

The Catholic Journal

Published Every Friday At No. 118 North Water Street By The Catholic Journal Publishing Company, Rochester, N. Y.

If the paper is not received promptly notify the office.

Report without delay change of address giving both old and new.

Communications solicited from all Catholics accompanied in every instance by the name of the author. Name of contributor withheld if desired.

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Discontinuances—The JOURNAL will be sent to every subscriber until ordered stopped and all arrearages are paid up. The only legal method of stopping a paper is by paying all arrearages.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1928.

TELEPHONE, MAIN 1507.

Entered as second class mail matter.

Not Far Enough.

With the good intention of the following editorial found in a local secular journal we are in full accord:

"The hereditary societies of the United States have come in for no little criticism—much of it from their own membership—because of a somewhat blind adherence to the slogan, 'My country, right or wrong.'"

"It does not follow that the progeny of those who fought in the Revolution, or came over in the Mayflower, are the sole custodians of patriotism. The disposition of the several hereditary societies to take the side of conservatism on public questions, and to attempt to suppress free speech and freedom of the press, has not only aroused disaffection in the ranks, but has inspired the following resolution by the Vermont Society Sons of the American Revolution:

"Whereas, we believe that the history of our country is sufficiently inspiring not to suffer from a frank relation; and whereas there arise from time to time attempts to hamper and restrict the writing and teaching of history in the interests of special prejudices, often in the name of patriotism; be it resolved that we deplore as dangerous to the spirit of free speech the attempts, however hastily intended, by political bodies or patriotic societies to stifle the nature of the facts and conclusions that scholars shall be allowed to place in the text books and other historical works.

"This is good sense, and sensibly stated. The resolution might have gone farther and have stated another fundamental truth, namely, that the government of this country is sufficiently inspiring not to suffer from a frank discussion of its possible improvement."

However, the Vermont Sons might well have included in their manifesto a second resolution deploring any falsification of historical truth by propagandists interested financially, or otherwise in teaching the youth in our schools what is not so.

Waiting.

It has been said that "a good waiter often equals or excels the impetuous diner." There's a lot in that. Under the caption "The Waiting Game" a local contemporary publishes an editorial, in our opinion is worthy of reproduction. It follows:

"In the reception room of the private office of the late financier and railroad magnate, Collis P. Huntington, there hung a painting which excited interest and prompted inquiry.

"The picture was called 'Waiting,' and depicted a brisk-looking business man seated in the reception room of a private office. He was alone in the room. On the bench beside him were his hat and portfolio. His hands were folded in his lap. His feet were quietly crossed. He was neither restless nor bored. He was there for a purpose. Others had gone, he could wait.

"Huntington, who had had the picture painted at his command, explained that to his way of thinking, the waiting game was one of the secrets of business success. The man who could not bide his time, was lost.

"This picture represented poise, power, courage, determination and decision. It symbolized the single-track mind and the steady nervous system. It silently rebuked the hurried, the self-important, and the youthfully impetuous.

"Patience is a virtue which, unfortunately has become associated with the reputation of mystics and fakirs. Patience is not a passive, but an active, virtue. It is the ability to be vigorous in a course of action, to strike a blow. It requires the same will power.

Tammany.

Like the rural parsons who fill in blank spaces in the weekly sermon topic with savage attacks on the Catholic Church and scurrilous fulminations against the Pope, the up-state rural press, when at a loss for an editorial topic, lambasted and lampooned Tammany Hall. It was the fine sport—did not hurt Tammany Hall and tickled the fancy of the bucolic up-State voter.

"We must confess, however, to a feeling of surprise at reading this editorial in the Rochester 'Democrat Chronicle':— 'Tammany Hall, like any other intelligent organization, learns by experience. Some mistakes were made at the convention in New York city in 1924 that are not going to be repeated at Houston in 1928. The Tiger that arrives at Houston in June will be carefully groomed, carefully coached, and irreproachable socially. The hardboiled Tammany rooster will be left at home. So will the East Side district leader. The delegates will be picked from a higher social stratum, and will be carefully scrutinized as to thick necks and red noses. A clean shave, a fresh manure, and a copy of Emily Post's famous book on etiquette will be essential requisites. 'Sobriety will be the order of the day. Cards and dice will be left at home. The 'Tammany specials' will be as sedate during the long ride across the continent, as the most particular Southern dry leader could desire. So far as possible names for the Tammany delegation will be picked from the social register, and the remainder from those who are on the road to becoming eligible for the social register.

"This new order of things is not going to stop with the Tammany delegation. Smith delegates from all the Eastern states will include polished titans of leisure, judges, bankers, and leading business men. The fight for and the exhortation may be missed, but they will be absent. The whole crowd will step out with roses in their button-holes, and white edgings on their vests. 'The rough-neck element of course, will be expected to do its duty at the polls on election day, and will receive as warm a welcome there as ever. But for show-window purposes during the period of the national convention Tammany has gone cultured and refined, and the well-known Southern chivalry will be outdone by Northern polish."

Pure Water Supply.

Pure supply of water for domestic consumption is a conceded necessity. How to secure it is one of the live problems of state, city, village and town governments.

In the earlier days when population was not so dense and water courses and streams constituted the source of water supply the problem was not so acute because these sources had not been polluted by industrial waste products and other excretions. Either there were no epidemics of typhoid those days or no record was preserved for posterity.

Stream pollution of today is described in the following editorial from the Rochester 'Times-Union': The idea which has long clung to the popular mind that running water is not always pure, will at least be declared a fallacy by the United States Public Health Service. Once contaminated with sewage or injurious industrial wastes, water requires careful treatment to render it safe.

Here in New York, the state is exerting increasing pressure to eliminate sources of contamination. With our large and growing population supplies of pure water become more and more important.

New York City, seeing the day approaching when its Catskill supply will not be adequate, is now making plans for drawing on the Delaware River. That probably means large expense for purification by filtration and chemical treatment.

The day will come, in the more thickly settled portions of the country, when contamination of streams and lakes will be recognized as so expensive and dangerous that it simply will not be permitted.

The Rochester district is doing better than many others in this respect, although sources of contamination tend to outrun preventive measures.

Senator Willis and Secretary Hoover are bandying repartee just like regular professional politicians.

It is too bad that inflexible laws force into retirement such clear-headed, physically fit public officers as Justice John B. M. Stephens and Park Commissioner Calvin Loney. Services of such valuable officials should be retained, so long as they are capable, whether they be 78, or 80 years of age.

The Courts say the prohibition agents must return to their lawful owners cars confiscated as liquor carriers when it is shown the owners were not aware the cars were used illegally. Prohibition does Lowman says: "Fine, we always obey court orders" and then turns round and grabs the cars under the treasury regulations of the internal revenue law.

Intolerance.

Grove Patterson in his column "The Way of the World" scores heavily when he raps intolerance of all sorts in these paragraphs, which are as applicable to Rochester, Buffalo, or New York as to any of the cities he mentions:—

Religious intolerance is not the only kind of intolerance. Many of us who like our home town—as we should—are intolerant of other towns and other climates.

"I don't like Detroit" or "I wouldn't live in California" or "I think Chicago is terrible," may show most of all that we don't really know very much about Detroit or California or Chicago.

Detroit, fourth city in size in America, is one of the wonder cities of the world. It might be called a shrine of industrial civilization. California is attractive enough to sell itself to anybody who studies it enough to know its varying moods. It's really too bad that some of the people who live out there have got into the habit of fibbing about the climate. The sun really does not shine every day. Who wants it to? California can bear the truth, and be liked just as well.

And when it comes to community spirit and municipal improvements on a large scale, Chicago just about leads the world.

Absentees.

Speaking before the Independent Grocers' Alliance, Mr. Roland Woodward, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, is quoted in the public press as saying:—

There are 600 chain stores in Rochester. There is one grocery store in Rochester with nearly 100 chains and 100 store managers and not one of these managers in Rochester. There is a chamber member.

"The point I am making is the clear and definite evasion of proper community responsibility by too many chain store companies and their local managers with absentee ownership. If the time comes when absentee ownership, whether it be of chain stores, manufacturing plants or business property, means that those owners wash their hands of all responsibility for community progress, commercial, industrial or civic, Rochester will find that it has destroyed all that which makes this community worth living in. We will have sold our birthright for mess of pottage. The menace is not economic, but social. Absentee ownership is too frequently grasping, unscrupulous and blighting to community life."

Mr. Woodward's point is one that should be stressed early and often. In our opinion, that is the real nub of the situation in the Pennsylvania and West Virginia coal fields.

Mr. Harry Braham seems to have been Aldridge's successor.

There is not much doubt that New York's delegates to the Houston meet in June will be for Alfred E. Smith.

That exchange of compliments between Will Rogers and Mr. Hefflin, of Alabama, is likely to furnish copy reading.

Mr. Will Hays, probably, is chastened that he is not allowed to forget that he was once a naughty, naughty practical politician.

We trust that Mr. Halls, president of the clothiers' exchange is corrected when he says Rochester's unemployment situation is not acute and will not be.

The way the small town Congressmen would apportion the radio wavelengths is just the way the Congressmen apportion their own seats in Congress.

Rochester in 1929, unless the Courts again intervene, will nominate and elect its councilmen on a non-partisan basis—whatever may mean in Rochester.

Judging from the decision to enter the California primaries, Senator Thomas J. Walsh, of Montana, is determined that if a Catholic should be nominated he must be a dry Catholic.

Muscle Shoals will not do for a modern plant but Congress does not dare sell it for a hydro-electric power producer, for fear the farmers will claim they have been bamboozled once more.

Colonel Lindbergh says he is through exhibition flights and is retiring to private life. Perhaps, he is tired of having the Eldor presbytery agents try to tie up the lady airplane passenger with the "Eagle of the Air."

New Jersey Estate Bought for Carmel

Morristown, N. J., Feb. 28.—The Carmelite Sisters of Wheeling, W. Va., have acquired "Ruremont," the well-known Kip estate, comprising a mansion and eleven acres of ground, here, for use as a monastery, according to an announcement, just made.

The priestess of the new Carmel, Mother Mary Magdalene, is a daughter of former Admiral Potts of the United States Navy.

Weekly Calendar Of Feast Days

Sunday, March 11.—St. Eulogius, was the son of a senatorial family of Cordova, at that time the capital of the Moors in Spain, who embraced the religious life and became head of the chief ecclesiastical school in that city. He was executed by order of the Moorish authorities in 859.

Monday, March 12.—St. Gregory, a Roman of noble birth, was elected Pope to succeed Pelagius II. For fourteen years his pontificate was a perfect model of ecclesiastical rule. He died A. D. 604 worn out by austerities and toils. The Church reckons him one of her four great doctors and reveres him as St. Gregory the Great.

Tuesday, March 13.—St. Euphrasia virgin, when seven years old, begged that she might be permitted to serve God. Her mother permitted her to enter a monastery. Refusing an illustrious marriage she requested the Emperor Theodosius to sell her estates and divide the proceeds among the poor and to free her slaves. This all was done. She died in 410.

Wednesday, March 14.—St. Maud, Queen, was the daughter of Theodorick, a powerful Saxon count. She was married to Henry, son of Otto, Duke of Saxony, who was afterwards chosen King of Germany. It was her delight to visit, comfort, and exhort the sick and to serve and instruct the poor. In her last illness she made her confession to her grandson, William, Archbishop of Mentz. She died in 968.

Thursday, March 15.—St. Zachary, Pope, succeeded Gregory III in 741. He ruled with great benevolence and prudence and during his pontificate Rome was adorned with many sacred buildings. He died in 752.

Friday, March 16.—St. Abraham was a rich nobleman of Edessa who lived for fifty years in a cell where he sang God's praises and implored mercy for himself and all men. When his brother's daughter, St. Mary, was confined to his care, he placed her in a cell near his own and trained her in perfection. After twenty years of innocence she fell from grace but was later brought to repentance through the prayers of her uncle and his friend, St. Ephrem.

Saturday, March 17.—St. Patrick, Bishop and Apostle of Ireland, after a youth spent in captivity and slavery, was called to the task of converting Ireland to the faith. He received the approbation of Pope Celestine and met with marvelous success in his efforts to Christianize the Irish. He held several councils to settle the discipline of the Church he established in that country. He was buried at Down in Ulster.

Fr. John Cavanaugh Speaks At Bazaar Of Cleveland Nuns

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Cleveland, O., Feb. 27.—In a sermon here at the funeral of Sister Victorine of the Sisters of St. Joseph, the Rev. John Cavanaugh, C. S. C., president emeritus of Notre Dame University, made an earnest appeal to the sisters present to seek out boys and girls of unusual talent and make it possible for them to employ their powers for religion and education as priests or sisters or influential laity. He deplored the tendency to seek power merely or chiefly through politics or money, instead of through the writing of books, editing newspapers, producing plays and pursuing other vocations by which public opinion is formed.

Sister Victorine who had been a member of the community for many years was a former schoolmate of Dr. Cavanaugh when both were children in the parish schools at their hometown, Leontonia, Ohio.

Encyclical On Unity Read From Pulpits Of Cardiff Diocese

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) London, Feb. 27.—Dr. Mostyn, Archbishop of Cardiff, has ordered all the pastors of his diocese to read from the pulpit the Holy Father's encyclical on true religious unity. The first half was read yesterday and the second half will be read next Sunday.

"Some people seem to imagine," says His Grace in announcing his instruction, "that the unity of Christianity can be brought about by what we might term a give-and-take as regards doctrines and theological teaching. They seem to forget that if the Catholic Church is the true Church of Jesus Christ, it can change nothing as regards its teaching in faith and morals."

"All bargaining as to how far Catholic teaching can be modified, so as to meet the views of those outside the Catholic Church, is altogether out of the question."

King's Household Treasurer a Catholic

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) London, Feb. 27.—Major Sir George Hennessy, a Catholic member of Parliament, was received by King George this week and received his warrant of office as Treasurer of the Household.

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Apostasy in Diaspora Hits All Religions

By Rev. Dr. Wilhelm Baron von Capitaine (Cologne Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service)

Cologne, Feb. 27.—Statistics relating to the Lutheran Evangelical State Church for 1926, just published, show that the anti-religious campaign of the Socialist, Communist and atheist press is taking a greater toll of apostates in Saxony than elsewhere. They also show that the Protestant churches, as well as the Catholic, are losing members in the diaspora as a result of these activities.

In Saxony (the Republic and not the Prussian province), according to the figures just published, 43,895 Protestants abandoned the practice of their religion in 1926. In 1925, the number of Protestants apostatizing was 33,150. Between the years 1911 and 1924, a total of 276,090 Protestants left the church. The greater number of Protestants recorded here as apostatizing did not join any other religion. It is reported, and therefore are assumed to have fallen into atheism, Socialism or Communism.

The Catholic Church in the Saxon Republic (with the bishopric of Meissen) lost 20,961 members by apostasy between the years 1911 and 1924. A special cause for these defections was mixed marriages.

Between those two years, the Catholic Church lost only 1,498 converts in this area. Of the apostate Catholics, some 8,000 became Protestants and the remainder affiliated with no religion.

On the whole, the figures show clearly that while the Catholic Church in the diaspora has suffered heavily under the relentless attacks of the foes of all Christian religion, the Protestant sects have fared no better. It is interesting that while for the whole of Germany the faithless are 3.4 per cent, those in Saxony who profess no religion are nearly 7 per cent of the people. The danger of apostasy will increase for the next decade or so, it is felt.

Jules Verne Died a Catholic

Paris, Feb. 27.—On the occasion of his centenary, certain lovers of Jules Verne declared his character to merit even greater praise than his literary talent, but they further stated that he had a Protestant soul. Their basis for this latter view is that after escaping from various dangers, his heroes express their thanks in a vague form without any particular manifestation or devotion. This may be explained by recalling that in most instances Jules Verne's heroes are distinctly Anglo-Saxon.

Despite the fact that Verne has even been called a Polish Jew, he really was a member of a prominent Catholic family of Nantes as regards both paternal and maternal ancestry. When ill in 1904, he told his wife, "The next time I become ill, call the priest before the doctor."

On March 20 of the following year he received the last sacraments of the Church and died four days later.

Priest Fatally Stricken While Attending Funeral

Milwaukee, Feb. 29.—The Rev. Benedict Masurek, pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Gudahy, who was stricken with apoplexy while attending services at the grave of his fellow priest, the Rev. Peter Polonsky, pastor of St. Stephen's Church, last Saturday, died early yesterday morning at Emergency Hospital here, where he was taken following his collapse. The stroke was the third he had experienced in recent months.

Father Masurek had been pastor of St. Joseph's Church just a little more than a year, having been assigned the pastorate Feb. 15, 1927. He came to Milwaukee from Racine, Wis., and succeeded the Rev. August Suawenda.

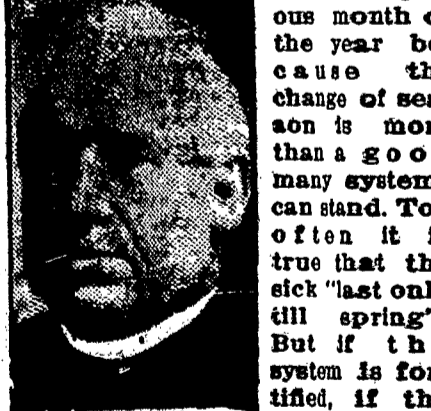
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