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Non Catholic Tribute

One of the most pleasurable features of the Eucharistic Congress of 1926 was the friendly feeling displayed by our non-Catholic brethren.

Chosen to speak for the non-Catholics of Chicago at the civic welcome given to Cardinal Bonzano, Papal Legate, and others Cardinals attending the Eucharistic Congress, Samuel Insull, president of a large lighting company and leader in the commercial life of the city, said, in part: "Our distinguished guest and his most distinguished colleagues would not be amongst us if industry and commerce had not built here this youngest among the great metropolitan centers of the world. But in our pride of what we have we do not forget what has been contributed by the forces which His Eminence, Cardinal Bonzano, personally and in his official capacity, represents.

"To find the beginning of this occasion we turn back to pages of history for two centuries and a half. There we find the imperishable record of the gentle Father Marquette, and of those of his faith who followed him, and who carried the cross through the wilderness that has become this seat of empire.

"It is a Christian people that inhabits this inland empire, of which Chicago is the visible expression. It is a friendly and mutually understanding people although composed of elements drawn from all nations, with each element contributing its share to the composite results."

Speaking to a group of his own clergy, Rt. Rev. Charles P. Anderson, Bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Chicago, declared that the Eucharistic Congress will be of vital interest to the people of all faiths. "The Eucharistic Congress will doubtless be one of the greatest religious manifestations ever seen in Chicago," said Bishop Anderson.

"Our churchmen should be interested in this great meeting, which brings to the city religious leaders from all parts of the world." Resolutions extending best wishes for the success of the Congress were adopted a few weeks ago by the eighty-ninth convention of the Episcopal diocese.

Rev. Stephen A. Lloyd, pastor of the First Congregational church, said: "To all the host of pilgrims who come from across the sea to join their prayers and praises with the still larger company who journey out of every city and hamlet of our own country to the Eucharistic Congress we open the gates of our city and the doors of our hearts in most cordial welcome."

The Eucharistic Congress will re-ignite the people to Christ and that another two year term. Rochester Catholics are to have opportunity to gain the plenary indulgence attached to the Holy Year, of right at home, under regulations promulgated by our Rt. Rev. Bishop.

One of the noteworthy features of the Eucharistic Congress was the hearty welcome to all who participated.

Rochester is a pretty good summer resort as well as a good place to live all year round.

Some Rochester motorists find out they cannot do just as they please and continue to drive.

Crime dropped off in Chicago during the Eucharistic Congress. Perhaps annual national, state and municipal congresses might reduce the crime in other localities, especially, if our non-Catholic brethren were to devote their sermons to the Gospel only.

One encouraging sign is the movement to elect a non-partisan judiciary this fall.

Broadening.

One hopeful sign of the times is a relaxation of the tenseness that formerly was apparent in the discussion of great controversial problems—such as power development by the utilization of our natural resources; regional control of national, state and municipal lands, so as to prevent congestion and too thickly populated districts, too many tenements and slum districts, encroachment of factories and trade and commercial propositions on what should always be purely residential districts; preservation of open spaces for recreation and play.

It is noticeable that great industries are leaving the congested urban districts and locating in cheaper territory where well-lighted, commodious buildings can be located, surrounded by plenty of air space and where their workers can secure homes within their means.

Even in New York city it is possible to hint that the day has come when industries must go outside the metropolis to avoid the waste of time and energy living outside New York and in going to and from their daily work. It is no idle dream that in a few years comfortable accommodations will be accessible to those who have to work in New York and the metropolis will cease to be merely a temporary home by day of transient workers, and of transient sightseers by night.

Calm and impartial discussion soon will solve the power problem so that the great streams and lakes of New York will serve to supply power that will permit the building of many new small cities and villages which will distribute population more evenly and reduce taxes and other governmental expenses.

Let us continue to study these problems in a dispassionate vein and try to arrive at an impartial determination that conserve the best interests of all concerned.

Politics.

Even though 1926 is listed as an "off year", nevertheless surface appearances indicate that there will be by the forces which His Eminence, Cardinal Bonzano, personally and in his official capacity, represents.

In the first place, there is a governor to be elected in New York state, likewise a United States Senator by the state at large. Members of Congress are to be chosen in the second century to Luther, Calvin and Knox in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. There were periods when the Church was not ably managed—when the human element asserted itself. There were times when national antipathy cut her members off from communication with her head. Brisbane would leave out the Divine element—the blood of martyrs, the persecution of her children, the prayers and sacrifices and mortifications of her saints, her unity, her universality—her apostolicity. Her strength is the rock of Peter, and not the efficiency of a commercial enterprise. Her perpetuity is as long as time and whether managed more ably or not she will live on when other "organizations, religious and others" crumble in the dust of future ages.

It is assumed that Governor Alfred E. Smith and United States Senator James W. Wadsworth will be nominated to succeed themselves in Chicago is the visible expression. It is a friendly and mutually understanding people although composed of elements drawn from all nations, with each element contributing its share to the composite results."

Here in Rochester there will be a lively battle for Congress and also over who shall supervise, direct and control the local Republican organization. Had Mayor Van Zandt lived, this might have been bitter and interesting. Just a present it looks as if Mr. Hotchkiss was in the saddle, if not quite as settled as the late Mr. Aldridge, still in sufficiently fixed place to maintain his leadership.

The "dry" candidacy of Mr. Christman, of Herkimer against Mr. Wadsworth and the "dry citizens league" pledged to ostracise, socially, politically, financially and churchly, any candidate who does not reaffirm undying faith in and fealty to the Volstead creed may inject an element of humor into the campaign.

But as it stands 1926 portends another battle between the forces of tolerance and intolerance. In such a battle one cannot doubt the result. The bigots will be retired to oblivion—if not everlasting at least temporarily.

So be it. Mayor Schwab of Buffalo has a strong hold on the likings of the Knights of St. John as witness his re-election as grand commander for another two year term.

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Brisbane.

Perhaps, the "Union and Times" is a trifle too hard in the following editorial but it is well, every once in a while, to give the pompous Brisbane a jolt:—

It is interesting to read the subtle jots of a widely known writer, Arthur Brisbane, by name. Arthur has given much of his space during the last week or two to the Eucharistic Congress and its distinguished guests. Here is one of his paragraphs concerning the Catholic Church.

"Other organizations, religious and others, rise and fall. Many have appeared and disappeared during the long centuries of Christendom. But the Roman Catholic church goes on its way. Stronger today in this new country than in any country of Europe. There is no more ably managed organization."

More is hidden beneath that last line than one at first reads. The paragraph sounds like a trumpeted praise. It is nothing more than an oft repeated statement denying the divinity of God's mouth-piece. Read it again:

"Other organizations, religious and others, rise and fall. Many have appeared and disappeared during the long centuries of Christendom. But the Roman Catholic church goes on its way." Conclusion.

"There is no more ably managed organization." All that Brisbane needed before the first word of the last sentence was a "because." One hears that an assertion made times without number. The Catholic Church is great; the Catholic Church is powerful; the Catholic Church survives while other organizations rise or fall "because there is no more ably managed organization." Brisbane forgets that the Catholic Church is great and powerful in spite of the human element within her. The act of one Judas was enough to make other organizations fall. The Catholic Church has had to deal with thousands of Judas' from Arius in the second century to Luther, Calvin and Knox in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. There were periods when the Church was not ably managed—when the human element asserted itself. There were times when national antipathy cut her members off from communication with her head. Brisbane would leave out the Divine element—the blood of martyrs, the persecution of her children, the prayers and sacrifices and mortifications of her saints, her unity, her universality—her apostolicity. Her strength is the rock of Peter, and not the efficiency of a commercial enterprise. Her perpetuity is as long as time and whether managed more ably or not she will live on when other "organizations, religious and others" crumble in the dust of future ages.

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Calvin Loney should make an election. Park Commissioners if the politicians keep hands off.

Local Pride.

Rochesterians are doubly interested in the following editorial in the Rochester "Democrat & Chronicle": Announcement by the New York Central Railroad Company that three thousand miles of its lines are equipped with automatic train-control devices manufactured by the General Railway Signal Company of this city is of interest for two reasons. One is that investigations by the Interstate Commerce Commission have satisfied that body that automatic train control is one of the most effective means yet devised for promoting safety in railroad travel; the other, that the installation was made by a Rochester company.

As most residents of the city are aware, experiments with automatic train-stopping devices have been in progress here for a number of years. Expensive machinery for testing the efficiency of such contrivances has been installed, and the best talent that could be produced was employed to try out the inventions and suggest improvements or modifications as might be deemed necessary. The results of the experiments are embodied in the apparatus now being manufactured and installed by a Rochester corporation.

Three thousand miles of track equipped with automatic train-control devices, as is suggested in the railroad's announcement, ought to give to the railroads and the Interstate Commerce Commission a means of checking accurately the effectiveness of such apparatus. As indicated, the engineer in the locomotive cab is not interfered with by the unseen hand of the train-control system unless he runs past a danger signal. If he disregards warning lights the electric current throws a switch that shuts off the stream and sets the brakes.

It is of course a matter of no small importance to Rochester that apparatus made in this city is being used by the railroads to protect their lives against accident. But of even wider significance is the fact found a way to guard against the possibility of human failure in the locomotive cab, thus making railroad operation less susceptible to accidental collisions.

Some persons have wondered why the Gannett newspapers enjoy so large a circulation and such widespread popularity. They are not conservative, in fact they are more conservative with radicalism. Some persons have intimated that the Gannett papers lean toward Socialism. But when occasion demands the Gannett papers like the Hearst organs, can preach conservatism as witness the following editorial in the Rochester "Times-Union":—

Through the death of John W. Weeks, former secretary of war, the country loses a citizen who, though active and successful in business, devoted a large share of his time and energy to political life.

In the year 1889, when he and Henry Hornblower organized in Boston the banking and brokerage firm of Hornblower & Weeks, which soon became one of the best known in New England, Mr. Weeks ran for alderman of Newton. He was elected for three successive terms and was then mayor for two terms.

Only a man of great industry and ability could successfully combine such divergent roles as managing partner in an expanding business enterprise and active politician.

John Weeks was a man of untiring energy. He was never a figurehead, but mastered the details of any business undertaking or political position with which he was connected.

In politics he belonged to the Murray Crane school of Republican conservatives, and succeeded to Crane's seat in the United States Senate after that Massachusetts leader's death.

His senatorial term expired in 1919. When President Harding formed his Cabinet, Mr. Weeks was offered the post of secretary of war, which he retained under the Coolidge administration until forced by ill health to resign. He was considered an able executive and department head.

By those who disagreed with his views Mr. Weeks was classed as an ultra-conservative and "standpatter." But no one could deny that by giving so large a share of his time to public service he set an excellent example to other men of prominence in business.

The country will always have need of men like John W. Weeks, who are willing to give their best energies to public affairs.

Priest Saves Three From Burning House
(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
New York, July 20.—The Rev. William M. Burke of the Holy Cross Catholic Church here, carried two women and a boy to safety from a burning apartment house, last Saturday.

The three fought their way from a blazing third-story apartment to the fire escape. Their cries for help were heard by Father Burke in his church. He ran up the fire escape and carried them to safety, one at a time. The blaze was soon extinguished.



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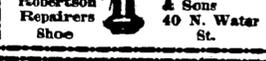
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French Court Remits Taxes On Concerts Given In Churches

Paris, July 16.—The court of Cassation, the highest French tribunal, has just handed down a decision exempting from taxation all religious concerts given in churches.

There is a French law which levies 13 per cent of the receipts of all performances and all concerts for which admission fees are charged. On various occasions the agents of the Finance Administration have invoked this law in order to demand the payment of this tax by pastors of the churches in which religious concerts had been given. The question has repeatedly been taken to court and, in most cases, the Administration has been declared to be in the wrong. This time the decision of the Court of Cassation establishes a definite legal precedent and defines the law governing this matter.

The final decision was the outcome of a case taken to court by the Archbishop of the cathedral at Marseilles. The tax collector had demanded payment of thirty-one thousand francs in taxes for the execution of the "Mass of Pope Marcel" of Palestrina, for which admission fees had been charged for the benefit of the construction of a new church. Accepting the explanation of the Archbishop the Court of Cassation declared that a concert, when accompanied by religious services, however brief, must be considered as a service of worship and not a mere entertainment and that it is therefore exempt from taxation.

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