

The Catholic Journal

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Well To Remember.

In his opening address at the great International Conference of Catholic Charities held in Buffalo a few days since, Monsignor J. M. Grupa, of Orchard Park, Michigan, stressed a phase of charity work that should be ever uppermost in the minds of the Catholic social worker when he said:

"Finally, it is well for social workers to remember that charity should itself be charitably distributed. Social workers of the professional paid class, and voluntary workers insufficiently instructed often acquire a callousness in dispensing charitable assistance which is little removed from brutality. We must look upon the poor and the needy as children who do not know enough to keep themselves, or cannot do so. Gentleness and considerate patience should actuate the worker among the classes whose lot is hard to bear. They suffer from handicaps more numerous than we often imagine. The Good Shepherd and the father of the Prodigal Son might well have assigned the lost ones to their own fate and perdition, which their subordinate waywardness had brought upon them. Yet charity caused them, at a risk to themselves, to forget the offense, and to gather the disobedient ingrates into loving arms.

"The Church is a model in its attitude to nations and their idiosyncrasies. One and the same fund, meant for all ages and for all peoples, yet it has prudently left to them their allowable practices; the essentials remain unchanged but the atmosphere which permeates Catholic devotions is peculiarly national in various countries, beginning with the most fastidiously civilized and ending with the primitive savage neo-convert. It transforms, molds, adapts, reforms gently and gradually. Social work must seek its inspiration at the foot of the cross and follow in the footsteps of the Samaritan and the Good Shepherd. In omnibus charitas, yea even in charity itself, charity.

Made Here.

This editorial appeared in a recent issue of the "Times-Union":

Loss of life in the train collision at Bethlehem, Pa., calls attention to the program for improvement of railway safety devices.

Announcement is made by the Pennsylvania Railroad that extension of automatic signals and train control devices is now under way on that system at a cost of eight million dollars.

One such device consists of an electrically operated mechanism by which the signals at the side of the track or on overhead bridges are duplicated in miniature within the engine cab, keeping the indications continuously before the engineer and fireman. The stop and forestall is a device so arranged that if a train passes a signal showing any indication except "clear," the air brakes will be automatically applied through electrical circuits in the track itself, unless the engineer operates a lever to "forestall" the automatic operation of the brakes. He could not do this without noting the signal.

No doubt other large railroad systems, working under the supervision of the Interstate Commerce Commission, are making progress with automatic devices which will increase safety in train operation. This recalls the fact that automatic switching and automatic train control have been developed in Rochester and that one of Rochester's leading industries is the General Railway Signal Company which manufactures all sorts of automatic train control devices.

Whether buying automobiles on installment is a good thing or not, generally they will continue to be sold on such terms.

A New Angle.

Modern industry may be a factor in the growth of crime among our youth is the thought expressed by Edwin J. Cooley, chief of the Catholic Charities Probation Bureau of the Court of General Sessions, New York City, when he told the delegates to the National Conference of Charities in Buffalo that "modern industry in the factories, the workshops, mines and offices utilizes the freshness and vitality of the new generation. In this age of quantity production, mechanical routine work, exhausting and monotonous,—dead-end jobs, devoid of interest and incentive,—tend to weaken the self-control and the mental and moral stamina of youth. Fatigue and boredom often drive them to seek vitiating and questionable amusements to stimulate their jaded nerves.

"Although serious outbreaks of delinquency rarely occur during the hours of work, nevertheless, the remote causes of such offenses often lie hidden in the failures, grievances, and discontent, arising from youth's experiences at his place of employment. Vocational maladjustment resulting from work unsuited to the training, strength, or temperament of the worker, and the vicious influence of fellow workers with loose moral codes, often play a distinct part in provoking delinquencies. Restless and impatient with irritating conditions, untrained youth flits from one occupation to another, for reasons unknown to himself, because he cannot interpret the dissatisfactions and vague unrest which prompts such action.

"Many forms of commercial enterprise and activities are guilty of another crime against youth. Unwholesome movies and plays, amusement parks, cabarets, dance halls and pool-rooms, unclean books, magazines, posters, postcards and pictures, the peddlers of drugs, contribute in varying degrees to the demoralization of youth. If the community atmosphere be tainted with what degrades life, if the unworthy things of life are allowed to be depicted in word and picture, and of the screen and stage, is it logically to be expected that youth will not be contaminated by such influences?"

Amusement Mad.

It has been well said that the American people, big and large, are amusement mad and are paying more homage to the winner of a swimming meet, a victorious football, tennis, baseball, or pugilistic champion, to a popular movie star than they would to a President, Governor, a great preacher, a leader in surgery or medicine or a dominant figure in finance, or business, or philanthropy.

Of course, it will be urged that a large part of the people of New York State appear to pay homage to Governor Smith, of New York but rejoined that it is "Al" Smith the man, the human being who knows how to play upon the public heart string just as well as any movie or stage star.

The millions spent and bet upon the recent Tunney-Dempsey fistfight; the thousands who fought their way to view Valentino in his shroud; the cheering mobs that greeted Gertrude Ederle after she swam the English Channel; or Tunney after he beat Dempsey; or who stood in line all night to buy a bleacher seat for the World's series; All these are cited as proof positive that America has lost its sense of proportion and has gone off on an orgy of amusement and hero worship.

Perhaps, 'tis so. But hark back to last June when men and women journeyed from all parts of the world to Chicago; where thousands stood in line for hours to gain admission to the Stadium and, having gained admission sat for hours in the blazing sun; who traveled for hours to Mundelein and there braved the fury of the elements. And for what?

To demonstrate their faith in revealed Religion; to assist in the Sacrifice of the Mass; to pray.

The International Eucharistic Congress of 1926 in Chicago is proof positive that there is a large portion of the American people who are not carried away by things material and who, while they know how to play, have not forgotten how to pray.

Times-Union Editor Appreciates Catholic Journal Editorial

Catholic Journal Publishing Co., 113 N. Water St., October 4, 1926.

Editor, Rochester, N. Y. Dear Sir:

I have just seen a clipping of your editorial of September 3rd in which you speak highly of the Rochester Times-Union.

Let me assure you of my appreciation of this compliment. I hope we may continue to merit this commendation.

Very truly yours, Frank E. Gannett.

Red Grange and Suzanne Legien are now professionals. At least, they are honest with themselves.

It is not too late to subscribe to the annual collection for the Seminaries.

Vincent Murphy.

Just at present the papers are printing much about a well-known and popular young Rochesterian who has made a name for himself in political and financial circles—Vincent Murphy.

Murphy is a splendid name and has been borne by some splendid men and women but it is doubtful if it even was borne by any one who wore it more worthily than the father of Vincent Murphy, New York State's youngest State Comptroller and whose first term record stamps him as one of the best who has held the office.

Daniel B. Murphy, Vincent's father was one of the men who spread Rochester's fame all over the land and beyond the seas. In business circles, in financial circles, D. B. Murphy was nationally known and as a leader in both. His organization and leadership of the National Credit Men's Association brought him in touch with leaders in business and politics from every community in the country and none who met him but acknowledged his capacity for unimpeachable integrity. Had he been less adamantive in his character he might easily have been a leader in politics but he could not be "handed". He balked at taking "unsight, unseen orders" and his conscience would not permit him to do a wrong act.

But leadership in business and finance were not all of D. B. Murphy's title to greatness. He applied his great experience and talents to an efficient understandable administration of organized charity while he insisted that the needy should have full sympathy and assistance, he had no sympathy with the clever faker who would prey upon the credulous and sentimental and pick up a living without work, thereby depriving the worthy needy of their deserts. Many of the ideas and practices in vogue with the really, scientifically managed social welfare and organized charities associations originated with Mr. Murphy.

The Epileptic Colony at Sonyea is a monument to Daniel B. Murphy. He gave much of his late years to building up this institution. He made personal appeals to the legislators for necessary appropriations and these appeals were successful because the legislators knew that with Mr. Murphy on the Sonyea governing board the state would receive a hundred cents value for every dollar expended.

Vincent Murphy appears to possess many of the qualities and much of the ability of his father even as a young man. He demonstrated these qualities so well that in his first year in the Legislature he was listed among the leaders at Albany. His nomination and election gave to New York State the youngest comptroller it ever had and in his first two years he handled the problems presented so well that his unanimous re-nomination followed as a matter of course.

In all human probability, Vincent Murphy will go up the ladder many more rungs but if he does no more than attain the record for unimpeachable integrity left by his father, he will leave to his children a priceless heritage.

News Editorials.

What may be called "news editorials" are taking the place of the old-fashioned "editorial opinions". For example here are two examples of "news editorials" taken from one day's editorial page in a local secular contemporary:

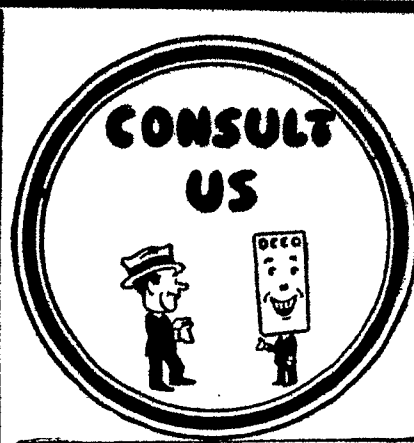
A metropolitan newspaper having referred to the storm in Florida as a "tornado," a correspondent promptly says a tornado rarely exceeds more than a few hundred feet in width and does not travel more than fifty or sixty miles. A hurricane—or, more properly speaking, a tropical cyclone—such as Florida experienced, may have a diameter of fifty to five hundred miles and travel for days at a speed of only ten miles an hour net advance as it whirls.

A "model American home" which the State Federation of Women's Clubs has built in Fieldston for public inspection has cost \$75,000. It is explained that "it is not intended to be a typical home, but rather a dream house, where every housewife may see the fulfillment of her fondest ambitions." The housewife, however, faces realities from day to day. She should be helped to obtain the household aids which would lighten her tasks. The federation might better have erected a house within the reach of the average family—one costing about a tenth the amount it has expended.

Looks like a rather lively campaign with more than ordinary exchange of personalities.

Glancing over the platforms adopted by the political convention reveals the fact that the principal difference between the two parties is "I will, I will not, I am in. You are out. You want to get in. I want to stay in."

Gene Tunney, the new heavyweight champion, comes of a Catholic family and has a sister who has been for a number of years a member of the Dominican Order. She is now in an Eastern convent and is engaged in teaching.



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ST. ANTHONY'S BEST KNOWN SHRINE

St. Anthony's Graymoor Shrine is probably the most widely known and most liberally patronized of any Shrine erected in honor of the Wonder-Worker of Padua in America. Ever since the Statue of St. Anthony was set up in the Gospel corner of the Sanctuary, a few days before the dedication of St. Francis Church on the Atoneinent Mountain fourteen years ago it has been the object of an increasing devotion on the part of his Clients. A fresh Novena to the Saint begins every Tuesday, and as these weekly Novenas continue an endless chain it has come to be known as St. Anthony's Perpetual Novena. There has been a notable increase of petitions come to us from all parts of the United States and Canada during the past six months, and their volume we are happy to report is ever swelling to larger proportions. That the efficacy of St. Anthony's intercession justifies the confidence reposed on him by so many thousands of Clients, the testimonials which follow serve to show. They are only a small fraction out of the hundreds of such testimonials which come to us every month.

Thanksgivings For Favors Received Mrs. J. C. Lowell, Mass.: "I wrote you a letter some time ago asking you to pray to St. Anthony to obtain for us that a court matter might be settled without any more scandal being brought, promising an offering for St. Anthony's Bread Fund. Thank God and Dear St. Anthony, we obtained our request."

Mrs. M. R. Bronx: "Enclosed find donation for St. Anthony's Poor in thanksgiving for a request granted,—settlement and peace in the family."

W. D. F. Newburgh, N. Y.: "Enclosed please find donation for St. Anthony's Bread, a thank offering for a very good position, which was obtained through his intercession. Please publish."

Mrs. F. S., Vermont: "Enclosed find offering for Masses for the Souls in Purgatory, in honor of St. Anthony, which I promised if my niece should recover from a serious illness, and also for the recovery of a sister, who was in very poor health."

M. B., Syracuse, N. Y.: "I lost the diamond out of my ring one night, and although I searched carefully for it, I could not find it until I prayed to good St. Anthony, and promised the enclosed offering if he would find it for me."

Prayers and directions for making the Novena will be sent upon request ten cents postpaid. We also supply a short "Life of St. Anthony," twenty-five cents postpaid. Address your petitions to ST. ANTHONY'S GRAYMOOR SHRINE, FRIARS OF THE ATONEINENT, BOX 316, PEERSKILL, N. Y.

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The Gilbertines were an English Religious Order previous to the Reformation. The peculiarity of the Gilbertine system was that each monastery had three convents, one for priests, one for lay-brothers, and another for sisters, all under the direction of the prior. It flourished in a number of places in England but never spread abroad and consequently, when suppressed by King Henry VIII, became extinct. This week's Journal is in two sections and constitutes our annual Calendar Number, 68 pages in all, containing the Feast and Fast Days of the coming year; information and special pictures of the great Eucharistic Congress held in June; pictures of the new Catholic Churches in Rochester and other special articles of interest to our readers.

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