

The Catholic Journal

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Lent.

Once more the ecclesiastical year has rolled round and again we are about to begin the Lenten observance of 1928.

As in old life, it is a necessity once a year, to take inventory to know just where we stand, so the Church sets apart each year forty days in which we are to take spiritual inventory, strike a balance and do whatever is necessary to put our spiritual house in order.

From even a physical standpoint, the Lenten season may be made to yield a profit. It is well to pause in the merry social whirl, the rush of business, and rest mind and body.

If Lent is observed, as it should be, in material and spiritual way, there cannot help but be a corresponding benefit, both in bodily and spiritual way.

Bon Voyage!

It is good news that our beloved Bishop has made the long journey to the Pacific Coast.

Under the sunny skies and amid the balmy breezes of California our Bishop will pass the remainder of the winter, and early spring and, his host of friends of all creeds and walks of life, will unite in the hopes and prayer that he may return home fully recovered from his recent illness.

Bishop Thomas F. Hickey ranks as one of the strong figures of the American Catholic Hierarchy and his advice and influence are needed not only now but in the future.

Rest in a milder climate will do much to restore him to perfect health, and we all hope for this result!

Yes We Have Horses!

The claim that the horse has well-nigh disappeared from the Western Hemisphere, is punctured by the "Times-Union" when it says:

It is reported by the Department of Agriculture that there was reduction of 604,000 in the number of horses in the United States during the year 1927.

Also, there was some reduction in the number of mules, but of these animals more than five and one-half million remain.

In the opinion of the authority giving this information, the number of horses and mules will continue to decline "for some years yet." This is probably so, although it is understood that in a number of instances where motor power had been adopted to carry on light trucking, and especially where frequent stops must be made, return has been made to horse-drawn vehicles.

Edward L. Hearn, past supreme knight of the Knights of Columbus and now representing that order in Rome will go to the Eucharistic Congress in Australia next September, as the North American member of the suite of Cardinal Ceretti.

There are still a few days left in February to show your appreciation of the Catholic press by securing a new subscriber to the Catholic Journal.

If They Only Would!

Undoubtedly, there are a few real, dyed-in-the-wool bigots. They have been taught from infancy to regard Catholics as fitted out with horns and to think of the Pope as Satan himself.

But there are very many more non-Catholics who have thought very little on the subject, in fact all they know about the Catholic Church is by repetition of the charges of these bigots by inheritance. These non-Catholics mingle with Catholics in business and social circles and find them just like other human beings.

Of course, it is difficult for the Catholic to refute the bigoted first hand because, as a rule, the bigot is a coward and fights shy of actual contact with the slanders. His prey is the ignorant, easily influenced non-Catholic who listens and is poisoned if not against his Catholic neighbor, at least against the Catholic Church.

After all, in the long run, the best and most efficacious antidote to the poison of bigotry is the clear, everyday life of the Catholic. If his life is an open book, if he exemplifies the Golden Rule—of which the non-Catholic world makes so much ado, albeit they omit mention of the Beatitudes—if he abstains from profanity and obscenity, all these are living, breathing testimony to the faith that is in us and our non-Catholic neighbors cannot but be impressed thereby.

No one knows what good has been done or how many converts are brought into the Church by the potency of Catholic example.

Visible.

We fancy the rank and file of the citizenry of Rochester are in entire sympathy with the support of Commissioner Nier's plan to reorganize the police force of Rochester so that children will not view a uniformed policeman with alarm, given by the "Democrat & Chronicle" in the following editorial:

One point made by Commissioner of Public Safety Nier in announcing his plan for increasing the efficiency of the Police Department, deserves emphasis. "As it is nowadays," he said, "many people hardly see a policeman from one week's end to another, whereas a few years ago every child and grownup met almost daily a policeman."

This is a statement in public of what many citizens have been saying for a number of years in private. In the residential districts the sight of a uniformed policeman strolling along the street is something that brings children running to the windows. Occasionally a motorcycle officer tears along, signaling his approach by a wide open mouf in the benefit of any crook in the neighborhood whose hearing is reasonably good. And in some favored sections a mounted policeman has been known to appear from somewhere and canter proudly along the street between lines of cheering spectators. But the personal contact, as Commissioner Nier says, is gone.

The main business of a patrolman should be to patrol. That is not to say that he will spend his times picking up burglars from every house on his beat or that thugs will immediately go out of business. But it does mean that persons who don't get out much will at least know there is a police department. It means that children who may be tempted to get on the wrong side of the law will have a visible warning against it every day. Greater efficiency in police operation is all right, to be sure, but the first business of a policeman should be to let the community know he is on the job.

Use Common Sense!

There is a deal of common sense in this paragraph in a secular contemporary:

Norwich, like other communities, went in strong for traffic lights. Now the Connecticut city is contemplating removing them from corners where traffic is not heavy. Norwich claims that is what they call themselves, got tired of sitting in their cars simply waiting for a red light to turn green, with nobody in sight.

Norwich is sensible. The lights are useful at intersections carrying heavy traffic. They are time-wasters at other places.

Let your Lenten observance this year be a spiritual one. In every sense.

Just A Hint.

This editorial in a secular contemporary should afford food for serious thought by and revision of opinion that in ratio of ten to one the Nordic influx into the United States is the more desirable:

Those who believe that no good thing can come out of any immigration other than Nordic will have to revise their opinions in the presence of Mr. Giannini of California, son of an Italian immigrant, head of the Bank of Italy of that state, and benefactor to the tune of a million and a half dollars to Leland Stanford University.

There is a peculiar flavor to this gift which goes toward the improvement of agricultural conditions. The donor's father was a humble tiller of the soil. The donor's business enterprises have been devoted to the financial needs of the farmer.

We admire the man who toiled when he was young and who obtained an education through his own efforts afterwards. We do not admire the man who toils when he is young, does not acquire culture afterwards, and who dies rich but unappreciative of life.

The most admirable of men is he who toils when he is young and so misses education when he is older, but who hopes others will have it. There are many of these in America.

Insanity Plea.

We commend to lawyers, judges, sociologists and publicists the following logical and forceful editorial that appeared in a recent issue of the New York "World":

At the Hickman trial we see a repetition of a farce which sooner or later the country will have to do something about. This is the leaving of a jury of the decision whether a defendant is sane or not. This practice, no doubt, had its origin when insanity was a simple matter that anybody could make up his mind about; when a defendant, that is, was either a gibbering imbecile whose condition was apparent to all beholders, or was sane. But with the legal trial that there was such a thing as modern psychology; that a defendant might be sane so far as the average eye could see and still be insane to the eye of the paid alienist; that here was a defense which offered a sporting chance when any other defense was hopeless. So in the last twenty years it has been offered innumerable times, sometimes without any success, sometimes, as in the case of George Remus, with complete success.

Yet how can a jury form any opinion on so technical a question as mental disease? Even if it had the benefit of sound medical advice would be as helpless as if it tried to diagnose some physical disease. But it does not even have this. In the present case, as in most cases that are tried this way, the best it can do is make up its mind between two sets of alienists, both of them obviously biased in favor of their retaining fees. Thus it is in much the same position as it would occupy if it were asked to hear a chiropractor swear the deceased suffered from curvature of the spine, a chiropodist swear that he suffered from bunions, and then decide whether he died from the effects of a railroad accident.

What is needed, of course, is an extension of the principle that we have recognized in New York. Here, as soon as a plea of insanity is entered, the court may halt the trial and name an expert commission which is not in the pay of either side. This commission then examines the defendant. If it finds him insane, he is committed to an institution until he recovers his wits. If it finds him sane, the trial proceeds. Thus a technical question is decided by technicians, and we have a minimum of the kind of nonsense now being heard in California.

Charles R. Barnes and all the other officers of Rochester Council have a right to feel proud of the new Columbus Building opened for public inspection last Saturday. Let us hope it will be what is needed in Rochester—a Catholic community center.

Why should the United States Government release at this time airplanes to be used in bombing Catholics in Mexico who do not bow the knee to the unspeakable Calles?

What a monumental idiot the anti-Catholic senator from Alabama is!

Rev. D. O'Sullivan, San Francisco, Dies

San Francisco, Feb. 7.—The Rev. Daniel O'Sullivan, late pastor of All Hallows church, who died here Saturday in his eighty-second year, was buried with a solemn high Mass at All Hallows this morning at 10:30.

Father O'Sullivan was a native of Metowel, County Kerry, Ireland. Eugene O'Sullivan of Vallejo, a brother; Mrs. Mary Dillon of Ireland, a sister and Michael O'Sullivan of San Francisco, a nephew survive him.

Dollar Day

Tuesday, Feb. 21st

An event of importance to every one who cares to economize. All merchandise is purchased especially for this one day event and offered at prices extremely low and in some instances at cost. Each department in the store contributes its share of value-giving specials. Don't forget that when you shop for genuine bargains . . . you should come to

DUFFY-POWERS, Inc.

Radio.

Discussing the tendency on the part of the Federal Radio Commission and other governmental agencies to broaden the practice of "chain broadcasting", a secular contemporary argues:

The value of a chain program cannot be doubted. Through its use the best talent may be secured and every evening will be a delight. Individual stations find it very difficult to keep up programs. Local talent is soon exhausted and the novelty wears off. The local circulation is limited. Occasionally some parts of the program are "brushed out" by some indignant fan in a distant state, but that is not important. If radio programs of excellence are maintained, they must have wide circulation that the advertisers who provide them will be willing to pay liberally for the service.

In a very distinct way it is comparable to newspaper and magazine advertising—circulation is what is sought. By chain broadcasting this is assured, while through a multiplicity of stations there is no assurance whatever that the desired end will be secured. The chain is not necessary in operation all the time. The programs may be mixed, the local station having certain hours for its local features, and then at a prescribed time switching in with the key station whence the big programs are presented.

This seems to be the tendency of radio-broadcasting. Another year will show distinct advance in these combinations, and it is quite certain that it will be to the greater pleasure of listeners-in. The main danger will be found in a tendency to insist upon too large a percentage of advertising mingled with the numbers on the program.

With all due deference to the aforesaid contemporary, we feel sure its argument will have little appeal to the radio fan whose evening fun is to see how many separate and distinct stations he can "tune in" and the distance fan is no inconsiderable factor in the purchase and use of radio receiving sets.

Fr. Patrick Lennon Tells Of His Friend John D. Rockefeller

New York, Feb. 8.—Fresh from a three-week visit at the palatial home of his friend and admirer, John D. Rockefeller, at Ormond Beach, Fla., the Rev. Patrick L. Lennon, pastor of St. Cecilia's church here, has returned home filled with enthusiasm over the religious tolerance and generosity displayed by his host.

Speaking of the octogenarian, who is still active on the golf links, Father Lennon said:

"Mr. Rockefeller is a very big man—I mean a really big man, not just a rich and powerful one. He is entirely too broad-minded to let such a thing as religious prejudice hide a man from him. He likes a man for his qualities, without thinking what his religion is. His life at Ormond is very simple. Mr. Rockefeller is a very simple man at heart. He has long since learned

College Catholic Clubs Federation Meeting Feb. 17-19

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Philadelphia, Feb. 9.—The Middle Atlantic Province of the Federation of College Catholic Clubs will hold its annual convention here February 17, 18, and 19, according to an announcement just made.

The convention will open Friday evening with a formal reception in the Gold Room of the Adelphi hotel. Saturday will be devoted entirely to a business meeting, during which all activities of the past year will be discussed, and plans for the coming year formulated.

On Sunday morning all delegates and club members will attend Mass and receive Holy Communion in a body at the Cathedral chapel at 9 o'clock. Following Mass a breakfast will be served at the Adelphi, during which all in attendance will be addressed by Michael Francis Doyle, prominent Philadelphia attorney.

John M. Dugan, Director of Public Welfare, will be the guest of honor. The Federation of College Catholic Clubs was formed in 1915, starting with seven clubs. The following year four additional clubs were admitted, and today the Federation numbers 88 clubs throughout the United States and Canada.

The chief purposes of the Federation are "to join together organizations of Catholic students attending non-Catholic colleges and educational institutions for the purpose of mutual helpfulness and united effort in promoting their religious, intellectual, moral and social standards; to encourage the establishment and growth of new organizations of Catholic students where they do not already exist, and generally to aid in the works of the Church."

The Middle Atlantic Province comprises the following clubs: University of Pennsylvania, day and evening schools; Temple University, Drexel Institute of Arts and Science, Philadelphia College of Osteopathy, Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, Women's Medical College.

The University of Kentucky and the University of Virginia are also members of the Province, while the West Chester Teachers' State College, and the Delaware and Lehigh universities are to be admitted shortly.

The Rev. John M. Keough, chaplain of St. Bede's church, at the University of Pennsylvania, is chaplain of the Federation; Thomas Cusack, of Drexel Institute, is chairman of the convention committee; Miss Beatrice Target, treasurer, and Joseph Van Horn, secretary.

Soviets Repatriate Priest Once Exiled

Paris, Feb. 6.—Father Sokolowski, deported to an island in Lake Ladoga, has just been brought back by the Soviet authorities by hydroplane, communication by land being at present impracticable.

He has been transferred to Minsk, from where he will return to Poland with Father Cimaszkiewicz, in compliance with the treaty between Poland and the Soviet Government on the exchange of prisoners.

Weekly Calendar Of Feast Days

Sunday, February 19.—St. Raphael, Bishop. Bishop was born in the territory of Benevento toward the end of the pontificate of St. Gregory the Great. He became Bishop of Benevento and did much to root out remnants of superstition in that state. He died in 682.

Monday, February 20.—St. Eucherius, Bishop was a member of an illustrious family of Orleans. He became Bishop of Orleans upon the death of his uncle Savaire. Later he was banished by Charles Martel because he reproved that ruler for stripping the churches of their ornaments to defray military expenses. He died in 743 at the monastery of Sarclium.

Tuesday, February 21.—St. Severinus, Martyr, Bishop, was martyred in about the year 452 because as Bishop of Scythopolis, he resisted the Eutychian heresy.

Wednesday, February 22.—St. Peter's Chair at Antioch. By many Saints it is attested that before going to Rome, St. Peter founded the see of Antioch which was then the capital city of the East. St. Leo says we ought to celebrate the chair of St. Peter with no less joy than the day of his martyrdom, for as in this he was exalted to a throne of glory in heaven, so in his chair he was installed head of the Church on earth.

Thursday, February 23.—St. Peter Damian, born in 988, after studying at the University of Parma, joined the monks at Font-Avellano. He was an adviser of seven Popes and was created Cardinal Bishop of Ostia. He withstood Henry IV of Germany and labored in defence of Alexander II against the anti-Pope whom he forced to yield and seek for pardon.

Friday, February 24.—St. Matthias, was elected to take the place of Judas to complete the number of the Apostles. He was noted for the rigor with which he practiced mortification of the flesh.

Saturday, February 25.—St. Tarasius, because of his great talents, was chosen to be first Secretary of State to the Emperor Constantine and to the latter's mother the Empress Irene. He was made Patriarch of Constantinople and took part in the Council of Nice. He died in 806.