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Real Charity

In a letter read in all the churches
last Sunday Bishop Hickey calls at-
tention to a real, practical, form of
charity that should have especial
response and welcome—especially in
the Yuletide season.

In line with the widespread feel-
ing that a good home is better for
the orphans than institutional care—
even in the very best type of or-
phanage, the Bishop asks Catholic
men and women, who have not been
blessed with children of their own
to adopt one or more of the orphans
new in the Catholic asylums. If this
is impossible, he asks those who
have adequate accommodation to
accept orphans as pay boarders.

Undoubtedly, there will be ready
response to these suggestions. That
those who cannot take these orphans
permanently may share in the phil-
anthropy, invitation is extended to
invite one or more of these orphans
to pass the Christmas holidays. No
man of this year is more homesome
to the boy or girl deprived of God-
given parents than the holiday per-
iod. And he never will forget those
who rescue him from the lonesome-
ness. There is no home so small, no
pocketbook so slim that the addition-
al expense of a little motherless boy
or girl for a week at Christmas and
the joy in giving a little pleasure to
orphan children is ample repayment.
Moreover, it may break down and
dispel the permanent grudge that
so often is the adjunct to a childless
home.

Power

Rochester is in a splendid strate-
gic position as far as power crea-
tion, generation and development is
concerned.

From the source of the Genesee
River, all along its line until it flows
into Lake Ontario, its falls and rap-
ids are a great provider of natural
water power. In the early days, the
original settlers made use of this
water power, in a crude way, to
operate their grist and saw mills. It
is not so long ago that Rochester
was known far and wide as the
"Flour City"; later on as the
"Flower City"; and now as the "Pow-
er City."

Owners of the Rochester Gas and
Electric Corporation early saw the
latent possibilities of power develop-
ment along the Genesee and for
years have been quietly acquiring
water rights and other property in
the Genesee Valley. They saw that
this was necessary to protect and
safeguard their power rights in and
about Rochester.

Big dams at the head of Cananda-
waugus, at Portage Falls, will store up
the surplus water at spring and fall
flood time and give steady flow all
year round. This will insure uniform
water power all year and permit of
still greater industrial development
all along the Genesee River. This
will mean more factories, more in-
dustrial plants of all sorts, more
mercantile establishments, more
money expended and to be spent.

Power City spells prosperity for
Rochester.

"Mr. Ferguson" seems to have her-
own troubles as Governor of Texas.

Clinton Howard is a master in the
art of acquired publicity but we
doubt he will not be able to make
use of the Vatican as a reference.

Let us hope that we have heard
the last of the Rhineland-Jones
episode.

Heavy registration at Aquinas In-
stitute shows appreciation of this
new addition to Rochester's Catho-
lic educational institutions.

Seeing they are to be "the last of
the Aldermen" of their particular
ward, the Aldermen can see no great
harm in raising their two-year sal-
aries. They want what the council-
man, the new city manager,
get—\$1,000 a year.

Problem

If only foresight could take the
place of hindsight. A few years ago
there was popular acclaim against
consolidation of railroad systems.
"We must have competition between
railroads, not monopoly" was the
public's slogan.

Since the war "we want consolida-
tion to save expenses and to pay
dividends" is the cry. But there are
obstacles in the way. Let the Roch-
ester "Democrat & Chronicle" give
the reasons:—

The Interstate Commerce Com-
mission desires to be relieved of the
duty laid upon it of evolving any
general scheme of railroad mergers.
It has not been able to work out
any plan in which it has faith or
which meets popular approval or is
acceptable to the roads. In other
words, no general principle or the-
ory to govern such consolidations
has been found. Each plan proposed
to create a railroad system is seen
to have factors which make it an in-
dividual or peculiar case. The desir-
ability of consolidations has met
little progress has yet been made.

It is announced that Senator Cum-
mins, after protracted conferences
and presumably with the approval of
the Administration, has prepared a
bill permitting voluntary mergers
during a stated period to be fixed
and thereafter enforcing consolidation.
His measure would give the
weaker roads the one-half share of
the earnings above six per cent. of
the system of which they form a
part. Where consolidation is not vol-
untary, it is to be forced under a
plan giving all the roads of a system
a pro rata of the earnings treated
as a single corporation.

Senator Cummins is credited with
a better comprehension of railway
problems than any other man in
public life, and perhaps his plan is
the best one existing conditions per-
mit. But in railroad mergers, as in
every other business, the natural
desire of prospering roads is to ac-
quire strengthening lines instead of
lines that must be carried. Had rail-
roads been free to merge in times
gone by, a few great systems would
probably cover the land to-day. But
to systematize them suddenly, con-
ditions being what they are, presents
difficulties analogous to those which
would appear if industrial concerns
were asked to absorb and carry the
weaker ones within their districts.

"Dr. Walker"

Mayor-elect James J. Walker, of
New York, is a comparatively young
man who, we predict, will go far.
While he did not have any silver
spoon and his education was mainly
in the college of hard knocks, he
was reared in the shadow of a Fran-
ciscan church in Sullivan street.
There he himself was baptized. The
Franciscan Fathers kept watch of
this young man and a few days ago
when St. Bonaventure had its East-
ern college alumni reunion, Bishop
Thomas J. Walsh, of Trenton, pre-
sented Mayor Walker with the pur-
ple hood and diploma of an honorary
degree of Doctor of Laws, conferred
by the college faculty.

Dr. Walker's acceptance was so
modestly eloquent that we reproduce
it herewith:—

"The feeling uppermost in my
mind on this occasion is one of deep
appreciation for the high honor be-
stowed on me. To be awarded the
degree of doctor of laws by an in-
stitution so worthy as the college of
St. Bonaventure is a distinction of
which any man might well be proud.

"The degree is peculiarly dear to
me in that it comes from a Fran-
ciscan college, for it was in the Fran-
ciscan church in Sullivan street that
my dear parents were married. It
was in the same church that I was
baptized.

"It is not an inappropriate time
to present a degree of this kind to a
candidate for the chief magistracy
of this great city. It serves to re-
mind him of the great responsibility
that attaches to that office in fulfill-
ing properly our constitutional obli-
gation to provide a free common
school education in this city for more
than a million children.

"But I am going to carry away
from here today, the hope that they
will be ever present in my mind, the
immortal words of St. Francis of
Assisi, who said, 'Promote peace to
all and have it in your hearts still
more than on your lips.' What an
admonition, what a beacon for any
man in public life. And I am happy
at the opportunity afforded me today
in this very distinguished presence,
to pledge my assurances that if I
become the chief magistrate of this
city it will indeed be with an atti-
tude of peace, peace to all, and that
peace will not be only upon my lips,
but exemplified by my conduct, man-
ifested by hands outstretched in
peace, courtesy and kindness.

Other Side

Sharp controversy between the ad-
vocates of a ship canal from Oswego
to Albany and those who want a
St. Lawrence river canalization
which will send ships to Europe
without direct through Canada is
promised.

It is natural that Canadian resi-
dents of New York State and invest-
ors in Canadian power securities
should favor the St. Lawrence plan.
But the Rochester "Herald" thinks
interests of New York state as well
as of Rochester would be better con-
served by the Oswego-Albany ship
canal. Says the Herald:—

Advocates of the St. Lawrence
deeper waterway, of whom Professor
Clark appears to be one, cite the
benefits that will be certain to flow
from the development of the tremen-
dous water power of the St. Law-
rence, whose potential energy is sec-
ond only to that of Niagara. In-
deed, it does not surpass that cat-
aract in power. The old argument
about the direct route to the sea
and the short cut to Liverpool is
also cited to prove that the United
States should join Canada in improv-
ing the St. Lawrence to make it
navigable by ocean freighters.

As has been pointed out by The
Herald, the distance from Lake On-
tario to Montreal at the foot of the
St. Lawrence rapids, is approximate-
ly 200 miles. The distance from Os-
wego to tidewater at Albany, the
route of the proposed ship canal, is
approximately 150 miles, twenty-one
miles of which is through Oneida
Lake. By dredging and flooding the
locks and raising the dams, water of
a depth sufficient to accommodate
cargo vessels such as will reach Al-
bany through the ship canal now
being dredged north from Hudson
will be obtained.

Montreal as a port is closed to
commerce each fall long before New
York or Albany feels the teeth of
winter. When Montreal is shut in,
grain from the interior pays a rail
rate to the sea, or a Barge Canal
transshipment rate to New York,
under present conditions. A ship
canal through New York State
would not only be shorter than the
St. Lawrence route, but less subject
to freezing. It would cut the grain
freight cost below the present Barge
Canal and Montreal rates. It would
build up a great port in the Capital
District of this state, as well as ben-
efit Rochester and Oswego. The
money expended for construction
would be spent in this state, instead
of Canada.

Advocates of the St. Lawrence
waterway neglect to take into ac-
count the fact that Quebec opposes
the plan and is even determined to
stop the export of Canadian power to
the United States.

To improve the St. Lawrence for
navigation and power would be to
give Canada a great advantage, par-
ticularly in view of the Canadian
aim to utilize that improvement for
the benefit of Canada alone. Until
the Province of Quebec recedes from
its present position, few Americans
will be likely to invest in the St.
Lawrence project.

Oldest

In a recent address Dr. John A.
Lapp, director of the Social Action
department of the National Catholic
Welfare Conference, stressed this
declaration:—

"The family is the oldest human
institution. It prevails everywhere
among civilized and semi-civilized
peoples. The family enjoys a large
immunity from interference. Within
its circle children are reared and
disciplined according to the will of
the parents. It is the accepted right
and duty of the parents to control
the family life. Only when grave in-
terference with mutual rights exists
within the family is there ground
for the state to step in to preserve
justice. Thus if children are neglect-
ed or mistreated, interference by the
public through juvenile courts is
everywhere approved of. If the par-
ents are morally unfit to raise chil-
dren, the children may be taken
away and to that extent the family
be broken up. Such action is for the
preservation of the true family
rather than for its harm. Parents
may be compelled to send their chil-
dren to school in the interests of an
educated citizenship, but nowhere
has this right to compel education
been arbitrarily extended to take the
control of such education rightly
out of the hands of the parents. Par-
admonition, what a beacon for any
schools of their choice, or may pro-
vide equivalent education within the
family. Society asks only that the
child be educated up to minimum re-
quirements, but beyond that the
choice of the kind of education rests
with the family. The attempt by law
to compel parents to send their chil-
dren between eight and sixteen to
public schools only was held by the
United States Supreme Court in a
unanimous decision to be interfer-
ence with family rights and the law
in question was declared unconstitu-
tional and void."

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Adv.

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lives and miracles have received such
worldwide admiration as St. Anthony of
Padua. It would be utterly impossible
to relate one-half of the miracles which
are recorded as the fruit of his inter-
cession.

He has become famous, even amongst
the most renowned of the Saints, for
mercies of this kind. He has never been
known to refuse the prayers of any one
offered in the true spirit of Faith and
Love. Even in these days of greed and
vanities, he continues to work miracles
for the benefit of his faithful clients."

A few of the many favors he has
secured for Patrons of his Famous Graymoor Shrine are given below:

G. K., New Jersey: "Enclosed
find offering promised St. An-
thony if he would help in the
sale of a bungalow. This he did
satisfactorily. The other Peti-
tion was for my health. Since
the Novena finished, I have
stopped losing weight, my
strength and energy are return-
ing, and I feel quite an im-
provement over my previous
condition."

H. A., Cleveland, O.: "Some
time ago I entered my Petition
for a position, and am glad to
say that it has been fulfilled.
I am a non-Catholic, but St.
Anthony has been most gracious
to me."

Mrs. H. McL., Iowa: "I am
enclosing a thank offering to
Saint Anthony for the recovery
of our auto, which had been
stolen."

Mrs. A. B., Mt. Vernon, N. Y.:
"My petition has been answer-
ed, and I am very thankful.
My brother-in-law was out of
work one year. I asked him to
promise an offering to St. An-
thony in return for a position,
which he did only last week,
and this week he is working."

L. M., Texas: "Enclosed find
Five Dollars in thanksgiving to
Saint Anthony. My business has
grown wonderfully since I have
started Novenas to the good
Saint of Padua."

A. C. O., Rochester: "I am en-
closing Five Dollars, which is
the raise I got per week. I
promised that I would send my
first week's raise to Graymoor."

The Friars of the Atonement will be pleased to enter your Petitions
in the Perpetual Novena, which begins each Tuesday and ends the
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directions how to observe the Novena upon request.

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