

# The Catholic Journal

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## Brother Praised

Brother Edward (O'Rourke) who recently died after 47 years service as a Christian Brother in Memphis, His life and labors won a splendid testimonial from former Governor Patterson, a Protestant, although a graduate of the Christian Brothers College.

Governor Patterson's tribute printed in the Memphis "Commercial Appeal" is worthy close perusal and is reproduced herewith:

"The body of Brother Edward, the former Governor writes, 'has been taken to its final resting place. His soul lives on. It is almost inconceivable that men such as he ever wholly die. His life was one of service. This he gave unstintingly—service to youth and therefore service of the very finest and most needed kind to his country.'"

Pointing out that Brother Edward dedicated his whole life to teaching and the practice of religion, he continues:

"In these days of materialistic thought and conduct when a certain hardness exists, and we so often lament the absence of the spiritual and unselfish, the question recurs, what at last are the real values of human existence—whether they consist in worldly accumulations and honors, or whether they may be better found in self-denial, in the practice of virtue, in helping to form, as Brother Edward did, the character of youth. This man, who died, was a special representative of the order to which he belonged."

"Our thought," he said in conclusion, "is of the mental and moral discipline that holds men in this sort of brotherhood. It is of the strength of character built and sustained by religious influence and fervor—the giving up of all that men hold dear on earth, of the renunciation of the world's allurements, of the power of faith upon human motive and conduct."

"The Christian Brothers College of Memphis is an old institution in our midst. It has done its work with the boys who have attended it quietly, thoroughly, and in helping them form their characters has also wonderfully aided in the upbuilding of this city, in the preservation of its best ideals. We may well take a moment to think of all this and stand long enough from the cares and duties which press us to lay our tributes also at the feet of heroic unselfish and consecrated worth such as was exemplified in the life of Brother Edward and glorified in his death."

## Right Trend

It is refreshing to find a non-Catholic big and broad enough to examine into and then acknowledge the good in a Catholic practice.

Rev. Dr. A. W. Beaven, of this city, in a recent address, gave high praise to the Holy Name Society of the Catholic Church and the aim it has in view. He urged his non-Catholic friends to emulate our crusade against profanity as something worthy while, practical and wholly Christian.

We prefer Dr. Beaven's attitude to that affected by some non-Catholic sects which find nothing to praise in the Catholic faith or Church whose whole attitude savors of self-praise and desire to send into oblivion anybody who dares even to hint that the Volstead Law rivals the Ten Commandments or the Sermon on the Mount as a rule of faith and morals.

Irreligious? You ask. Most bigots are not only fanatics but hypocrites as well and their religion is as they make it themselves not as the Master expounded it and transmitted it to His Apostles.

President Coolidge, at least, is having a real vacation in the Dakotas.

## Past—Not Present

In a recent issue of the "Catholic World" Father Gillis makes some trite comments on possible contingencies of the impending Presidential campaign of 1928. He says:— "Furthermore, the American people as a rule are determined that ancient European controversies shall not be imported into modern America. But the enemies of the Catholic Church will go back to Europe and back to the Middle Ages, and lug in all the controversies and all the scandals of the past thousand years to defeat 'Al' Smith."

"It is a dangerous and a wicked business, this of importing trouble, and going back into remote history to find matter for controversy. But mark my word, if 'Al' Smith runs for President, he will be opposed not with his record in New York State, but with the record of Cesare Borgia in Italy, not on the ground of what has happened in this state, since Smith took the reins of government in 1919, but on what happened in Spain, or Italy, or England, or France, two hundred, or three hundred, or a thousand years ago."

A Catholic contemporary comments: "That sums up the Marshall-Smith controversy to a nicety. Mr. Smith is not to be judged upon his record as an executive but is to be criticized because he happens to belong to a church at which all the mud of nineteen centuries is hurled with a fanaticism that is out of keeping with our American ideals of fair play. How invidious is this! How unnecessary is this! How unreasonable is this! No wonder the press of America and the right-thinking and right-living of this country rose up in their indignation to condemn those who breed bigotry in the name of liberty and patriotism."

"Following closely upon the Marshall-Smith controversy comes the request of Governor Smith that the propaganda being spread by his closest friends for his nomination be immediately stopped. It is evident that Mr. Smith feels that the office should seek the man, and not the man seek the office. He has heard the rumors of intolerance and has viewed the gathering shadows of discord and is anxious that his name be left out of discussion for the present to prevent the growth of a feeling that brought into existence such organizations as the A. P. A. and the K. K. K. We believe this to be the proper step. Too much discussion of a subject which should not be discussed will necessarily cause an openesame."

## Real Purpose

Writing in the New York "Telegram" M. E. Tracy calls attention to a fact that seems to be overlooked, as follows:—

Schools are coming in for a lot of undesirable publicity these days. A New York principal was threatened with dismissal because he frequently resorted one of the teachers down and the village "sneaked" about it. High school pupils in Superior, Wis., have staged a series of strikes because a teacher was discharged.

The Assistant Attorney General of Kansas would like to know what "strip poker" is, because two teachers in that State have been accused of playing it. A former New Jersey teacher is suing a principal for \$50,000, because, as she claims, he slandered her.

On top of this, some States are tinkering with anti-evolution laws, while other States are permitting the dismissal of children for religious training.

The underlying cause of trouble seems to be that many people are forgetting the one thing for which schools were established.

Schools were not established to make jobs for teachers, give school boards authority or help the church.

Their sole object is to acquaint children with the essential and elementary branches of knowledge.

## Encouraging

The hero worship accorded Col. Charles Lindbergh by old and young is an encouraging sign of the times. Let us hope it presages the passing, at least the obscuration of the "shelk" and the foreign titled shark who has laid in wait to devour our foolish young hetesesses.

If the American youth patterns after "Lindy" rather than the pampered, rouged, and sleek haired screen sheiks and the girls turn to clean-living, self-made American youths rather than the titled foreign adventurers, a new and a real American era may issue.

These possibilities mean more to America's future than the development of air-craft and aeronautics, important as these may seem, because if America hero-worship turns toward the modest, self-made American then a saner public sentiment cannot but prevail and this will do more to develop a public moral stamina that will stabilize the effervescent, evanescent worthless sentiment that has been winning its way in America.

Henry Ford has made retraction of his attacks upon the Jews. It's a big man who acknowledges a mistake. In this case, however, it were better that the mistake were not made.

## Praise

In a report made to the principal of Stuyvesant High School, of New York City, by one of its teachers after a survey of St. Brendan's (Catholic parochial) high school, Brooklyn, a custom not unusual among public school educators of the Metropolitan district, high commendation is paid to the department of its pupils, the curriculum, and the methods by which the Catholic institution is conducted.

Courtesy, discipline, proficiency in oral English, and religious training are the four general features of the school administration stressed most in the report. Touching on the religious instruction given in St. Brendan's, the teacher says: "All pupils are required to take one hour of religious instruction. It is a required subject, the theory of the director and the faculty being that education can be lastingly sound only when allied with thorough religious training. Education in this subject is not limited to class-room theory. All pupils are required to comply regularly with the practical performance of their religious duties. Ethical appreciation and character building through religion are the basic premises of education in this high school."

Other features that elicited praise from the visitor, who was personally conducted through the school by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. T. A. Hekey, were the "immaculate cleanliness," the silence of pupils when passing through corridors, the spaciousness of the classrooms, the correct posture of pupils at recitation, ample blackboard facilities, super-effective acoustics in every room, class assignments, "grammatical, and faultless" English, methods of conducting debates, and the self-statement of the teacher, the burden of activity being class.

## A Correction

In the last issue of the Catholic Journal it was reported that the family of Lena Wilson, the French Canadian peasant girl who married into the family of former banker, James A. Stillman, were not present at the wedding.

This was incorrect as the affair was patched up at the last minute and Lena's mother, brother and sister were present but without much enthusiasm.

We have no correction to make, no apology to offer for the other statements in the editorial and time will test accuracy of our predictions.

Bishop Finnegan of Helena, Montana, is a member of the Holy Cross Order. When he was consecrated in Rome two other members of the Order were consecrated for Sees in Asia.

Paris style setters aver that bobbed hair is to go. But Paris has ceased to rule the American styles. And Lindbergh has done much to set distinctive American styles in men.

Thomas Green, who has just died at Doon, Limerick County, Ireland, is survived by twelve children, six of whom are priests and three are nuns.

Ancient Order of Hibernians, in annual session in Buffalo voted to raise \$50,000 for the reconstruction of the Irish National College in Rome.

Gradually, the light is spreading. The blatant Senator Hehn was refused permission to give his bigoted diatribe in the Methodist Church in DeKalb, Illinois.

Ere long, the school year will open. Catholics should see to it that the faith of their children is not imperilled by choice of institution for higher learning.

It is stated that King Ferdinand, of Roumania, died a communicant of the Roman Catholic Church for years he affiliated with the Greek Church.

Archbishop McNicholas has formulated plans for a comprehensive Catholic high school system in Cincinnati.

Bishop Griffin, of Springfield, has been appointed by Governor Small, as member of the State Welfare Board of Illinois.

Men and women attending Mass minus prayer book or rosary surely must possess to the 9th degree the faculty of concentration.

"If every American Catholic were to make an annual retreat the face of this land would be renewed instantly" says the "Rosary."

Mayor O'Neil will go down in history as the last Mayor of Rochester.

## PILGRIMAGE TO QUEBEC

Cincinnati, July 29.—Scores of persons will make a 12-day vacation tour and pilgrimage to the Shrine of Sainte Anne de Beaupre, Quebec, and other historic points, under the auspices of the Cincinnati Catholic Association, beginning August 8.

## Headed French Anti-clericals; Dies a Catholic

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Paris, July 25.—After abjuring Free Masonry and receiving the Last Sacraments of the Church, M. Louis Lacombe, for a long time chief of the radical anti-clerical party of the region, and for forty years mayor of Rodez, has just died at the age of 74 years.

As a Deputy, M. Lacombe took an important part in passing the Law of Separation of the churches from the State. He it was who inspired the article ordaining the inventory of the possessions of the Church. Under the pretext of safeguarding the movable property of each church, the law stipulated that a representative of the Minister of Finance should go to the use of the Church to establish—contradictorily enough, in presence of the pastor—the list of goods belonging to the State.

Catholics considered this formality offensive, and in many parishes opposed it with force. In some places the faithful were wounded in the course of the opposition. In one village of the Nord, a parishioner was killed. The civil authority finally gave up these inventories. This all took place twenty years ago.

In 1925, M. Lacombe retired from politics. When he fell death approaching, he called in a priest, abjured Free Masonry, received the Last Sacraments and died a Catholic.

## Fire Ruins Church, Melts Old Bronze Figure of Our Lady

Cold Springs, N. Y. July 25.—Historic St. Mary's Church here, a landmark for the last century, has been almost totally destroyed by a fire. The huge bronze statue of Our Lady surmounting the dome of the church, which for years attracted the attention of passengers on trains and boats along the Hudson, melted and tumbled from its base during the fierce conflagration. The fire destroyed the roof and interior of the building.

The press has revived many interesting points in connection with the church, which was erected in 1831 to 1832. It was said to be the first Catholic church built on the Hudson river above New York.

It is supposed the cause of the fire was a match or cigarette dropped by some of the boys who had been using the old church building as a dressing room during bathing hours.

## Weekly Calendar Of Feast Days

Sunday, August 7.—St. Cajetan, born at the age of twelve of pious and noble parents who dedicated him to Our Blessed Lady. He founded the first community of Regular Clerks, known as the Theatines and was the first to introduce the Forty Hours Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament as an antidote to the heresy of Calvin.

Tuesday, August 9.—St. Romanus, Martyr, was a soldier in Rome at the time of the martyrdom of St. Lawrence. Inspired by the latter's example he was converted and baptized by St. Lawrence in prison. When he publicly admitted what he had done he was beheaded on the day before the date set for the execution of St. Lawrence.

Wednesday, August 10.—St. Lawrence, martyr, was the chief among the seven deacons of the Roman Church. Roasted over a slow fire because he refused to give up the treasures of the Church he made sport of his pains. At length Christ, the Father of the Poor, received him into eternal habitations.

Thursday, August 11.—Sts. Tiburtius and Susanna, martyrs. St. Tiburtius was a subdeacon who was betrayed to the persecutors, condemned to many tortments and at length beheaded on the Latician Road three miles from Rome, where a Church was afterward built. St. Susanna was a noble virgin, said to have been a niece of Pope Caius. Having made a vow of virginity she refused to marry and on this account was accused as a Christian and suffered a cruel martyrdom.

Friday, August 12.—St. Clare, Abbess, inspired by St. Francis, founded an order in a miserable house outside of Assisi. She was joined by her sister and later by her mother and other noble ladies. When the Saracen army of Frederick II and women folk. The rest of us slept in deck chairs.

Arriving at the Island early on Sunday morning, May 22nd, we found the Portuguese gunboat "Patria" already there. She had brought all the Bishops, Pratt of Amoy, Forquet of Canton, Valorta of Hong Kong, and Nunes of Macao. Bishop Walsh also came with them.

## Propagation Of The Faith Society

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## Romance and Missions

Some ten years ago a Missioner made a remark that the home public has always fed upon the sugar coating of romance that hides the missionary life. This is still true, though fortunately not to such a great degree. The sugar coating is not quite so thick and is consumed in a very short time. After the romance comes reality.

And yet the public is not alone in thinking of the romance first. Doubtless every Missioner who goes out to teach has dreams that he hopes will be realized. But as we know from their own accounts it is never long before they are partially if not wholly shattered. The stories and records of these foreign Missioners make very fine reading. This is practically the only way in which we can become well acquainted with conditions as they are.

The people these Missioners have to deal with are by far the most interesting studies in this reading. It doesn't seem as if any words could picture the predicament in which a Missioner often finds himself at first. In the midst of a large area of land whose inhabitants speak many different tongues, and not any one of them familiar to him.

Then there are their customs so different from his. Not the least of his troubles is the climate which demands endurance and perseverance. After these difficulties have been conquered his work of teaching the faith begins in earnest.

The number of poor pagan people who are fascinated by the thought of religion is surprising. Although this fact would apparently seem to be encouraging, it is not. The feeling goes no further than fascination. There are Protestant Missions and Catholic Missions. To the pagan they are the same because they both teach religion. The great problem of our Missioners is to make clear the real distinction, to teach the fundamental things. With uneducated people this is indeed a task but once won over there are usually no more faithful souls than the former pagans. The work lies in winning their trust and confidence and teaching them to put it in God.

Because the things of our Faith have been made so easy for us, they are often not fully appreciated. There is the story told of a pagan boy who, homeless and friendless, always lived outside. He was a cripple and had to exist on beggar's fare. When found by a Missionary Sister he was taken into the rude shelter of the nuns and cared for. But he was not wholly satisfied. "I am all right here," he said, "but when I was outdoors, I could see the stars, now I can't." He missed the light. We who are always in the light of faith, do not know what it means to be in darkness. Being so fortunate we must not forget the millions still without the least glimmer of light.

We may not be able to do much materially, but prayer has worked wonders and will continue to do so. Just to know that those back home are thinking of them and praying for their success is a great help to the Missioners.

Letter From Father Hilbert  
Sou Loc, China.  
June 8, 1927.  
Dear Mother and Father:  
It is now three weeks or more since I wrote to you so now I think that it is high time that I send you a few lines. The reason for the long delay is due to the fact that I have since been all the way to the Island of Sanclan to attend the consecration of our first Bishop, Monsignor J. E. Walsh. I arrived home again only a day ago. My trip going and coming took the better part of the three weeks. Now I shall give you a little account of the trip.

I had to travel by chair over the mountains to a place called Kung Kau, thence by steamboat down the river to the large Chinese city Chao Chao Tfu. After that a train journey to the seaport of Sawtow. In this last place I met Fathers Ford and Gleason, two of our priests, and together we took a boat to Hong Kong. The island of Sanclan is a twelve hour trip from Hong Kong. A large boat was chartered to make the journey and this set sail from Hong Kong on Saturday eve, May twenty-first. Besides about thirty Maryknoll priests and countless visiting ones, there were on board about five hundred lay Catholics. The boat was crowded. The cabins all were turned over to Sisters and women folk. The rest of us slept in deck chairs.

Arriving at the Island early on Sunday morning, May 22nd, we found the Portuguese gunboat "Patria" already there. She had brought all the Bishops, Pratt of Amoy, Forquet of Canton, Valorta of Hong Kong, and Nunes of Macao. Bishop Walsh also came with them.

Bishop Walsh was consecrated at the chapel on the Island and afterwards he gave Benediction in the shrine of St. Francis Xavier on the Island. It was on the Island that the great missioner, St. Francis, died in 1587.

died. I have enclosed a picture of the little shrine wherein is his tomb.

On my return I stopped in Hong Kong for a couple of days to buy some things. Being there on a Sunday I had occasion to celebrate Mass for the Catholics on board of His Majesty's hospital ship, the "Maine." There were about fifty who heard Mass. Behind the altar was draped a large British flag. The hospital ship is connected with the forces which are in China. I had breakfast on board with "the Jolly Brits."

On our way back to the mission we had trouble in getting a river steamer as the Chinese were moving their troops up the river and all the boats had been commandeered. We finally succeeded in getting one after some talk with the commander of the soldiers and a little side gift of one hundred dollars from the passengers. As it was we traveled up in a convoy of four boats containing over a thousand soldiers. We had some officers on our boat and we spoke with them. They were very friendly.

Everything is still peaceful and quiet here. Things are beginning to look brighter in China. When I was in Hong Kong there was a lot of talk about an imminent war between England and communistic Russia. There are about thirty thousand English troops now in the Orient, together with much field equipment. It looks like the English mean to do something.

Had a couple of Chinese marriages during the past week. These were my first in China. The double wedding was performed with one nuptial Mass. There was no grand wedding march such as you see in America. Before the ceremony the two bridegrooms being already at the altar railing, one after another the brides bashfully strolled up. Then came the ceremony itself. What a time I had trying to get the respective brides to utter the fatal words. After much coaxing on the part of the woman catechist and much asking on my part, they after much heming and hawing, at last spoke. It was certainly a novel experience. There are a couple of more weddings on the slate, so even China has her goodly number of "June brides."

The summer heat has set in and it is terribly hot. To stay any length of time in this tropical sun would prostrate one. If you left your helmet off for a minute you would get a sun stroke. Too bad we cannot divide a little with the folks back home. I will draw this epistle to a close so I can get it off to you and now I will continue my regular weekly correspondence.

Your letters all say you are well so that makes me happy. Many thanks to you for all of your prayers. I hope you see the effects of them. Please continue them. My love and prayers to you and the rest.

Your loving son,  
(signed) Charlie



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