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Friday, December 25, 1925. Telephone Main 1567

Happy New Year As 1925 draws to a close and 1926 makes its bow the Catholic Journal wishes to all its subscribers, readers and friends a Happy New Year.

Not A Friend There are certain persons who because of the apparent passing of the grizzly bear.

Just A Bit Hazy If it is a sad commentary on the supposedly well-informed newswriters that they made the mistake of writing that the reorganization of the departments in New York state voted by the electors in November, the state comptroller is reduced to the level of a clerk in the department.

Friend Is Needed Much shrewd philosophy, common sense and good advice is crowded into the following short editorial found in one of our secular contemporaries.

Water Supply An editorial in the Rochester Herald presents the city's side of the proposition to add to the Rochester watershed Conesus and Honey Lake, a position to which the taxpayers of Livingston county and the Rochester sojourners at Conesus do not subscribe.

Papers of Ernest Psichari Renan's Grandson Who Was Convert, Prove His Devotion

By M. Massiani (Paris Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service)

Paris, Dec. 14.—There have been found in the papers of Ernest Psichari, the famous convert, grandson of the anti-religious writer Ernest Renan, two documents, never before published.

One is a rule of life which he observed scrupulously, and the other is a prayer which he composed and recited each day. These first days of His ministry, John was one of the privileged few present at the Transfiguration and the Agony in the garden.

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May Be True, But—

Mr. Hearst's papers, generally, pay more attention to things material than to spiritual. Perhaps, this inspired the following editorial.

Dr. Toulouse, intelligent French student of social conditions, says American moving pictures educate the French by making them USEFULLY discontented.

In American pictures young French people see life better than their own, at least as regards material conditions, and they become determined to have better things for THEMSELVES.

Dr. Toulouse mentions especially the young French stenographers. They see in the moving pictures of offices well furnished, well lighted with big windows, filing arrangements up to date, and they demand better conditions for themselves.

They see girls working for a living able to dress well, in the latest style, with all the conveniences of the best machinery and equipment.

They see American stenographers contented, and the Frenchmen must make their workers' surroundings better. That's a good thing for the French girls, and therefore good for the French nation.

Our moving pictures do more than 100,000 traveling salesmen could do to sell American goods in Europe, Asia and Africa.

And this reminds you that the Government of the United States, or any of its subordinates, should NOT devote energy to harassing and interfering with able men in the moving picture industry.

To compete with moving picture enterprises abroad, the moving picture men of the United States must develop their enterprises on the BIGGEST POSSIBLE SCALE. They should be ALLOWED to do this without interference.

The national movies are the international salesmen, and should be respected accordingly.

However, we should not overlook in our desire to promote foreign trade, the influence of the movie upon our American domestic life. Furthermore, it is a moot question whether American movies—if shown in entirety upon the European screen—do not give the foreigner a false impression of our American habits and customs.

If it is a sad commentary on the supposedly well-informed newswriters that they made the mistake of writing that the reorganization of the departments in New York state voted by the electors in November, the state comptroller is reduced to the level of a clerk in the department.

This is a decidedly incorrect statement. The state comptroller, under the reorganization, is one of the four elective officers retained. He will name the state treasurer.

The latter being abolished as an elective officer. True, there will be some changes. The comptroller will continue to be the state's chief financial officer and will exercise veto power on any unauthorized expenditure by any state department and over illegal expenditures of authorized appropriations. In some respects, under the reorganization plan, the comptroller will be a bigger factor in state government than he is at present.

For these reasons, one is inclined to laugh at the dogmatic utterances of newswriters that because State Comptroller Murphy was a dinner guest recently of President Coolidge, he is so disgusted over the status he will occupy under reorganization that he seeks Federal protection.

Another laughable mistake of the newswriters is that "Clarence D. VanZandt" will be the last Mayor of Rochester. The new city manager, charter provides for a mayor to be elected by the new City Council. It is true the mayor after 1928 will not have all the powers of the Mayor of today, but Rochester will continue to have a mayor who will exercise such powers as the Council may assign. The Council may invest him with all the veto power the present mayor has. It may even declare that the mayor shall be the city manager.

So you see because you read it in the news it does not necessarily have to be so.

Says a secular contemporary: "Count Salem seems to rhyme more appropriately with palm than calm."

Reserve Now!

This good and pertinent advice is given to city planners by the Rochester "Times-Union":— Through an article published recently in an issue of The Times-Union, giving some of the recollections of an old resident of Rochester, Chauncey Young, ran the thread of the city's growth.

That growth has not ceased. Urban development, whether within or without the corporate limits of Rochester, is still invading and swallowing up the country.

The lesson is clear. Look ahead. Plan for the future. Reserve land now for playgrounds, schools and public buildings, while land is cheap.

At least one real estate firm, in planning a subdivision, has offered buyers the opportunity of merging the rear portions of a fairly deep series of lots, fronting on two streets, in such a way that there will be space in the center large enough to afford children a real opportunity to play.

That is an idea well worth trying out. But for larger reservations of land community action is required. This may be difficult to organize, but even so looking too far into the future, but those districts which make such reservations will profit richly in the future.

William Allen White, the noted Kansas editor and writer, recently said that a large city gave an interesting and stimulating environment. "But" he said, "the city is not a good place for children."

We urge these newer districts to remember the children.

Friend Is Needed Much shrewd philosophy, common sense and good advice is crowded into the following short editorial found in one of our secular contemporaries.

Amid the boos and bleats that follow Red Grange from the professional football field on his bad days, why not include the word of sympathetic understanding?

Grange is more sinned against than sinning.

To begin with, he has had cut out for him a superhuman task. His football earnings, plus the perquisites of fame, are greater than those of Babe Ruth in the latter's palmiest days.

But there is no comparison between the appointed task of lifting a ball or two out of the diamond every day, and that of beating down a field of husky football players three or four times a week! This is the weakness in the Grange program. A law which would be plain to anybody but a manager of the young man blinded by the sight of easy money.

Then there is Red's rapid rise to popular fame and his sudden fall when he fails to make good before the eager customers.

Grange has matriculated in the earthly school of experience. He has had his first lesson. "I'm getting it," he said recently, referring to the proceeds of his fame, "but I'm getting it in the neck!"

An older head could have told him of this beforehand. Probably older heads did so try to advise him. But you cannot tell a frisky colt that his very fire of spirit will excite the cupidity of men to saddle and ride him.

There is one way out for Harold Grange. That is for him to let the myth of Red Grange die, and to retire with what he has of his small fortune until time and opportunity offer him a chance to live a normal life. He has a nestegg that many a youth would envy.

Speaking of fame's brief day, Grange the student may have taken a course in the English poets and have come upon Robert Browning's poem, "The Patriot." It tells an old story that Harold Grange should recognize:

It was roses, roses, all the way, With myrtle mixed in my path like mad: The house-roofs seemed to heave, and I, like mad, A year ago on this very day. There's nobody on the house-tops now— Just a pained few at the windows set; For the best of the sight is, all allow, At the Shambles' Gates—or better yet, At the very scaffold's feet, I trow.

Water Supply

An editorial in the Rochester Herald presents the city's side of the proposition to add to the Rochester watershed Conesus and Honey Lake, a position to which the taxpayers of Livingston county and the Rochester sojourners at Conesus do not subscribe.

However, as in the case of Hemlock Lake, the needs of the many will weigh heavier than the desires of the few. The editorial in question follows:—

If the city of Rochester decides to take the water of Conesus and Honey Lake to provide for the needs found in the papers of Ernest Psichari, the famous convert, grandson of the anti-religious writer Ernest Renan, two documents, never before published, are available.

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Papers of Ernest Psichari

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Weekly Calendar

Of Feast Days

Sunday, Dec. 27.—St. John, Evangelist, was the youngest of those chosen by the Savior as His Apostles. John was called to follow Christ on the banks of the Jordan during the first days of His ministry. John was one of the privileged few present at the Transfiguration and the Agony in the garden.

Monday, Dec. 28.—The Holy Innocents. When Herod found that the three Wise Men did not return with the word of the Savior whom they had gone to seek, he was angry and, in the hope of insuring the death of the new-born King, he decreed the murder of every male child in Bethlehem northward and eastward as one of perfectly still, with fixed gaze, for many years. These martyrs were the flow-ers and first fruits of Christianity and triumphed over the world without having ever known it or experienced its dangers.

Tuesday, Dec. 29.—St. Thomas of Canterbury, the son of Gilbert Becket, was Lord High Chancellor of England when Archbishop Theobald, "Be seated, Father," he said. And died in 1160. The King wished kneeling on the floor he read to him (Thomas) to be consecrated as Archbishop of Canterbury but the latter demurred and warned the King that such an event would break their friendship. The King insisted, however, and Thomas was consecrated.

In preserving the rights of the Church against the encroachments of the Crown he soon quarrelled with the King and finally, in December 1170, four of the King's retainers attacked the Archbishop in his Cathedral and murdered him. This outrage excited such a reaction that four months later the King submitted to be publicly scourged at the Saint's shrine and restored full rights to the Church.

Wednesday, Dec. 30.—St. Sabinus, Bishop, and his companion martyrs. Sabinus was Bishop of Assisium during the time of the persecutions under Diocletian and Maximian. The Bishop and several of his clergy were apprehended and the Bishop's hands were cut off while his two deacons were tortured until they died. The Governor, Venustianus, who had ordered this torture, was cured of an affliction of the eyes and thereupon was converted. He was later, beheaded, and the succeeding Governor ordered St. Sabinus beaten to death with clubs.

Thursday, Dec. 31.—St. Sylvester, Pope, was born toward the close of the third century in Rome. When the persecution of Diocletian broke out, he was a young priest. After the triumph of Constantine, Sylvester was elected Pope and thus became the first Pontiff to rule the Church in security and peace. He strenuously fought the Arian heresy.

Friday, Jan. 1.—The Circumcision of Our Lord, or New Year's Day. The law of Moses continued in effect until the death of Christ and the Savior was circumcised in order that he might redeem those who were subject to that law.

Saturday, Jan. 2.—St. Fulgentius, Bishop, after holding office as procurator of Carthage was inspired to enter the religious life by reading St. Austin's treatise in the Palms. He was elevated to the episcopate in 503. His writings, some of which are still extant, were so learned that they confounded the Arian heresiarchs. Because of his opposition to heresy he was cruelly scourged by the Numidians. Finally he retired to an island monastery where he died in 533.

earth who wait in hunger and cold for the Kingdom which you have promised them. Deign to succor these of my parish, particularly the poor families Toupet, Renard and Raphael.

"I recommend to you all my friends and benefactors and all those who have asked me to pray for them. I beg you, my God, to send to me, if it is possible, a part of the trials which are reserved for them.

"Convert and enlighten. I urgently beseech you, the unhappy ones who do not know you notably my brothers and sisters, my father and my mother, my friend Genevieve Favre and my comrade Jean Hart and so many others, alas, who live far from your Way and your Peace.

"Oh, my God, help the travelers and the poor. Console the afflicted. Life up the sinners and the sick. I recommend to you all my spiritual and temporal affairs. But, above all, your will be done and not mine, my God."

Senator LaFollette has one distinction any way. The telegraph messenger girls in Washington have voted him the handsomest United States Senator.

Ireland Considers Question of Making Voting Compulsory

Dublin, Dec. 14.—At the recent Senate election of the Irish Free State only one-fourth of those qualified to vote took the trouble to do so. The question of compulsory voting now being considered. It is recognized that a vote by a small fraction of the electorate confers correspondingly small moral authority and gives no real mandate to those who assume office. The proposal is, therefore, to punish citizens who do not record their votes. The presiding officer in each polling booth keeps a register in which he marks off the name of each voter who attends, and consequently it would not be difficult to pursue the absentees.

In Australia voting was obligatory at the recent general election, under pain of a fine of \$10, and it is stated that the large number of votes recorded, which was 91 per cent of the electorate, was due this incentive. The clergy in Ireland have refrained from expressing any view on the suggested resort to compulsion, but mention at 8 o'clock High Mass of the day they have always advised Catholic voters to make full use of their civic rights.

Advocates of forced voting declare that adult suffrage came so suddenly that there is a danger of its falling into undeserved contempt owing to the ease with which it was secured, and that people must be drilled into the voting habit.

Pa's Letter to Santy. Dear Old Santy:— Fringed 'round the Christian Spirit, Hangs all our different views. Some reflect the Shining Star, They telepath the news. Peace to each and everyone, Who in their own way enthrone. The kids crowfoot the paper, While the Poets distract the Muse. Aunt Kate peeks 'neath the bed, With a sigh at what's the use. Do not try to please us all, Or the Remdeer you'll surely lose. Then we'd miss your Rosebud Face, Colored not by chimney fues. Insinuations I'm not making, That the vile stuff you use. But I dearly love a swig, Of old-time booze. If you ain't got a bottle, Pour it in my shoes.

Yours expectantly, Michael Woulfe O'Scaolan. Copyright, 1925.

Winston Churchill is right in his contention that America needs fewer and better books at popular prices, bless, I pray you, the poor of the