

The Catholic Journal

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Still At It.

The "100 per centers" who want to restrict immigration to the Nordic races, in the main, are attacking the problem from another angle as can be seen from the following editorial in a recent issue of the New York "World":— The Senate debate on reapportionment has inspired Mr. Capper to follow one of the Kansas Representatives in aiming a blow at the alien. He has introduced a resolution for a constitutional amendment which would exclude all aliens from the population counted for representation. What is more, he says he feels sure that the necessary States will ratify it. There is no doubt that it will be popular in some of the slow-going rural States which are jealous of fast-going urban neighbors. As Mr. Capper remarks with satisfaction, it would penalize five of the latter by giving nine extra Congressmen to the former.

This appeal to State selfishness is the only one that can honestly be made for the resolution. There are good reasons why the Constitution makers wished aliens counted. They have a right to representation. It takes at least five years and three months for an alien to win citizenship—in the vast majority of instances several years more. The restrictions are careful, the red tape is voluminous, the expense considerable. Meanwhile the great majority of aliens are hard-working, loyal residents; creating wealth; subject to military service; in many States allowed to vote; owning property and rearing children. They pay taxes; they obey the laws. It is unfair to their interests and to the States in which they live to exclude them from the count for representation. This indicates that the spirit of 1896 is still abroad in the land. Cut down the representation of the Eastern States but legislate so they have to pay 90 per cent of the government revenues and then apportion 75 per cent of the National expenditures to the South and West which raises not to exceed 25 per cent of the revenues to meet these expenditures.

If the contractors clean the walks of snow the taxpayers will not kick too strenuously on the cost of the work.

After all, city manager is not the sort of job to appeal to the average man.

Outside Opinion.

No matter what Mr. Coolidge, Mr. Morrow or Mr. Hoover may say, the Mexican situation is not what it should be. Just peruse these excerpts from a review of Captain Francis McCullagh's "Red Mexico" by Stanley E. Babb, a non-Catholic:— A violent, vitriolic, heavily documented, biased yet manifestly impressive denunciation of the incredible efforts of the present rulers of Mexico—"Calles and Co."—to crush the Catholic Church and to stamp out the Catholic religion; a sharp and pointed criticism of the attitude toward Mexico and its present rulers, and an extraordinarily vivid and poignantly tragic revelation of the conditions now prevailing in Mexico—all this, and even more, is Capt. McCullagh's "Red Mexico."

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"Red Mexico" is, in all probability the most vicious attack upon the anti-Catholic movement which Calles has engineered in Mexico yet put down upon paper. It is a really sensational document, made intentionally so in an effort to arouse America's humanitarian instincts and to jolt America out of its astonishing apathy over what the author describes as the ruthless slaughter of thousands of people guilty of nothing more than being devout Catholics. It contains a mass of startling and astounding information, and is written in a white heat of social indignation. We Capt. McCullagh in Mexico City now that this volume has been published, he would, in all likelihood, be arrested, marched to the Garden of Death and there summarily executed by a firing squad.

"Red Mexico" is biased, one-sided, in that Capt. McCullagh writes from a Catholic point of view and voices an unbounded sympathy for the persecuted Catholics and an unbounded scorn for their persecutors. But even this bias fails to vitiate this book; indeed, it serves a definite purpose in that it gives added emphasis to Capt. McCullagh's facts, conclusions and contentions. Even admitting that there are two sides to every question and that only one side is narrated to see how the other side can make a case for itself in view of the overwhelming and blood-stained evidence against it.

The press finds fault with Governor Roosevelt's first executive budget because it is higher than last year but it does not specify in what respect it should be pruned. There are more children in schools cost more. There are more insane, hence more money to run the state hospitals. And so it goes. Either reduce and curtail state activities, or prepare to pay the bill.

Real Men.

In the death of Oscar Underwood and the retirement from the United States Senate of James A. Reed, the public life of the United States loses two commanding figures and the forces of intolerance are confronted with two worthy antagonists.

It is not too much to say that the rise in influence of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama was a weighty factor in determining Senator Underwood to retire from public life. He could not contemplate patiently Tom Heffin as a senatorial colleague. While there are other contributing causes, the Klan and the smug hypocrites have much to do with Senator Reed's retirement to private life.

Both men were outspoken in their denunciation of intolerance and hypocrisy. Public life was graced by such men as Underwood and Reed. Their elimination spells weakness in public life.

Governor Roosevelt is no echo. He appears to have decided views of his own.

Marathan dances are not to be if the Albany legislators have their way.

"I Told You So!"

For the benefit and information of non-Catholics and Catholics alike, we republish this editorial from the "Catholic Transcript" of Hartford, Conn.—

The Catholic Register of Toronto wonders how many people have heard that the Roman Rota recently denied the petition of Prince Ludovic Potenziani for an annulment of his marriage to the Princess, on the alleged ground that the ceremony took place "without her full consent." Very few, in all probability. The daily press displayed no interest in the case. No glaring headlines heralded that bit of news. Indeed the incident was passed over almost completely, if not completely.

What a furore we witnessed several months ago when the Rota granted a decree of nullity to the Duke of Marlborough! That was "big" news. Every secular paper in the country gave it emphatic prominence. And how the tongues wagged! Protestant ecclesiastics of high and low degree were shocked and grieved. Some of our worldly-wise or-religionists, too, professed horror while others winked knowingly and shouted in a stage whisper, "I told you so. With money and influence you can get anything."

But as far as wealth and prestige are concerned, Prince Potenziani outrisps the Duke of Marlborough. He is rated the largest land-owner in Italy. He belongs to one of the oldest and most aristocratic families of Italian nobility. At present he enjoys the honor of being the Roman Governor. In his own country he is a much more conspicuous and distinguished figure than is the Duke of Marlborough in England. "Money and influence will get you anything. So said the indignant scandal-mongers. So intimated certain outraged churchmen. But the

Cannon.

Patrick F. Scanlon, of the Brooklyn "Tablet" does not propose that Methodist Bishop Cannon shall escape public notice. Here is the free advertising he gives the militant Methodist in the last issue of the "Tablet":—

Bishop James Cannon, Jr., of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, has been selected by the Christian Herald Association of New York, as the American citizen who, during 1928, made "the most significant contribution to religious progress."

For example, there is the man whom his supporters call the greatest Secretary of the Treasury since Alexander Hamilton. Mr. Mellon is certainly not the man to jump whenever a two-by-four politician snaps his fingers. Mr. Mellon pays not the slightest attention when the metropolitan press assails him. Mr. Mellon is unmoved when Senators roar against him. But when Bishop Cannon writes him a critical note, the silent Mr. Mellon instantly becomes voluble. He pours out a flood of explanations and excuses for his conduct. It is clear that even the Secretary of the Treasury does not care to incur the ill-will of the dreaded Bishop.

In short, Bishop Cannon has become a political boss by comparison with whom the late Charlie Murphy of Tammany Hall, resembles a piking ward politician.

Bishop Cannon's eminence, therefore is not to be denied. He is a political factor of prime importance. But what has this to do with religion?

Weekly Calendar Of Feast Days

Sunday, February 10.—St. Scholastica, Abbess, was the sister of the great patriarch, St. Benedict and the foundress of a community near Monte Casino. When she died, St. Benedict, her spiritual daughter, and the monks sent by St. Benedict, lamented her loss. She died about the year 543.

Monday, February 11.—St. Severinus forsook the world and became head of the great abbey of St. Maurice. He was of a noble Burgundian family. Many miracles are ascribed to his intercessions, among them being the cure of Clovis, the first of the Christian Kings of France. The Saint died in 507.

Tuesday, February 12.—St. Benedict of Anian restored monastic discipline throughout France and Germany. He codified the Rules of St. Benedict and died in 821.

Wednesday, February 13.—St. Catherine of Ricci was born in Florence and entered the Third Order of St. Dominic at the age of thirteen. She had the Sacred Stigmatæ, the wound in the left side and the crown of thorns and was miraculously permitted to participate in the Passion of the Saviour.

Thursday, February 14.—St. Valentine suffered persecution under Claudius II and was beheaded in 270. He is responsible for having given a Christian character to the feast of the goddess Juno in February.

Friday, February 15.—Sts. Faustina and Jovita, were brothers who preached during the early persecutions in the city of Brescia. They were martyred in 121.

Saturday, February 16.—St. Onesimus was converted and baptized by St. Paul in the prison in Rome. He suffered martyrdom in the year 95.

Prince no doubt thinks otherwise. Apparently he did not employ his power and influence to the best advantage. Too bad he neglected to seek counsel on this side of the Atlantic!

The New York "World" sees no great difference between Tammany Hall and Samuel Koenig's Republican machine in New York City but it would like to see Al. Smith elected mayor on a non-partisan ticket.

Late comers at public functions or just plain public nuisances.

Why should New York City's municipal radio station have to divide time with a station conducted under sectarian auspices? Why are licenses granted to stations whose principal stock in trade is abuse and vilification of the Catholic Church?

Old age pensions and unemployment insurance are subjects near to the heart of the present chief executive of New York state.

Whether Lincoln said it or not, it is true that "you can't fool all the people all of the time."

Group Conversions To Church Unlikely, Says British Priest

London, Feb. 1.—Even if the Church of England should be disestablished, large "group conversion" to the Catholic Church are not to be expected, Father Woodlock asserted in an address at Farm street here.

But he does not think any political party would face the complex and politically contentious measure of disestablishment, though several Anglican Bishops claimed that spiritual freedom of the Church was inconsistent with Establishment.

Father Woodlock was of opinion that the reasons which led individual converts to Rome in the past would be still more obvious and cogent to effect individual conversion, as the decay of Anglo-Catholicism became more pronounced through the absorption of modernism into its system.

Father Woodlock was speaking on behalf of the funds of the Converts Aid Society. He stated that since the Oxford movement nearly a thousand clergymen had sacrificed their position of dignity and their means of livelihood for conscience sake and had entered the Catholic Church as laymen.

Life Of St. Wenceslas

Written By Scientist

(Prague Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service).

Prague, Czechoslovakia, Jan. 21.—A. Naegle, well-known German scientist and professor of the German theological faculty at Prague has lately published a work entitled "Der Heilige Wenzel, der Landespatron Bohemens" (Holy Wenceslas the Patron Saint of Bohemia) on the life of St. Wenceslas, which is a unique contribution to the saint's jubilee by an expert scientist and devout lover of the Saint.

The book is the result of thorough historical research and has been well received in Czech and German circles. It ends with the exhortation that both the Czechs and Germans inhabiting the beautiful Czechland (Bohemia) vie in grateful esteem of the sublime ideal and enlightened statue of their Patron.

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The Church's Liturgy.

February 10: Quinquagesima

In the Mass of Quinquagesima Sunday the Church gives us her last instructions regarding the penances we are to perform during Lent; namely, good works will not bring us God's blessing unless we do them out of love for God. In the Epistle for today, St. Paul says: "If I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing." Moreover, "Charity... rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things."

St. Paul wishes to teach us that if we have a true love-for God in our hearts, life will pass as a song, severe though our trials may be. In like manner, Lent will not be boring, tedious time if sometimes if we try to appreciate God's goodness, and to love Him for it.

The Apostle's intense love for God overflows the Epistle, as it were, and saturates the other parts of the Mass. Love is the keynote of the entire Mass. Though Lent has not yet commenced and Easter is far in the distance, the Church forgets the hardships of the present and almost joyfully looks ahead to Christ's triumph over sin. "Thou art the God that alone dost wondrous... with Thy arm Thou hast redeemed Thy people." (Gradual). The Tract is an echo of the Epistle: "Jubilate Deo—sing joyfully to God all the earth: serve ye the Lord with gladness: We must do penance, but let it be the penance of free men who sing as they labor, and so do not mind the sweat and the aching of their limbs.

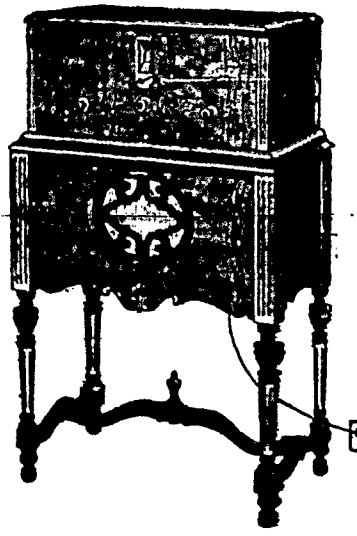
The Gospel shows us Christ healing the blind beggar by the wayside. He was a grateful beggar: "And immediately he saw and followed Him (Christ), glorifying God; and all the people when they saw it, gave praise to God." By the blind beggar Christ meant us. He has opened our eyes to the truth. Christ in His sufferings during Lent as did the beggar glorifying and giving praise to God who generously gave His only begotten Son for our Salvation.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Today the Church blesses the ashes to be sprinkled upon the heads of the faithful. This blessing is a very beautiful one, composed of four prayers directed to God, each having a special application for our consideration. We will let them speak for themselves. The first prayer begs God to make holy the ashes, "that whosoever may be sprinkled with these same ashes for the remission of their sins may receive both health of body and safety of soul."

The second is an explanation of the rite: "Bless these ashes which we put upon our heads in token of our lowliness and to obtain forgiveness of our sins; so that as we know ourselves to be but ashes, and because of our guilt doomed to return to dust, we may deserve to obtain pardon of our sins." The third prayer is a petition that those sprinkled with ashes may be filled with the true spirit of penitence. The fourth begs the God Who pardoned the Ninivites doing penance in sack cloth and ashes to help us that we may be able to imitate them outwardly and thereby obtain His forgiveness. With this simple yet sublime confession of our sinfulness we enter with Christ and the Church upon the forty days fast of Lent in preparation for the glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday.

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Famous Catholic Publishing House Increases Capital

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) London, Jan. 28.—Burns, Oates and Washbourne, Ltd., one of the best known of the Catholic publishing houses here, has undergone reconstruction. It is disclosed this week, and is now a public company with a share capital of \$1,125,000. The capital has already been subscribed. The directors of the new company are all Catholics and it is provided that none but Catholics may serve in that capacity. Mr. Charles Terry is chairman and Managing Director, and the other directors are Mr. Thomas Washbourne and Mr. Percy Briggs.

The firm of Burns and Oates was established 80 years ago by Mr. James Burns soon after his reception into the Church. He was the son of a Presbyterian minister. His wife was also a Catholic and after her husband's death she entered religion, as did their five daughters. Their son became a priest.

Later on Mr. Burns was joined by Mr. William Oates, also a convert. The firm of R. and T. Washbourne, which was amalgamated with Burns and Oates after the world war, was founded in 1864.

Non-Catholic Club Hears Address On Church Teachings

Utica, N. Y., Feb. 1.—Members of the Torch Club, a non-sectarian organization, listened to an address on the history and teachings of the Catholic Church by George N. Schuster, associate editor of The Commonweal, at a meeting held here recently. At the outset of his address, Mr. Schuster said it was only on rare occasions that a Catholic layman was invited to discuss with others the essence of his belief and asked his audience to bear in mind the fact that he had no authority to speak but that he presented what seemed to him the chief aims of the Church. At the conclusion, Mr. Schuster answered many questions asked by non-Catholics in his audience.