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DESKS

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Rochester, N. Y.

Editor of the Rochester Catholic Journal. Dear Sir:— Having a statue of Columbia, in a public park, draped in the National Colors, and crowned with flowers, would be the ideal May Queen, selecting one child, makes all the others jealous.

AMERICA'S MAY QUEEN

First Verse Columbia, America's Queen of May, Us children our homage we pay, For all that's equal and free, Spring's Immortelles all are we.

Second Verse Columbia, America's Queen of May, Crowned with garlands bright and gay, Round you dancing the bended knee, Lesser Queen's all are we.

Third Verse Columbia, America's Queen of May, Our fealty we pledge this day, With hands clasped round protecting thee, Posterity's Future all are we.

Chorus Columbia, your day knows no decline While freedom's stars around you shine, Set reminder of slavery's weary hours, For America's youth all yours and ours.

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Prince of Kurland Catholic Convert

Cologne, April 1.—Prince Gustave Blron of Kurland, one of the most popular personalities in Berlin, and under the imperial regime a leader, highly esteemed in the upper aristocracy, has been converted to the Catholic Church. The Prince's residence is the Castle of Wartenberg. He is the head of the royal house which from 1737 to 1795 ruled over the duchy of Kurland. The family lost its power after the French Revolution. It has large estates in Baden-Baden, and owns the villa Eden. A son of the Prince preceded him in returning to the Catholic Church some year's ago.

CROSSING STREET AN ADVENTURE IN LONDON

Police to Get Greater Powers to Handle Traffic.

London.—With the total number of street accidents reaching the record of 60,818 for 1923 London is now beginning to approximate New York in unenviable pre-eminence in traffic casualties. The figures compiled by the "Safety First" council in London include accidents involving persons or property. Private automobiles lead the field as causing accidents, with motor trucks second. Buses, a great number of which were added to the city's total during the year, were responsible for fewer casualties than were bicycles. "It will not be long," a London newspaper declares, "before it will be a minor adventure to get across the street. The hazard may prove a successful solution to the problem of cancer by preventing people from living too long."

Publication of these figures has created a widespread demand that steps be taken by the government to check the perils of life and limb incidental to London's present traffic chaos. There is a call for greater powers to be given the police to cope with the traffic problem. "Short of a full inquiry—or development of additional eyes and emergency wings by pedestrians—the accident toll seems destined to grow larger," the newspaper article concludes. The comment sums up the general viewpoint here.

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Apology to Pope For Ludendorff's Attacks on Church

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Cologne, April 1.—Count Franz von Galen, president of the Union of Rhenish-Westphalian Nobility, from Dinklage, in Oldenburg, has sent a letter to the Pope in the name of the nobility and gentry of the Union, assuring His Holiness of faithful homage, as a rebuke for the recent insults offered the Holy See by Ludendorff. In Dusseldorf, the residence of Ludendorff before the war, the Socialists presented a petition to the town council proposing to deprive Ludendorff of the honorary citizenship conferred on him in the war, and to give other designations to the streets and schools named for him. The petition won out.

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Deaths of the Week

Funeral services were held from the respective churches on dates given. May their souls rest in peace. Reed—Mrs. Mary Schaeffer Reed died April 22, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. William L. Burke, of No. 118 Keller street. Funeral from St. Ambrose Church, April 25. Connor—Margaret Connor died at St. Ann's Home, April 21. Funeral from St. Ann's Chapel, April 24. Fleming—Mrs. Fannie Fleming of No. 170 Lewiston avenue, died April 21. Sacred Heart Church April 24. Ruff—Mrs. Anna Ruff of No. 165 Lincoln street, died April 21. Holy Redeemer Church, April 24. Ryan—Nora Ryan, aged 49 years, died April 21. Funeral from St. Boniface Church, April 24. Arnold—Elizabeth Arnold, aged 52 years, of 4264 Lake avenue, died April 24. Holy Cross Church, April 28. Fackelmann—Peter A. Fackelmann of 962 Clinton avenue north, died April 24, aged 21 years. St. Michael's Church April 26.

TOTAL U. S. WEALTH IS \$320,000,000,000

Shows 72.2 Per Cent Increase in Ten Years.

Washington.—The American nation, reputed to be the richest in the world, is worth \$320,000,000,000, the Department of Commerce reported recently. In ten years, between December 31, 1912, and December 31, 1922, when the last survey was made, the national wealth increased 72.2 per cent. On December 31, 1912, it was placed at \$189,299,004,000. Per capita wealth increased from \$1,950 in 1912 to \$2,918 in 1922, an increase of 49.6 per cent. The huge increase in the money value of the nation's wealth, the department said, is due principally to the rise in prices in recent years, and not entirely to a corresponding increase in the quantity of wealth, as economists figure it. All classes of property, except live stock, increased in value in the ten-year period, the department reported. The estimated value of taxed real property and improvements increased from \$36,923,406,000 to \$155,908,625,000, or 60.9 per cent. Exempt real property, exclusive of national parks and monuments, rose from \$12,815,520,000 to \$20,505,819,000, or 63.5 per cent. Stocks of goods, vehicles other than motor, furniture and clothing rose from \$34,834,291,000 to \$76,983,607,000, or 121.3 per cent. Railroads and their equipment rose from \$18,148,522,000 to \$19,950,800,000, or 23.5 per cent. Privately owned telephone and transmission enterprises, other than railroads, increased from \$9,572,855,000 to \$13,607,570,000, or 42.1 per cent. Manufacturing machinery, tools and implements rose from \$6,091,451,000 to \$15,753,280,000, or 159.1 per cent, an indication of the industrial expansion of the country. Farm implement machinery increased from \$1,868,225,000 to \$2,604,635,000, or 90.4 per cent. Live stock values slumped from \$3,238,389,000 to \$3,807,104,000, or 6.9 per cent. Other increases reported follow: Privately owned water works from \$290,000,000 to \$360,855,000, or 24.4 per cent; gold and silver coin and bullion from \$2,616,643,000 to \$4,278,155,000 or 63.5 per cent, and the United States navy from \$402,352,000 to \$1,445,992,000, or 259.4 per cent.

DEATHS OF THE WEEK

Held—Frank X. Held, aged 74 years, died April 23. St. Michael's Church April 28. Phelan—Mrs. Frances Phelan, of No. 181 Court street, died April 24. St. Mary's Church April 28. Biehler—Mary Jane Biehler, of No. 500 Plymouth ave., died April 21. Immaculate Conception Church, April 23. Kinsella—John E. Kinsella, aged 62 years, died April 21. Funeral from the Church of Nativity, Brookport. Burial in Mount Olivet cemetery, Brookport. Baines—William Baines, of No. 521 Plymouth ave., died April 20. Immaculate Conception Church on April 23. Dunning—Margaret Ann Dunning, aged 4 years, of No. 352 Arnett Boulevard, died April 20. Funeral April 23. Donovan—Katherine Donovan, of No. 54 Fillmore st., died April 20. St. Augustine's Church, April 23. Daley—Mrs. Mary Daley, died on April 20, at St. Ann's Home. Funeral from St. Ann's Home Chapel, April 23. Lutz—Joseph Lutz, aged 84 years, died April 20 at St. Ann's Home. Funeral from St. Ann's Chapel April 22. McGuigan—Hilda Mary McGuigan aged 17 years, of No. 163 Adams street, died April 19. Immaculate Conception Church, April 22. Smith—Robert Joseph Smith, aged 1 year, died at the family residence, No. 7 1-2 Miller street. Funeral from St. Andrew's Church, April 22. Bantel—George R. Bantel, died April 16, at his residence, 678 Lake avenue. Holy Rosary Church, April 19. Gagner—Raymond Gagner, aged 21 years, died April 18. Blessed Sacrament Church, April 21. Palmer—Mrs. Ursula Costello Palmer, died April 17, at her home, No. 6 Walton street. St. Mary's Church, April 21. Trabold—Joseph W. Trabold, 28 years of age, of No. 152 Rugby ave., died April 17. St. Augustine's Church, April 21. Tastaglia—Ferdinand Tastaglia, aged 4 years, of No. 460 Cottage street, died April 19. St. Monica's church, April 22. McNulty—William J. McNulty, died April 23, at his home in Cleveland. Funeral from the family residence, No. 287 Meigs street, this city, April 26, and from St. Mary's Church.

Sacrificing Children Community Murder, Laborite's Charge

London, April 7.—The Minister of Health in the Labor Cabinet declares that the world is not overpopulated, and he scores those who regard human life lightly. John Wheatley's utterance is viewed with great interest, as the Labor government is still regarded as an unknown quantity and its actions are being closely watched. "I want you to pay no attention at all to the rather prevalent materialistic idea that our world is overpopulated and that the loss of a few thousand infants here and there does not really matter," said Mr. Wheatley, addressing the Liverpool Child Welfare Association.

"If that were true—it is not true—it would not be anything which people could accept with any conscientious satisfaction, because if a community, to enrich itself, allows thousands of its people, and particularly its infants, to be sacrificed, that community is not at all superior to the individual who murders another in order to gain enrichment."

ADULT SENEGALESE FROM FRENCH ARMY CAMP BAPTIZED

Nice, April 11.—Msgr. Ricard, Auxiliary Bishop of Nice, recently baptized ten adults in the Cathedral Church of Frejus. The ceremony was a most unusual one, for the ten new Christians included six natives of Madagascar and four Senegalese. The four Senegalese and one Malgache came from a training camp for native officers located at Frejus. The Sacrament of Confirmation immediately followed the baptism.

Many Americans Plan Tours of Ireland

Dublin, April 7.—The Irish Tourist Association has done a lot of practical work in the direction of making the attractions of Ireland better known among outsiders. Advertisements have been placed in the Association show that a number of large parties intend paying visits to Ireland this summer. Mr. Ganey, the agent at Cobb (Newtown) of the United States Tourist Association, is the most active member. He is now in America.

Bill To Make Priests Eligible For Seats In British Commons

London, April 7.—Catholic priests are barred from election to the House of Commons. A bill presented by John H. Harris, M. P., aims at removing this disability, which applies also to church of England clergymen, although Free Church ministers are eligible for parliamentary election. Priests are not only excluded from Parliament, but they are disqualified from membership of city councils and even of some borough councils.

There are four Free Church ministers in Parliament. One belongs to the Church of Scotland, one is a Presbyterian, one a Wesleyan and the other a Congregationalist. "The clergy of Great Britain," says Mr. Harris, "are asking for no privileges over their fellow citizens; they are merely asking that as they are called upon to take their full share of the burdens of citizenship they may be accorded full and equal rights of that citizenship." Mr. Harris, who is sponsoring the bill, is not a Catholic. He claims that the government and a clear majority of members are in its favor.

Valladolid Students Rescued From Flood

Madrid, April 8.—Serious floods at Valladolid have caused the suspension of classes at the Pontifical University there. The students were rescued in boats at midnight when the rising waters entered the university. Following heavy rains the outlying portions of the town were flooded. A hospital and several convents suffered, but the English and Scots colleges were not affected.

Pardonable Mistake Of Cardinal Mercier

London, April 10.—The sale of the Woolworth Building recalls a pardonable mistake made by Cardinal Mercier when he, Embassador, visited New York. "What a noble community!" he is reported to have exclaimed as the boat steamed into the harbor. "Where else could you see a superb cathedral built in the very midst of the temples of commerce and towering far above them!"

Patron Saint Of Lawyers Is Subject of Debate

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Paris, April 11.—The "Patrons Littéraires," an association composed of a large number of lawyers and magistrates of Paris, under the active presidency of M. Poincare, who is a member of the Paris bar, held a meeting recently during which a curious debate was started. In the presence of the noted barrister Manuel Fourcade, M. Gaston Duveau who for 22 years has been the secretary of the order of barristers of the Court of Appeal, pleaded in favor of Saint Yves to be "patron of lawyers" as against Saint Nicholas who holds this title by virtue of a general tradition. M. Duveau recalled that St. Yves, before his canonization, was successively a law student, an attorney and a magistrate, and that from every point of view he deserved to be recognized as the patron of the profession. The debate, of course was a purely literary and historical one. Very probably another lawyer will reply in the name of Saint Nicholas at an early meeting. But it would appear that the debate has already been won by Saint Yves who, in addition to his other claims, has the advantage of having practised law in Paris.

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