

The Catholic Journal

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Ad Multos Annos

Pope Pius XI's designation of Bishop Hickey to be assistant to the pontifical throne, an honor given to but few Catholic prelates, brings pleasure to the Bishop's many friends outside the Church while to us as Catholics it brings joy to see the second Bishop of Rochester honored so signally. The piety and zeal for souls that has ever been an outstanding characteristic of our Rt. Rev. Bishop, has appealed to the great pontiff who now sits in the Chair of Peter, as well as the splendid Catholic educational institutions and schools in the Diocese of Rochester. Truly, the Diocese of Rochester is the mother of the Catholic school system of America. The Catholic Journal extends its sincere congratulations to Bishop Hickey and trusts he may be permitted to take his proper position in ecclesiastical functions in the Eternal City, as assistant to the Holy Father.

Is It Ineffective?

The Rochester Times-Union, because twice in recent sensational murder trials, the jury disagreed necessitating a new trial, thinks our time-honored jury system should be thrown into the discard, at least so far as the provision for unanimous verdict. Let's see. For these two instances how many hundreds and thousands of cases are decided amicably and without newspaper headlines under the plan of unanimous verdict? Perhaps, it would be as well if there were new trials in these cases. If the prosecuting attorney showed that he was more anxious to secure a conviction for publicity purposes than to do even-handed justice, that of itself would justify a new trial. If the delay of a new trial should result in the production of new evidence showing that the accused persons were not guilty, would not that justify the obligation for unanimous verdict? One innocent person put to death is more of a blot upon American civilization than the expense of a dozen new trials. Here is the way the Times-Union sees it, and we reproduce it just to show the average non-thinking editorial writer tries to mold public opinion:— We do not question the honesty of any juror who holds out for his own opinion against the adverse majority. But why the necessity of unanimous consent? Could we elect a president of the United States, or run the ordinary business of life after such a method? The deadlocking of juries, due to the archaic compulsion of unanimous consent, is a common occurrence. The very method of picking jurors serves to defeat the need in view. Hand-picking talesmen having no prejudices or opinions on the case in question places a premium on stupidity. Consider some of the questions hurled at the prospective jurors in any sensational trial: "Have you read anything about this case?" Only a blind man could fail to see the headlines: "Have you formed any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the accused?" As though a juror with sense enough to form an opinion before the trial could not change mind during the trial if the evidence warranted it!

Senator Wadsworth never said a truer thing than "they who publicly advertise their own morality and virtue always bear watching."

Power

In a recent editorial headed "Thirty Years of Power", the Rochester "Herald" so well epitomizes the growth and development of Electric power that we reproduce it herewith as follows:— When the housewives of Rochester gather the family wash and deposit it in the tub, they do so with certain knowledge that they have a ready and willing helper to perform the heavy labor. Instead of bending for hours over a corrugated board and skinning tender knuckles in an effort to whiten the linen, they reach for the electric switch and summon the mighty power of a falling river to their assistance. In Rochester, a great deal of power is derived from the force of the Genesee pushing through a tunnel and splashing turbidly. But Rochester also draws power from that immense reservoir of energy, Niagara Falls, where the water of four of the Great Lakes hurls itself into the gorge. It was just thirty years ago that production of Niagara power was begun on a scale more ambitious than the old mill race and water wheel. After three decades of development, the force of the greatest cataract still is largely unutilized, yet so great has been the advance in power generation and transmission that Niagara Falls lights the homes, offices, stores and mills of cities as far away as Utica and Erie and Toronto and turns the washing machines and vacuum cleaners not only in the cities, but on the farms of Canada and the United States. Indeed, utilization of Niagara current for lightening the burdens of farm work is no less remarkable than the lifting of the dead weight of household drudgery from the shoulders of millions of women. In the story of Niagara power is a romance as entertaining and a miracle as wonderful as is to be found in all history or fiction. The chaining of a gigantic force by the hand and brain of mere man is in itself a wonder as great as any of which Aladdin's famous lamp was capable. But the thousand and one uses to which the perpetual energy of the falls has been applied have worked a marvel in the transformation of civilization in this part of the world that far surpasses the wonders of the Thousand and One Nights of Bagdad. Thirty years of Niagara Power may well be called the beginning of a new age that is setting the pace of progress all over the world.

Representative Hamilton Fish is entirely right in demanding that "unofficial Americans" who do not represent the United States Government but who may represent interests who would benefit thereby, and are "meddling" in the pending negotiations regarding payment of the debts owed America by the European nations, shall be disciplined even to the extent of criminal prosecution under the Federal laws. Because this is styled the land of the free, we have not kept control of our citizen with an iron hand as the habit of foreign countries. Liberty is not license in Europe and citizens of European countries who assume to speak for their nation with out proper official credentials very soon find themselves in trouble. It would be well if President Coolidge, in his blunt but forceful way, would indicate to the money loaners that they would not be so prosperous were it not for the protection of American laws and government.

Leading Way

President Coolidge is gradually impressing his leadership on the American people. It is seen that the President is thrifty but not penurious; believes in practising economy but is not parsimonious; believes the American people should live well but is opposed to ostentation and extravagance. Those who at first thought Calvin Coolidge was posing for political effect are becoming convinced that the President, in all this, is only his natural self, a sturdy, well-balanced thrifty New Englander. This country, indeed the whole world, needs an example of self-denial and a return to the principle and practice of paying as we go, of spending a trifle less, instead of a trifle more than our income; of keeping out of debt but, once in debt, of saving and paying up. These principles are as valuable in national, state, county, municipal life as in private life. News of the death of Edward Dissett, brought sorrow to many Rochesterians who knew him well. Passengers on the St. Paul and South avenue street cars recalled his courtesy and attention to duty. Those who knew him intimately found him a veritable treasure trove of information as he was a great reader and a keen student. The writer feels a personal loss in the passing of this modest and unassuming but, nevertheless, typical American gentleman.

Fewer Jokes

The Elmira Star Gazette states a self-evident proposition when it says:— Recently the department of superintendence of the National Education Association recorded its opinion on an important subject in these words: The Department of Superintendence recognizes with satisfaction a tendency of the press to cause to cease a traditional and stupid practice of ridiculing by cartoons or alleged humorous paragraphs the fine women who constitute a majority of the teaching corps of America. No decent allegiance to American ideals can be maintained if public prints, while claiming to support public education, continue to throw disrespect on the women who in so large a degree constitute the educators. It is a rather complicated statement of a simple fact. There is less ridiculing of teachers and the teaching profession. Partly, the crude form of humor which made them the butt of its jests has given place to other forms of wit. But chiefly there is a more widespread respect for education. More people than ever before are seeking school education of one sort or another and they have an increased respect for the teachers who present it to them. Also better pay for teachers and higher standards of preparation for teachers of all grades are doing their share to bring about the substitution of respect for ridicule.

Rejected

Yonkers voted on the city manager plan last week. Less than half the voting population turned out to the polls. Two to one of those who did vote cast their ballots against the proposition. Is that a fair test of New York state sentiment? Yonkers is supposed to be one of the progressive communities in Westchester County. It was asserted that Yonkers voters were eager to throw over the political bosses. It is also the seat of activities of William H. Anderson late boss of the Anti-Slavery League.

Meddlers

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Cathedral of Worms

By Rev. Dr. Wilhelm Baron von Capitaine (Cologne Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service) Cologne, May 18.—That venerable pile, the Cathedral of Worms, beloved of Germans because there hangs about it the glamor of the earliest Teutonic legends, has received a new honor. Pope Pius XI has just conferred on the ancient edifice the rank of a Basilica Minor. This gracious action came as a recognition of the 900th anniversary of Bishop Burchard, founder and builder of the cathedral. It carries with it all the rights and privileges enjoyed by basilicas of the same rank in Rome. At the same time, the Provost of the Cathedral of Worms, Dr. Schneider, has been appointed Prothonotary Apostolic. He will be invested by the Bishop of Mainz. The old medieval pile was once destroyed but later was plausily restored.

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Weekly Calendar Of Feast Days

Sunday, June 7.—St. Robert of Newminster, was a monk at Whithy when thirteen religious were expelled from the Abbey of St. Mary in York for having proposed to restore the strict Benedictine rule. When news of this reached Whithy, Robert at once set out to join the expelled religious. With them he founded a Monastery at Newminster of which he became Abbot. He died in 1159. Monday, June 8.—St. Medard, Bishop was one of the most illustrious prelates of the Church in France during the sixth century. He was born of a pious and noble family at Baiency about the year 457 and from his early childhood was noted for his charity. He was consecrated by St. Remigius who baptized King Clovis and after a life devoted to the poor died at Nonon in 545. Tuesday, June 9.—St. Columba, Abbot, the Apostle of the Picts, was born of a noble family at Gartan in Tyrconnel in the year 521. He entered the religious life where he was noted for his austerity. Having been made an abbot, his zeal offended King Dermot and in 565 the Saint departed for Scotland. In that country he founded a hundred religious houses and converted the Picts who, in gratitude, gave him the island of Iona. It was on this island that St. Columba founded his celebrated monastery which became the school of apostolic missionaries and for centuries was the burial place of saints and kings. The Saint died in 597. Wednesday, June 10.—St. Margaret of Scotland, was the daughter of an English King. She was given in marriage to Malcolm, King of Scotland, and reigned as Queen of that country until her death in 1093. She built many churches and monasteries and was active in bringing about the observance of the law of God throughout the kingdom. She spared no pains in the education of her eight children. On her deathbed she received word that her husband and eldest son had been slain in battle. With pious resignation she thanked God for this last affliction. Thursday, June 11.—St. Barnabas, Apostle, was chosen to preach the Faith in the rapidly growing Christian community of Antioch in the early days of the Church. Before he was singled out for this mission he had been a rich Levite of Cyprus of whom we read "He having land sold it, and brought the price and laid it at the feet of the Apostles." Later he returned to Cyprus and there won his martyr's crown. Friday, June 12.—St. John of St. Fagondez, was a native of Spain. At an early age he held several benefices in the diocese of Burgos but the reproaches of his conscience forced him to resign all except one, a small chapel in which he said Mass daily and preached and taught. A lady of noble birth but evil life whose companion in sin had been converted by St. John, resented this interference with her evil course, and contrived to administer a fatal poison to the Saint. He died after several months of terrible sufferings in 1479. Saturday, June 13.—St. Anthony of Padua, became known as the "Hammer of Heretics." After the General Chapter held by St. Francis at Assisi in 1221 he was lifted from obscurity and for nine years France, Italy and Sicily heard his voice and saw his miracles and many men's hearts were turned to God.

Episcopalians Favor

Berkeley, May 29.—Complete separation of civil and religious marriage ceremonies is advocated in a resolution adopted by the Episcopal Synod of the Pacific Coast in session here. The resolution reads: "The Church should not share in legalizing marriage. It should only bestow the sacred blessing upon those who are properly impressed with the seriousness of the marital vows." The Rev. W. R. H. Hodgins, pastor of St. Mark's Church here, explained the attitude of the Synod by saying that the fact that the Church is now empowered to solemnize marriages which the civil power later dissolves makes the Church bear the odium of divorces following church weddings. "We hope and believe that this is the first step toward legislative action, not only in California, but throughout the United States", Dr. Hodgins said. "This action would have a tendency to cause a noticeable decline in the number of fashionable weddings of those who never before—or after—bother to enter the house of God."

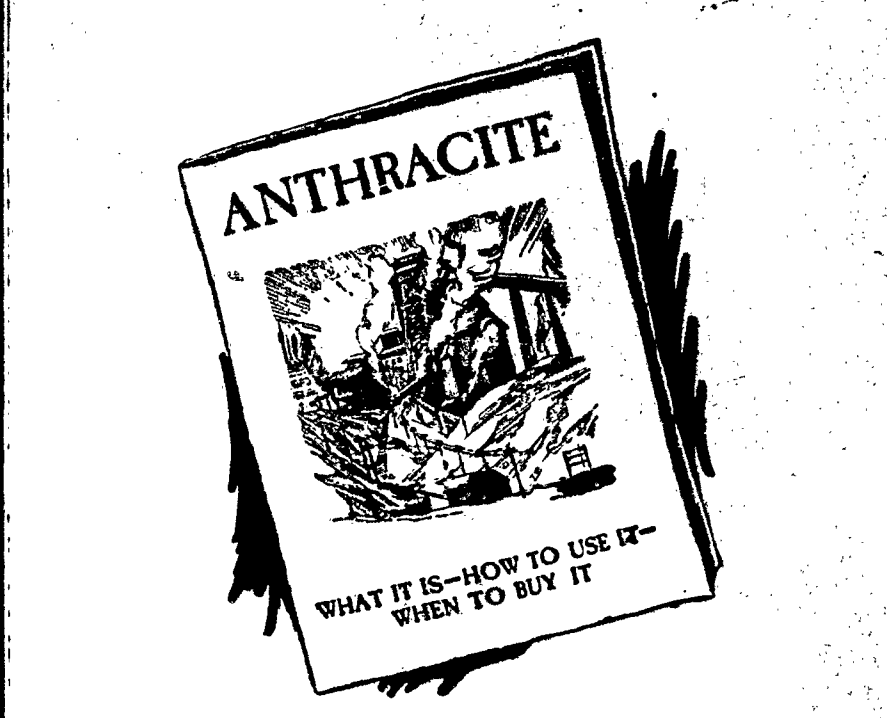
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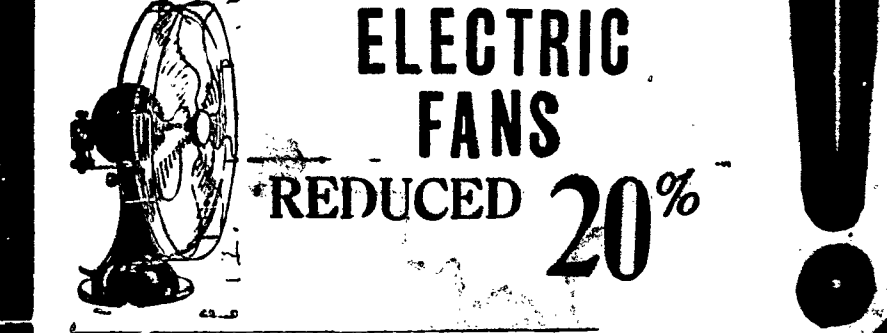
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