

The Catholic Journal

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1928.

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Precedent.

George Gordon Battle has performed a signal service in publishing this letter to a New York paper to confound the bigots of 1928:—

In view of the charges which have been made by Ignbrant and bigoted persons to the effect that members of the Catholic Church have put their allegiance and loyalty to the spiritual head of that church before their duty to their country, it is interesting to note that after the Declaration of Independence several of the counties of North Carolina sent instructions to the North Carolina delegates in the Continental Congress as to their duty in that difficult and critical period.

The different States had served their connection with Great Britain. It was necessary immediately to adopt State Constitutions and to set up State Governments. Under these circumstances it was requisite that the Continental Congress should act cautiously and wisely so as not to offend the sensitive independence of the several States. Among the instructions sent at this juncture from the County of Orange to the North Carolina delegates to the Continental Congress was one to the effect that all officers should give their assurance that they "do not acknowledge supremacy, ecclesiastical or civil, in any foreign power, or spiritual infallibility or authority to grant the Divine pardon."

These instructions were prepared by Dr. Thomas Burke, written by his own hand and sent by him to the North Carolina delegates at Philadelphia. Dr. Burke was himself a devout member of the Catholic Church. He was elected Governor of North Carolina in 1781 and made a most patriotic and efficient Executive. He was one of the foremost citizens of the State and universally beloved.

This is one of the innumerable historical instances which so conclusively disprove the contention or insinuation to which I have referred, that a member of the Catholic Church recognizes any loyalty superior to that due to his country.

Radio.

While the presidential campaign of 1928 has scarcely gotten underway, nevertheless, sufficient time has elapsed to demonstrate that Radio has put a new phrase into the political campaigns.

Whereas, in the past, but comparatively few of the people were able to see and hear the candidates, Radio has made it possible for hundreds of thousands of persons to hear, if they cannot see, the candidates when he speaks, whether it be in San Francisco, or New Orleans, Seattle or St. Louis, Denver or Chicago, New York or Omaha, Boston or Baltimore. No longer are they compelled to wait until the newspapers arrive. They can sit comfortably at home and hear the speakers even more clearly than if they were seated on the outer edge of a coliseum, stadium or assembly hall.

Just how much influence Radio will have in the election will be known on November 7th.

Issue In Virginia.

Typical of the insistence of Governor Smith's supporters that his religion is the chief issue in the Virginia campaign is an editorial in the secular, non-Catholic "News-Leader". It is asked in the editorial what would be the reason for it if the State's twelve electoral votes were given to Herbert Hoover, and the paper answers itself as follows: "There is no use mincing words about that reason. Everybody knows what is at the bottom of the antagonism to Smith in Virginia. Many frankly avow it.

"But the number of these who will vote against Smith because of prohibition, or because Tammany Hall is giving him its support, or because of Hoover's record in Belgium, is small compared with those who will vote against Smith because he has been loyal to the same Christ they profess to follow and has done as they have done in holding to the faith of their fathers.

"Make no mistake about it. If Virginia rejects Smith it would not be for what he has done, but for what he has believed. It would not be a victory for Hoover, but for intolerance. It would mean that the State which gave the doctrine of religious liberty to the world wrote across that great statute: 'This does not apply to Catholics.'"

Anent Mr. Tweed!

The Milwaukee "Catholic Citizen" is a trifle mischievous in the following editorial thrust. Boss Tweed was a Baptist. This was not remembered against Charles Evans Hughes, when a candidate for President in 1916. Mr. Hughes is a Baptist and a son of a Baptist minister. Boss Tweed, however, was a Tammany leader, and a Democrat. But whether it be a Democrat or a Baptist, it is not in his evil propensities were more transmissible to Democrats than to Baptists, students of heredity must ascertain.

Not Reported.

Very pointedly and pertinently writes the Louisville "Record":—

Did you read in the newspapers that the Roman Rota had denied the petition of Prince Ludovico Spada Potenziani for annulment of his marriage to the Princess on the alleged ground that the ceremony was "without her full consent"? Of course you did not, for the good reason that the newspapers did not notice the case. They might have done so. Prince Potenziani is Governor of the Province of Rome. He is perhaps the largest landowner in Italy. He is a member of one of the oldest families in the country. He has far and away more wealth, prestige in Italy than the Duke of Marlborough in England. But his petition for annulment was denied, as was that of King Henry of England, that of Count de Castellain, that of Count de Castellain, to mention but a few among hundreds who possessed immunities greater wealth, power and prestige than any English Duke ever possessed and whose petitions for annulment were denied by Rome. The newspapers had plenty to say about the annulment of the Marlborough-Vanderbilt marriage ceremony. They need not have been so painfully silent when the Governor of Rome and one of the most picturesque aristocrats of the Italian nobility was denied his plea for annulment.

In World War.

In the World War, Catholics, according to a statement issued by Hon. Newton Baker, Secretary of War, on September 22, 1917, then constituted 35 per cent of the new army, although but 20 per cent of the population of the United States were Catholics.

A Georgia Catholic, Admiral Benson, directed the transportation of the troops to Europe. The record of one Catholic institution of learning (Georgetown University, at Washington, is indicative of the record of Catholics in the war; it furnished 3 Generals, 18 Colonels, 9 Majors, 148 Captains, 649 Lieutenants, 181 candidates, 227 non-coms and 811 privates to the army; one Admiral, 37 Lieutenants, 129 Ensigns, 96 Petty Officers and 175 seamen to the Navy and 7 Majors, 5 Captains, 25 Lieutenants, 7 candidates, 11 non-coms and 31 privates to the Marines a total of 2,096 for the Army, 435 for the Navy and 86 for the Marines. Of these 54 paid the supreme sacrifice and 28 were decorated for their achievements.

Just what a colossal sham and fraud the so-called prohibition of today is may be gleaned by a recent article by Carter Field for the New York "Herald-Tribune" on political conditions in Florida. Mr. Field states that the Anti-Saloon League is conducting the usually vigorous anti-Smith drive. Rev. F. J. Johnson, editor of the official Baptist and Baptist churches, the Anti-Saloon League and the Women's Christian Temperance Union, would fight to maintain prohibition.

On the end of Mr. Fields' article the following appears: "Liquor is plentiful and good in this part of the State, despite the dryness of the political sentiment. It is much cheaper than ever on the East Coast, surprising as this may seem. Along the East Coast the favorite drink is rum, smuggled in from Cuba and retailed at \$5 a fifth of a gallon bottle. It seems to be the genuine article being much better than most of the so-called rum sold in New York.

But no such prices are paid around Pensacola. Nor do they drink the corn whiskey of Arkansas and North Carolina. They have developed some home distillers of rye with a slight variation from the old formula for a drink called "shinney." The best grade of this aged for six months in charred kegs, is sold at \$5 a full gallon, and experts say that it is far superior to the whiskey sold up North.

Have you heard or read of a political sermon preached by a Catholic priest in a Catholic pulpit since the presidential nominations were made? No. And you will not either.

To appeal for members in a supposedly non-partisan political committee, said members to be bound to support the candidates the executive committee shall approve, strikes us as first cousin to the regular political organization that recently undertook to secure 10,000 members at ten dollars per.

While the republican presidential nominee may be a Quaker the republican vice-presidential nominee is not afraid to rip out a healthy, robust "dawn."

Not every stumpy speaker has learned how to "put over" a Radio speech.

Rochester welcomes the democrat at state convention of 1928 in non-partisan hand clasp.

Two Southern Catholics, Roger B. Taney, of Maryland and Edward Douglas White of Louisiana, were Chief Justices of the United States when the Pope did not remove the Vatican to Washington!

The REWARD of DEPOSITORS----

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Catholic Education.

Catholic education is an important factor in our life; in fact the most important factor.

And education of candidates for the holy priesthood constitutes a distinct function in which all of us are interested.

It is agreed by all that it is desirable that clerical students be educated as nearly as possible under the eye and direction of the Bishop who they will serve.

That is why the late Bishop McQuaid instituted St. Bernard's Seminary. True, the fame of the institution has spread until today there are many students here from other Dioceses. The tuition of these is met by their Bishops.

But the responsibility for the students of St. Bernard's destined to serve as priests of the Diocese is ours.

It costs money to operate St. Bernard's and to educate our priests. The annual seminary collection is to be taken Sunday in all the Churches of the Diocese.

Let your contribution be as generous as your means will allow!

Terrible.

For the second time in as many years the Florida coast is ravaged by hurricane and pillaged by the ghoully loots who hover like vultures.

Hundreds of lives have been lost in Florida and Porto Rico and thousands rendered homeless. Pestilence threatens the homeless survivors.

Nation-wide response to appeals for aid to the Florida sufferers was generous and timely.

The same is true of the Catholics of the United States in an appeal from our co-religionists in Porto Rico.

This is as it should be. We who are safely housed, with plenty to eat and to wear should give of our substance to aid and assist our stricken brothers.

"A Human Being."

Let the New York "World" present the reaction of a non-Catholic to Governor Smith's Oklahoma speech in which he refuted lies about his personal character and then challenged the "whispering bigots" to come out into the open and be counted.

The World said:— The speech which Gov. Smith made on Thursday night in Oklahoma City was not the speech of a politician running for office but of a human being wounded and outraged by incredible malice. It was not and could not have been a pleasant speech to hear, for no man in America ought to have to be made to feel that he must make such a speech in his own behalf. That is the business of his friends. Among truly civilized men it would be the privilege of his opponents; they would rise up in righteous fury and stamp out these reptile agitators who are stinging the Democratic candidate and bringing shame upon the Republic.

It sets one's teeth on edge to hear a Catholic pleading for decency to Catholics. That plea, exalted to a command, ought to issue from Protestants. It is Mr. Hoover above all, and in Mr. Hoover by his tradition, who they were alive to their full moral responsibility would publicly repudiate and rebuke the sectarian intrigue of Mrs. Willibrand and her kind. If they had a little sports blood in them, a little of that sense by which a sportsman refuses to be won by anything which is not in his own hands, they would be more than ready to play the game. It would be transmissible to Democrats than to Republicans and not the Democratic candidate who is the whipping boy.

Gov. Smith who made a speech on religious liberty at Oklahoma City

Catholic Hospital Costing \$1,000,000 Dedicated In Akron

By N. C. W. C. News Service) Akron, O., Sept. 24.—The dedication here today of the new St. Thomas hospital was a civic as well as a religious event. The new building erected and equipped at a cost of over a million dollars is Akron's first Catholic hospital.

The dedication ceremonies were in charge of Bishop Joseph Schrembs of Cleveland, officials as well as a large assembly of priests from Akron and other cities of the diocese attended. The hospital is in charge of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, of the Cleveland diocese. This community is of French origin and the Cleveland unit is the only one of that order in the United States. It has been engaged in welfare work in Cleveland and nearby cities for 77 years.

The Sisters of Charity also have charge of Charity hospital, St. John's hospital, St. Ann's Maternity hospital and Infant Asylum and Paralyzed Orphanage, all in Cleveland, and of Mercy hospital and the Little Flower hospital, the latter for crippled children, in Canton.

The late Michael O'Neil, of Akron, contributed \$100,000 to the fund raised by public appeal for the hospital. Mr. O'Neil died last December before he was aware that Pope Pius XI had created him a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Gregory the Great.

Incidental to the dedication, Bishop Schrembs made the following statement: "The opening of the Catholic hospital at Akron is one of the biggest steps forward in the work of the Church in this community. A hospital in any community is one of the most important of its institutions. It takes care of battered bodies as well as of battered souls of those who come within its portals.

"The spiritual side of the hospital is the phase with which we are most concerned. Thousands who have lost their bearings in life find them again in the Catholic hospital through the kindly ministrations of the good Sisters who devote their lives to their patients."

It would appear that the Gleasons might devote a part of their time usually given over to placing Bibles in hotel rooms toward an effort to place the Bible in the hands of the political parsons.

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Saturday, Sept. 29 (Matinee at 2 P. M.) Florence Vidor in "Honeymoon Hate" KEN TEN-TEEN in "Jaws of Steel" Sunday-Monday, Sept. 30-Oct. 1 Matinee Sunday at 2 P. M. BEBE DANIELS in "She's A Sheik" "The Boy of the Streets With Johnny Walker"

Bishop J. C. Plagens To Observe Jubilee

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Detroit, Sept. 21.—On the fourth anniversary of his consecration as Auxiliary Bishop of the Detroit diocese, Sunday, Sept. 30, Bishop Joseph C. Plagens also will celebrate his silver jubilee as a priest. A committee of laymen and priests has arranged a program for the occasion of which the outstanding event will be a solemn pontifical high Mass of thanksgiving to be chanted at 10 a. m. by Bishop Plagens in the Sweetest Heart of Mary Church, of which he is pastor. Bishop Plagens came to this country from Poland when he was four years old. His parents settled in Detroit and he attended St. Casimir's school. He completed his course in theology at St. Mary's seminary, Baltimore, and was ordained in 1903. In 1923 he was honored by being appointed a domestic prelate and monsignor and was consecrated bishop in 1924.

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