the same Post Express when he helped Henry Cabot Lodge strangle Woodrow Wilson's League of Nations.

Again Archbishop Hanna is spoken of for the Cardinal's red hat. Nothing would please a host of Rochesterians more than to see their old friend and townsman a Prince of the Church.

The press of Rochester is good to the Knights of Columbus and well it may be. They subscribe and advertise in the papers as much as any other one class.

District Attorney William F. Love has the courage of his convictions.

Mayor VanZandt does not appear to be of jellyfish spinelessness.

Our foreign-born residents are finding out that liberty in America does not spell license. Too bad this lesson could not have been taught on the other side.

Let it always be remembered that George Washington, albeit a Free Mason and that meant much more in 1776 than it does today—never maligned his Catholic associates in the new Republic.

Two New Battalion Chiefs to be Appointed in the Fire Department

On August 21, 1919 a competitive civil service examination was held for the position of assistant Battalion Chief in the Fire Department. Since that time four appointments have been made from the eligible list.

Captain Alexander Sutherland who stood second on the list has been passed for appointment three times by men of lower ratings, and, in accordance with civil service rules and procedure his name has been dropped from the eligible list.

Captain William O'Leary who stood fifth on the eligible list has been passed for appointment once and his name has been certified to twice; another certification means that his name will also be dropped from the eligible list.

It seems strange that men of the standing of Captains Sutherland and O'Leary who have been residents of Rochester all their lives, and who have excellent records as soldiers, citizens and firefighters should be passed up in this manner.

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Weekly Calendar Of Feast Days

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Sunday, Feb. 19.—Sexagesima Sunday. Catholic Press Sunday. St. Barbasus, Bishop of Benevento, which he labored to rescue from idolatrous ways. He assisted in the sixth general council against the Monothelites, held in Constantinople in 680 and died two years later.

Monday, Feb. 20.—St. Eucherius, Bishop of Orleans, who served God with great piety and humility from his youth. He reproached Charles Martel for stripping the churches of their revenues and as a result was banished to Cologne. Later he was transferred to Liege. He retired to the monastery to Sarchinium, where he died in 743.

Tuesday, Feb. 21.—St. Severinus, Bishop of Sychopolis, who won the crown of martyrdom for his opposition to the Eutychian heresy in 453.

Wednesday, Feb. 22.—The Foundation of St. Peter's Chair at Antioch. This city was then the capital of the east and St. Leo

declares we should celebrate this feast with no less joy than the day of St. Peter's martyrdom for it commemorates his installation as the head of the Church on earth.

Thursday, Feb. 23.—St. Peter Damien, who sanctified his studies at the University of Parma by vigils, fast and prayers. He became superior of the monks at Font-Avellano and seven popes, in succession, made him their constant advisor. He was made Cardinal Bishop of Ostia and executed various papal commissions.

Friday, Feb. 24.—St. Matthias, who was elected to take the place of the fallen Judas in order that the number of Apostles might be complete. He was particularly noted for his mortification of the flesh.

Saturday, Feb. 25.—St. Tarasus, whose ability gained him the position of secretary of state to the Emperor Constantine and his mother the Empress Irene. In the midst of the court he led a holy life. He was chosen patriarch of Constantinople and took part in the Council of Nice when the matter of the relative honor to be paid holy pictures and images was decided. He died in 806.

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