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Reason Why

Alfred W. McCann, the well-known author and publicist, declined an invitation from William Jennigs Bryan to assist him as a prosecutor of Swopes in the Tennessee trial. Mr. McCann declined in a singularly clear argument against what he called "the Tennessee Circus". Space will not permit reproduction of Mr. McCann's splendid letter but these excerpts are peculiarly pertinent:—

"Why should you or I be agitated by the hysteria of men who grotesquely depart from truth in their efforts to convince their followers that they have something to say concerning the truth? All scientific men are not fools. Few of them are dishonest. Another generation is coming. I once thought I believed in evolution as preached by Darwin, but I now behold that high-priest discredited by modern high-priests, who in turn, as the evidence clearly indicates, will be discredited by others still to come.

"Eventually if it is God's purpose to manifest a truth that now evades man's efforts to pry into its mystery He will let that truth be known. In the meantime honest and capable scientists will go on correcting the errors which have brought Mr. Scopes to his present state and the inordinately zealous souls who oppose him to theirs.

"As you know I am a member of the Catholic Church and may, therefore, believe what I please respecting evolution provided only that I am in no imprudent haste to seize upon alleged truths in science that may not be well-motived or adequately demonstrated. I am frequently astonished to find so many non-Catholics who believed that the Catholic is sealed up in a capsule and forbidden to think for himself. This is an error, quite as grotesque as the error you are now engaged in fighting, though of an entirely different nature. I am not excited about it. I am merely at peace for I find nothing in my religion that is irreconcilable with any well-ordered or decently presented theory of evolution directed and controlled by Almighty God.

"I am no longer intolerant even of the materialist evolutionist. On the contrary I am amused by his pretentious pose of superiority under which festers an abyss of ignorance. One of my closest associates, the editor of a metropolitan journal and a really profound man, urged upon me only four years ago the necessity of his having to believe in 'evolution' because it had received the imprimatur of the consensus of opinion of all mankind. I took the trouble to show him the other side as presented by the distinguished men whom he knew to be authorities, and was literally astounded by his reaction. Here was a big man of tremendous intellectual capacity and no religion at all to bias him responding at once with the simplicity of a child. I can never forget his eloquent exclamation when he had reviewed the evidence: 'The issue is not quite as simple as I had come to think it. It does indeed possess two sides. Too many of us are familiar with but one side. The only consensus of opinion exists among those who don't know. Henceforth I shall keep my mind free of prejudice when well-meaning folk are discussing the detached fragments which they believe to be the whole.'

"Perhaps you will now understand why I cannot serve your cause as a witness. The scientists by their own admission do not know. You do not know. Certainly I do not know. And where we are all steeped in so much ignorance and so biased by prejudice one way or the other we cannot hope that our bitter quarrel will result in any flash of the [illegible] light. The Bible tells us that [illegible] created the world and sets forth [illegible] astonishing accurate sequence of events. It nowhere gives a hint of [illegible] was accomplished. I [illegible] no inspiration that [illegible] enable me to solve the riddle, which I greatly fear will remain unsolved as long as the finite continues to believe that it is capable of comprehending the Infinite."

Politics

For the first time in a quarter of a century, Monroe County and the City of Rochester are treated to the spectacle of rival leaders in the Republican ranks battling in a life and death struggle for supremacy.

For twenty-five years there was an undisputable head of the organization who, when rival leaders had engaged in a hand-to-hand skirmish and then factional wrangles threatened the success of the party, took the rivals by the ear, and told them to "go way back and sit down".

This year there is no boss to adjust differences and the only way out is for the rivals to fight it out in the primaries and evolve a new leader.

The 1925 battle began in a lofty dispute over principles, moral issues and specific claims as to the better business methods to govern the city. Just now it is the familiar struggle of the ins and the outs. Public officials are told, regardless of their records, that their continuance in office depends upon their loyalty to individual leaders and their ability to "deliver the goods" in the primaries. If they cannot produce the necessary political credentials then they must give place to those who can.

It is not an edifying spectacle and will only add potency to the arguments for the city manager plan and elimination of partisan politics in municipal campaigns.

Meanwhile Mr. Rippey and Mr. Jacobstein and the other democratic leaders are hoisting lightning rods and hoping the voters may turn to them as the municipal saviors.

1926 Congress

The 1926 International Eucharistic Congress, will be held in Chicago and it is expected it will be the greatest gathering of its kind held in recent years. This statement is made on the authority of Rt. Rev. Thomas L. Heylen, Bishop of Namur and president of the Congress.

Besides the four American Cardinals: O'Connell, of Boston; Hayes of New York; Mundelein, of Chicago and Dougherty, of Philadelphia, there will be at least three from Europe: Mercier, of Malines; Faulhaber, of Munich and LaFontaine of Venice. In all probability, several Cardinals of the Vatican official family will come to America for the Congress. Then there will be Archbishops, Bishops, Monsignori, abbots and priests from all over the world.

When it was suggested to Bishop Heylen that experience has demonstrated the great spiritual value of Eucharistic Congresses to the countries wherein they have been held, the Bishop agreed heartily and said:

"They have been a real blessing for the places where they were celebrated and at the same time for the whole Church which has seen so many graces and so much triumph while Eucharistic piety gradually inflamed the hearts of the faithful. Certainly this congress at Chicago will be an extraordinary blessing of God for the United States and for the Catholics of that great country who are so exemplary in the profession of their faith. I have seen Cardinal Mundelein at work. Intelligent, active, indefatigable, he has perfected an organization which already offers the surest guarantees of the success of the congress. I do not refer merely to success in external pomp but to the spiritual results. It is enough to say that it is estimated that on the day of the general communion a million persons will receive the Blessed Eucharist in the churches of Chicago."

Fine!

This despatch from Boston to the National Catholic News Service is most illuminating and should act as incentive to redouble efforts to increase contributions for mission work:

Boston, July 20.—The Archdiocese of Boston in 1924 contributed $668,226.88 to the missions, according to figures just made public.

Heading the list of dioceses, with $640,246.37 turned in, Boston gave almost one-third of the total funds collected in 1924 by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in the United States. The National Office's total was $1,837,003.96 for 1924, an increase of $40,000 over the previous year.

In addition, the archdiocese's contribution to the mission fund of the Holy Childhood Association was $27,980.51 in 1924. Boston has led the list of American dioceses contributing to this fund for the last nine years. For the last three years it has given annually to the Holy Childhood more than any other diocese in the world.

For his intense and continued support of the missions and admonitions to his flock to do likewise, Cardinal O'Connell has for years been known as the "Cardinal of the Missions."

If political conditions change, perhaps Woodman Road leading into Eastman-Durand park, may be widened and improved. It is in horrible condition now.

Whether women are as good drivers as men or not there are many of them operating automobiles.

Is This The Way

Arguing for quick punishment of law violators, the Rochester "Times-Union" says:

A young stenographer and secretary had embezzled several thousand dollars from her employer. She was questioned by the surety company which had given a bond for her honesty. She was asked, "How could you become a common thief—you, a person of such good family and such fine reputation?"

This was her answer: "Well, I helped my boss juggle his figures to beat the income tax and I thought that, if he could steal from the Government and get away with it, I had a right to get mine."

"Getting away with it" is the Twentieth Century justification for any kind of crime. That is why some students of crime and criminals believe in bearing down on the culprits to the full extent of the law, and in eliminating as far as possilbe the business of suspended sentences, paroles and easy fines.

England and Continental countries boast low crime rates that astonish and shame the law-abiding citizens of the United States. Many persons believe that the chief cause of this disparity in crime statistics between two continents is the vigilance and severity of the law and the certainty of punishment in one, and its sentimental laxity in the other.

In short, where the potential criminal knows he can't "get away wih it," he thinks twice before making the break.

A rosary recently presented to the Pope is believed to be the largest in the world. It is the gift of an expert wood carver who made it. Each bead of finely carved wood is larger than a hen's egg and the entire rosary is about fifteen feet in circumference.

Congratulations to Rt. Rev. Joseph W. Hendrick on his 48th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. His has been a long, useful and valued service to God, country and Church.

If volunteers give their services for nothing, it does seem as if Monroe County could provide a piano without the volunteers passing the hat.

General Andrews, as prohibition director, inside of a year or so, will be as cordially criticised as Mayor Roy Haynes is today.

It is difficult for the average reformer to understand why everybody cannot see through his spectacles.

Cross word puzzles, at least, make one read and think or both.

Cornerstone of New $1,000,000 Hospital Laid in E. St. Louis

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

East St. Louis, Ill., August 7.—The cornerstone of the new St. Mary's Hospital, a proposed $1,000,000 institution, was laid here Sunday in the presence of distinguished ecclesiastics and laymen.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph Kaup, Vicar-General of the Diocese of Belleville, officiated at the ceremony in the absence of Bishop Althoff, who had not returned from his trip to Europe. Among the speakers were: Mayor M. M. Stephens, a non-Catholic, Postmaster J. J. Faulkner, and Maurice Joyce, K.S.G.

Mayor Stephens told of being present when the old St. Mary's Hospital, now outgrown was dedicated thirty-five years ago. Mr. Stephens was also Mayor of East St. Louis at that time. He congratulated the Sisters upon their foresight in building an institution which would be ample for the needs of the city in the future. Postmaster Faulkner praised the work of the Sisters and spoke of the hospital as a place where saint and sinner, judge and criminal, Catholic, Protestant, Hebrew, and agnostic receive the same care and welcome from "sweet faced angels of mercy."

A crowd of approximately 2,000 persons attended the ceremony.

Clergy Give Bishop Jeanmard New Car

Lafayette, La., August 7.—The Rt. Rev. Jules B. Jeanmard, Bishop of Lafayette was presented with a new closed automobile at a celebration arranged in honor of his return from Europe. The automobile is a gift from the clergy of the diocese.

The Bishop brought back news that the Pope has raised two members of the Lafayette diocesan clergy to the rank of Domestic Prelate. They are the Very Rev. J. M. Canon Langlois, Vicar-General; and the Very Rev. William Joseph Canon Tuerlings, Rector of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist.

St. Christina's Body On Way To America

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

Paris, Aug. 4.—The body of St. Christina, presented by the Pope to Bishop Schrembs of Cleveland, passed through here today en route for America.

Bishop Schrembs together with Bishop Gallagher of Detroit are scheduled to sail on the Homeric from Cherbourg with the body tomorrow.

Weekly Calendar Of Feast Days

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

Sunday, August 16.—St. Hyacinth, received the habit of the Friar Preachers from the hands of the great St. Dominic himself. By his labors for the Faith he became known as the Apostle of Poland and Russia. He is credited with having worked many miracles including that of raising to life a dead boy at Cracow. The Saint died in 1257.

Monday, August 17.—St. Liberatus and six monks, martyrs. These heroic sons of the Church gave up their lives for their faith during the reign of Huneric, the Arian King of the Vandals. They were put in an old boat which was to be burned at sea but all endeavors to kindle the fire proved failures. Thereupon the brains of the martyrs were beaten out with oars and their bodies were cast overboard.

Tuesday, August 18.—St. Helena, Empress, was the mother of the first Christian Emperor, Constantine the Great. She was a British princess. It was through the efforts and piety of St. Helena that the True Cross was found. She died in the year 328 at Rome.

Wednesday, August 19.—St. Louis, Bishop, was a nephew of the King, St. Louis of France and of St. Elizabeth of Hungary. Overcoming the opposition of the members of his family, he entered the Friars Minor. He became noted for his austerities, humility and the practice of self-mortification. Later he was appointed Archbishop of Toulouse.

Thursday, August 20.—St. Bernard, was born in the castle of Fontaine, Burgundy. He sacrificed his brilliant worldly prospects to join the monks of Citeaux. His example inspired his brothers and his father to do likewise. Later his sister also embraced the religious life. Notwithstanding his humble desire to remain unknown, the fame of his sanctity and wisdom spread abroad and his advice was sought by Bishops, Kings, and Popes. Pope Eugenius III commissioned him to preach a Crusade. He has been called the last of the Fathers and is one of the Doctors of Holy Church.

Friday, Aug. 21.—St. Jane Frances De Chantal, at the age of sixteen, an orphan child, was placed under the tutelage of a worldly minded governess. The child offered herself to the Mother of God and placed herself under Mary's protection for life. She married the Baron de Chantal and her home was a model of domestic happiness. When her husband, a sister, and two children died, she decided to leave the world. She became, with the assistance of St. Frances de Sales, the foundress of the Visitation Order.

Saturday, August 22.—St. Symphorian, Martyr, refused to pay the ordinary marks of worship to the heathen deities and was arrested and taken before the magistrate. This occurred at Autun in France about the year 180 during a procession of the heathen goddess Ceres. When he admitted his Christianity and refused to take part in heathen worship he was cruelly tortured and put to death.

Isabella Daughters Donate Scholarship For Service School

Washington, Aug. 8.—The National Circle, Daughters of Isabella, has donated a scholarship to the National Catholic Service School conducted here by the National Council of Catholic Women, the N.C.C.W. has been informed by the National Secretary of the order.

The Daughters of Isabella, of which Mrs. Mary E. Booth, of New Haven, has for many years been National Regent, is the second national organization of Catholic women to vote a scholarship to the Service School, the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae already having given one. Several local and diocesan organizations also have given scholarships.

At the recent convention of the D. of I. at Atlantic City, a resolution was passed "that every subordinate Circle be encouraged to become members of the National Council of Catholic Women."

It also has been annuonced that the Daughters this year will contribute $1,000 to the American Legion Endowment Fund, $500 to Catholic foreign mission work, and $500 to Catholic medical missionary work.

Woman 106 Years Old, Altar Society Worker, Is Dead

East St. Louis, Aug. 7.—Mrs. Mary Wright Nagle, 106 years old, the oldest member of the St. Anne's Altar Society of her parish, is dead here. She was born in Ireland and had lived in East St. Louis more than 60 years. She was active until a fortnight ago.

Five grandsons and one great-grandson acted as pallbearers at the funeral.

Mrs. Nagle's first husband was killed in battle while fighting with the Union Army in the Civil War. Several of her grandsons served in the World War and one was killed in that struggle.

"Private Schools And State Laws" Is Praised In Rome

Rome, August 3.—A recent issue of the "Osservatore Romano" includes, in the column devoted to book reviews, a study of "Private Schools and State Laws", by Charles N. Lischka, published in Washington by the N. C. W. C. After a brief description of the nature of the contents, the review says:

"The book is, therefore, a 'vademecum' of school legislation, most useful not only for those who are in charge of educational institutions in the United States of America, but for all who wish to study the legal status of private schools in that country, which is based on principles of full liberty and founded on the recognition of the inviolable rights of parents in the matter of education of their children."

Sisters of Charity Buy Irish Mansion

Dublin, Aug 4.—The American Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word have purchased "Carrigoran", the great mansion house in County Clare formerly the residence of Clara, Lady Fitzgerald. The mansion surrounded by seventy acres of land is one of the finest in the county. It is reported that the purchase price was about $25,000.

The Sisters plan to use the mansion as a reception house for postulants of their order.

St. Louis Parochial Faculties To Learn Teaching of Health

St. Louis, Aug. 8.—Announcement has been made by the Rev. James P. Murray, Superintendent of Parish Schools of St. Louis that a Health Institute for parochial school teachers will be held here August 25 and 26. The purpose will be to train teachers for a more efficient imparting of health instruction to their children.

Members of the St. Louis University Medical School faculty, in conjunction with other health specialists appointed by the St. Louis Tuberculosis Society, will give the lectures.

The following subjects wil be treated: "Biology in Relation to Health", by the Rev. A. M. Schwitalla, S. J., Regent of the St. Louis University School of Medicine; "Respiratory Diseases", Dr. Ralph Kinsella, Director of the Department of Medicine; "Diet and Health", Dr. Don R. Joseph, Vice-Dean; "Tonsils and Adenoids", Dr. Hanau Loeb, Dean; "Care of the eyes", Dr. W. H. Luedde, Director of the Department of Opthalmology; "Health Menace of Patent Medicine", Dr. John Auer, Director of the Department of Pharmacology; "Dental Hygiene", Maj. Clarence Lauderdal, U.S.A., Director of Military, Dentistry, and "Periodic Physical Examination and Correction of Defects", Dr. E. L. Shrader, Director of Physical Examination.

Graymoor's Novena To St. Anthony of Padua.

The best and widest known Shrine of St. Anthony, the Wonder-Worker of Padua, in all America is a simple statue of the Saint which stands on the Gospel side of the High Altar in St. Francis Monastery Church on the Mount of the Atonement, Graymoor, New York. Here a new Novena is begun by the Graymoor Fathers every Tuesday and thousands of Petitions are constantly presented by them to the intercession of the Universal Friend of all who invoke his aid.

Here are a few of the latest testimonials received at Graymoor from St. Anthony's grateful Clients;

C. E. W., New York: "I am enclosing a check for St. Anthony's Bread which I promised some three months ago if my petition was granted. I have secured an excellent position nearer home, and with a much larger salary than I had been drawing. I am very grateful to St. Anthony and to the people of Graymoor whose prayers aided me."

M. S., Minneapolis.: "A few weeks ago I sent a petition to be included in your Novena to St. Anthony. I asked for prayers for the success of my father's business, which he had just started. One of the very next days he received several thousand dollars worth of work, so the prospects of success are very good. Enclosed find a thank offering."

F. McC., Providence, R. I.: "A short time ago I sent a petition to be prayed for in your Perpetual Novena to St. Anthony, and promised a donation if it was granted Thank the Lord, it was granted very soon after. My friend who was in trouble got out of it, I might say through a miracle."

M. O. S., Los Angeles: "I lost a beautiful cameo pin on an auto trip, and I prayed to St. Anthony to find it for me, as it was impossible to know where it might have been lost. Somehow he reminded me that something had dropped as I got out at a point fifteen miles away. I went back two weeks later and made inquiries and was informed that a man who ran a refreshment place had found such a pin. It was mine. Many thanks to St. Anthony."

A Friend of St. Anthony, Anaconda, Mont.: "Enclosed find donation for St. Anthony. My sister was seriously ill, in fact she was not expected to live. I promised this thank offering to St. Anthony if she would recover, and she is now home, and well on the way to complete recovery."

Those wishing to enter Petitions in the Perpetual Novena to St. Anthony at Graymoor please send them to

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