

The Catholic Courier And Journal

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Priests of the Diocese, Maurice F. Sammons, Managing Editor

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Friday, February 14, 1930.

CATHOLIC ACTION IN CHINA

The consoling advance of the Catholic action movement in China has thrown into relief the importance for the Church of prepared leaders and has inspired a body of intellectuals of North China to organize an association to be known as the "Friends of Studies".

Members of the association will be first of all Catholic men distinguished by their correct lives and their learning and then any other Church members interested in promoting the intellectual standing of Catholics.

It is inspiring to our people in America to read about work of this nature—effective, well organized work that has brought excellent results and that will continue to do so.

STRENGTHENING THE STRANDS

It is heartening to read about the way Catholic priests, Protestant ministers and Jewish rabbis are getting together in many places to give serious consideration to the serious subject of religious prejudices.

The Fellowship Roarers in Washington has sent out a violent appeal to all loyal Americans to stand back of Alabama's big bag of wind.

There is nothing startling about this for professional bigots are always after the dollar. They have no principles, no ideals, no honor, no honesty.

There is no denying that this kind of buncombe and of bigotry has got a violent hold on the State of Alabama. We repeat, therefore, that it is heartening to read about good men of all religious beliefs getting together to put an end to it.

OUR LADY OF THE MISSIONS

Who is the strength and the light and the life that leads the missionary over the pagan highways? Who is the tender who consoles him? Who is his love of peace during storms of strife?

The Sanctuary Lamp

A spark of flame, a pulse of fire, In the twilight church aflare Is it a star let down from heaven

Above, below, the shadows creep: The fragrant night is damp. Draw closer to the light, my soul!

The trembling rays, like fingers, touch The tabernacle white. Wouldst fain unlock the little door

Would I could catch the glittering chains And draw thee through the gloom? Thy precious oils my sinful hands,

The wick of Faith; of love, the oil, Wherewith the flames are fed. Draw up my soul on golden chains,

peared to a humble peasant girl who was ignorant, poor and plain, and the while she smiled at her, Bernardette's face became transfigured with an ethereal beauty.

From the grotto of heaven Our Lady's love shines forth upon the fields afar. It flings itself around the missionary and the while it caresses him his sorrow turns to joy.

But from the grotto of heaven Our Lady's love shines not only upon the fields afar, but also upon the whole world. It shines down on us; but do we realize it?

A tortured man carrying a cross mounts up the hill to Calvary. His head is bowed and his heart is bleeding. He slowly ascends and stands on the top of the hill.

EVELYN SEMO, Junior Class, Nazareth Academy.

OUR FRIEND

The papers have been filled with pictures often repeated of the home coming of one of the greatest men the country can boast of. Millions thought of him, alone in the air over the broad Atlantic, and from many lips came a murmured prayer for his safety.

But there is another with us. And that other is He who died for mankind. He lives wherever there is a Catholic church. In the quiet of the tabernacle, He looks out upon His people.

But do we see the crowds rushing to see Him? His home is open from daylight to dark. Now and then a few thoughtful friends drop in to show Him that all for whom He died have not forgotten Him.

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A Catholic Removes His Hat

When passing a Catholic Church, as a mark of respect and honor to God who really and truly dwells therein, just as he, like every good American, removes his hat in respect and honor to the flag passing by.

THE FATHER OF AMERICAN SHORTHAND, THOMAS LLOYD, WAS A CATHOLIC

that their faith is real, and active and understanding, who will take the time even on the Lord's day to attend that solemn and inspiring service of holy mother Church, the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

When our time here is over; when our eyes are growing dim to the things of earth we have loved too well; when we see them fading from our view, and then pass forever; when our eyes open upon eternity, and we gaze into the living face of Him who is to be our Judge, who lived in our cities in the silence and loneliness of the tabernacle, deserted by us in life here

Let us honor men of worth. But let us honor above all, and always, God, made Man, living on our altars. Let more of us attend Mass on weekdays. Let us drop in to see Him on our way to work, on our way home.

ARE CATHOLIC TEACHERS BARRED?

"My dear Miss Mulholland: You did not answer one of my questions satisfactorily. I was anxious to know whether or not you were a Protestant or a Catholic. If you belong to the Protestant religion, report immediately and send me a wire letting me know when you will arrive so that I can make my arrangements accordingly.

The above letter was written by the Principal of the Public High School in the village of Harriman, Orange County, N. Y., a part of the great Archdiocese of New York. It was written to a school teacher in Plattsburg, N. Y., Miss Anna Mulholland, aged 24, who had made application to Principal Hoffman for a position as teacher in the Harriman High School.

No equivocation there. No hypocrisy. No running around the lilac tree. But right straight from the shoulder: Give Willy Hoffman credit for that. He had been doing this thing for so long that it had become matter-of-fact with him.

Sunday's Liturgy

By Dom Roger Schoenbecker, O.S.B.

(Prepared for the N. C. W. C. News Service by the Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minn.)

Collect of the Mass: "Graciously, O Lord, we beseech Thee, the prayers of Thy people: that we, who are justly afflicted for our sins, may be mercifully delivered for the glory of Thy name. Through our Lord Jesus Christ."

On Septuagesima Sunday the great liturgical drama of the Church year undergoes a complete shifting of scenes. During the Christmas cycle, which closed yesterday at Vespers, we celebrate God's becoming man. We now begin the Easter cycle which celebrates the reason why He became man, "to clothe us, namely, with His glorious divinity in the mystery of the Resurrection."

"Shave the back of my neck straight down, if you please."

The Principal's letter, public property now, has caused a great uproar. Violent demands are being made for his removal as head of the Harriman High School. It is charged, and properly, that he has violated the school laws of the State, and the Constitution of the United States. But we would advocate his removal for worse cause than that—for dense ignorance.

In spite of the amazing candor of Principal Hoffman, we refuse to become unduly excited against him. In fact, the Catholics of this State owe him a vote of gracious thanks. He has let the pig out of the bag. He has opened the door to a malodorous condition that pollutes the very atmosphere of free America.

In a number of villages in this State the meetings of Public School Boards are opened by prayer by Methodist or Baptist ministers. If the religion of a Catholic agent is known, he cannot sell two cents' worth of supplies to many of our public schools. He is automatically disqualified. It is a common thing for some School Boards, in letting contracts for new buildings, or new equipment, to "fish around" and try to find out if an agent is a Catholic.

There isn't a particle of use in getting excited over this state of affairs. Breaking Principal Hoffman's head in the village of Harriman won't solve the trouble. Nor will the passing of fiery resolutions by Catholic societies, or the writing of denunciatory letters to School Boards.

Feb. 16 Septuagesima Sunday

are given the time from Septuagesima Sunday to the beginning of Lent to prepare ourselves gradually for the approaching austerities of Lent with its prayer, fasting, and mortification in union with Christ in the desert and on His way to Calvary. "Christ preaching" characterizes Septuagesima, while "Christ suffering" sums up Lent and Passiontide. During Lent we shall perform the works to which Mother Church exhorts us, through the liturgy, during the preceding season of Septuagesima.

WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor

A Jesuit priest in New York City says too many Catholics are asleep. He probably made this discovery just before the collection box was passed. But there is no cause for worry. A good pastor wakes them up.

Good land o' Goshen! This is getting to be a queer country. You can shoot a man in Chicago, and hardly get your name in the papers. But 127 men who attended a rooster fight in Goshen, N. Y., were fined a total of approximately \$2,000 the other day. Fifteen State Troopers rounded up the bunch, roosters and all, and a country justice did the rest, by gosh!

A minister in New York City has been restrained by the Courts from further dealing in securities until an investigation has been completed of charges that he has been defrauding his parishioners by selling them worthless mining stock. It wouldn't be a bad idea, at the same time, to investigate the merits of the religion he has been dealing out to his people.

Six banks closed their doors in one county in the State of North Carolina within 24 hours recently. North Carolina, it will be remembered, broke its traditional Democratic loyalty and went for Hoover in the late presidential election. In an atmosphere that is enriched by the aroma of thousands of "moonshine" stills, a majority of the church people of that state vilified their bigotry by vicious attacks on the "wetness" of Al. Smith, and clamored for Hoover and Hoover prosperity.

Two great meetings under Catholic auspices were held in Rochester this week, one on Monday evening by the Catholic Women's Club; the other on Wednesday evening by the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus. Close to one thousand people were present at these meetings. Religion, love of home, love of children and love of country were emphasized at these meetings.

In a thriving village in Central New York not long ago, the Principal of the High School made a lot of scurrilous remarks about St. Patrick to his students, one 17th of March. The village priest, hearing about it, wrote a letter that, for fire and brimstone, eclipsed the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius. But a friend prevailed upon the priest to tear up the letter and invite the Principal to have dinner with him. This was done, and during the dinner the priest very nicely told the Principal he had heard about his remarks on St. Patrick, and how sorry he was to have such things told to American boys and girls in a village where everybody should live like brothers and sisters.

Therein, we believe, is the answer to all this bigotry—education, not abuse; interest, not isolation; friendship, not criticism; kindness, not aggressiveness. This course will help our people, and it will help our Church.

Life of Newman, Book Club Choice For This Month

New York, Feb. 14.—Announcement has come from the offices of the Catholic Book Club, 461 Eighth Avenue, New York City, that the Editors have chosen "Cardinal Newman" by J. Lewis May, as the Catholic book of the month. This sympathetic biography of one of the great, and, in his day, much misunderstood Church leaders, comes at a time when much thought is being devoted to educational fundamentals. In the last century many things, some of them harsh, were said about Newman and his ideal Catholic University. We of today are realizing that his dreams were not those of a visionary, but represented principles common to every age in which the Church functioned as the social arbiter, and not as a tolerated organization.

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