

The Catholic Courier And Journal

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Friday, February 21, 1930.

HOPEFUL SIGNS IN MEXICO

There are hopeful signs in Mexico. The recent attempted assassination of President Rubio caused no uproar in official circles against the Catholic Church.

FAITH BUYS A MANSION

Faith has bought a mansion in India. During the summer a central committee was formed in Bangalore, with the Bishop of Mysore as chairman, to collect a fund to purchase a home for the Apostolic delegate to India.

A PLEA FOR FOREIGN MISSIONARY WORK

My plea is for foreign missionary work. The average man looks on foreign missions as an attempt to christianize a people of relatively inferior civilization.

Multiplication

I take my leave with sorrow of Him I love so well; I look my last upon His small and radiant prison cell.

SAYINGS OF WASHINGTON

Commerce and industry are the best mines of a nation. Let your heart feel for the afflictions and distress of every one.

Let the experience and precedent of the past be the guide for the future. What do you think would have happened to the Catholic Church in America if the Spanish, French, Irish, English and other priests had refused to leave their own lands until everyone in them was converted?

America was astounded recently by the brutal murder in China of three valiant missionaries. God will reward these sacrifices in the increase of vocations for foreign mission work.

Our priests and nuns are ready. The thing that is lacking is the generous support of the Catholic body as a whole. What has been accomplished thus far is due to the zeal of particular groups or persons.

GEORGE WASHINGTON

It would be well for us all if we would read the life of George Washington occasionally. And it would be a fine thing for all of us if we would cultivate the spirit of service, of patriotism and of sacrifice that were outstanding characteristics in the life of Washington.

Freedom of Thought and Catholics

We praise the captain of an ocean liner for obeying the warning signals flashed from the coast. Catholics should be praised for obeying the dogmatic decisions of the Church.

VALENTINE, THE FATHER OF ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY, WAS A CATHOLIC PRIEST.

When the patriot cause was enveloped in black despair, he placed his trust in God. He never wavered or gave way to despair. The victories of Princeton and of Trenton, won by an army that left blood-tracks in the snow, were like bolts of lightning from the sky.

We have been slipping away from the ideals of Washington; not badly, or dangerously, perhaps; but slipping, nevertheless. That is why it will do us all good to read the life of the Father of Our Country.

IN REGARD TO DRESS

Very often we are told that "Style is Supreme." It may be. But there is something that overshadows it—decency, morality. This is emphatically emphasized in instructions just adopted and promulgated at the Vatican by the Sacred Congregation of the Council to Bishops of the Catholic Church.

Parents are urged to inculcate in the souls of their daughters, by word and ex-

ample, "the love of the virtues of modesty and chastity."

Parents are urged to keep their daughters away from public gymnastic games, or to see that they are modestly dressed if they are compelled to attend such games.

Teachers in girls' schools are asked to do their utmost to instill love of modesty in the hearts of the girls, and to urge them to dress modestly.

Teachers "must not receive in their colleges and schools immodestly dressed girls," and mothers of pupils are to be forbidden to visit the children if the mothers are immodestly dressed.

Nuns are directed not to receive in their colleges, schools or recreation grounds immodestly dressed girls or women, and are asked to do their utmost to teach holy chastity and Christian modesty to pupils under their care.

Women are requested to organize pious organizations to combat the wearing of apparel unsuited to Christian modesty.

If any members of such pious associations should wear immodest clothing, they are to be dismissed from membership at once.

The ninth rule is a most emphatic one: "Maiden and women dressed immodestly are to be banned from Holy Communion, and from acting as godmothers in the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, and if it be an extreme case, may be forbidden to enter the Church."

Prayers and sermons for the promotion of Christian modesty are recommended for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

The Diocesan Council of Vigilance "should at least once a year seek the best means to preserve the modesty of feminine dress."

On every third year, Bishops and other ordinaries are asked to make reports to the Sacred Congregation covering the conditions as to the mode of dress in their Dioceses.

These instructions, followed out carefully as they will be throughout the country, will surely have good effect, and be productive of desired results. That they are badly needed, no one will gainsay. Of late years the styles in the dress of women have run violently to the extreme, so much so that the above instructions have been deemed most necessary.

RELIGION IN RUSSIA

The horrible, sacrilegious iniquities which have been committed against religion in Russia, to quote the words of Pope Pius XI, are rapidly arousing the entire Christian world. Mass meetings in protest have been and are being held all over England, France, Germany, Austria, Ireland, and other countries.

Pope Pius has asked the entire Christian world to unite with him in prayer on St. Joseph's Day, March 19, for a cessation of the Bolshevik atrocities. The

WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor

Mrs. Mabel Walker Willebrandt has been arrested for speeding. Perhaps her automobile had too much alcohol in it.

President Hoover has asked the Republican leaders in Congress to speed up the tariff bill. Why ask the gentlemen to leave their liquor?

"New Jersey," said Prohibition Administrator William J. Calhoun of that State, the other day, "is bone dry." Without reflecting in any way upon the gentleman's veracity, we suggest that when Mr. Calhoun dies he be buried, not by the side of Baron Munchausen, but on top of him.

The Philadelphia Board of Education, by a unanimous vote, recently refused to permit high school students to devote one hour a week to religious instruction. General Smedley Butler wasted too much time on bootleggers, we would say, while he was cleaning up the city.

In Corning, N. Y., there is a church maintained by the Koo-koo night shift folks. It caught fire while they were holding services the other night, and the members stuck to their seats and to the services while firemen fought the blaze. It's good judgment, we'd say, for them to start getting used to fire in this world.

Anglican Archbishop of Canterbury, following the example of the Pope, has called upon all Anglican churches in England to unite in prayer for the same purpose on March 16.

"We all know," said the Archbishop of Canterbury, "that during that week multitudes of our fellow-Christians throughout the world, at the bidding of his Holiness, the Pope, will be joining in our prayers."

Cardinal Bourne of England recently declared that if Bolshevism cannot be curbed the results will be terrible, not only in Russia, but all over the world.

Pope Pius, in his recent letter of protest against conditions in Russia, said: "The promoters of these iniquities wish to strike by this agitation at religion and God Himself and to bring about the ruination of minds and even human nature itself."

At a recent mass meeting in London, Viscount Brentford said:

"Have you heard of the Archbishop who was buried alive after his eyes had been put out; of another Bishop who was plunged into quicklime; of another Archbishop who was hanged in front of his own altar; of three priests who were thought worthy to suffer the death that Christ suffered and were crucified; of another who was stripped naked and sprayed in a Russian winter with cold water until he was a frozen statue of ice?"

These terrible things, just a few of the incidents related at this mass meeting, give us an appalling glimpse of the conditions faced by religion in Russia at the present time. Everywhere men and women are being persecuted, robbed, imprisoned, shot, or tortured. Working people are being bribed by rich promises, or driven by threats, to take part in public processions designated as anti-God, and in Moscow and other places the Godless League is a militant and powerful one. Churches are being closed all over the land, despoiled, desecrated. The great Cathedral of Moscow, venerable with age and historic in character, is to be turned into an anti-God museum. The cathedral of Peter the Great in Leningrad already has been made into such a museum, and its marvelous bells removed and destroyed.

In our own State Legislature at Albany a resolution has been introduced protesting against these outrages, and all over the world the Christian spirit is being aroused by the horror of the conditions.

Let us join our Holy Father, the Pope, in prayers to God on March 19 for the alleviation of these conditions, and let us watch and pray that godless men are never permitted to seize our Government and dominate our people.

Sunday's Liturgy

By Doni Ambrose Witman, O.S.B.

Feb. 23

Sexagesima Sunday

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

For today and the whole coming week Mother Church prompts us to turn to God with stronger faith and trust in Him. She prompts us at the same time to ask for the intercession of that valiant fighter for Christ, the Apostle Paul. We gather in spirit at St. Paul's Basilica for the great sacrifice; his church is the station church for today. The Collect runs thus:

"O God, who seest that we put not our trust in anything that we do of ourselves; mercifully grant that by the protection of the Doctor of the Gentiles we may be defended against all adversities."

The thoughtful Christian realizes that he is entirely dependent upon God in all that he does. It is a fact which he will never lose sight of, and this dependence of his on the Creator will color his entire attitude toward life, will lead him to true values, and will be the basis for all his efforts toward gaining happiness.

If the great apostle of the gentiles tells us in the Epistle that he is weak and infirm, certainly we must admit the same of ourselves. Whatever the work toward that without the help of God we could do nothing: "we put not our trust in anything that we do of ourselves." But with the Lord's assistance we can do great things. The Church today directs to us the very words of assurance which St. Paul received: "My grace is sufficient for thee" (Epistle).

In the last part of our prayer we ask that "we may be defended against all adversities." Against all adversities," we say; not only against the adversities from without, such as bodily hardships, but also those from within, that spring from our coldness of faith and our inclinations to evil. In this coming Lenten season we are going to put forth special efforts to make our lives conform more closely to the ideal set by the Savior. When making these Lenten resolutions we must therefore remember all the more "not to put our trust in ourselves."

The Masses we attend offer us the best guarantee that our prayer will

be heard and that our Lenten efforts will be successful. "May the sacrifice-offered to thee, O Lord, ever enlighten and protect us" (Secret). Holy Mass and Communion will gradually prepare our hearts for the good seed spoken of in today's Gospel, so that we too will "bring forth fruit." The help we call for in the Collect "against all adversities" is abundantly granted in the sacrificial banquet of the Mass.

In the Collect we admitted that we cannot trust to our single efforts; we approach the holy table therefore to unite ourselves with Him who can and will help us. Today's Postcommunion should be the earnest request: "we then put to our divine Guest: "... that we, who have been refreshed by Thy sacraments, may so live as to do Thee worthy and acceptable service."

The Catholic Courier and Journal is the Official Catholic Paper of the Diocese of Rochester, Published in Rochester by Rochester People.

Chinese Girl, Ill, Saved By Priest, When Left to Die

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Sunchong, South China, Feb. 21—In the interior of China, even Catholics are not always able to lay aside the superstitious dread of death in the house. As a result, they often place sick people out in the open, and abandon them, when a little care would have saved the sufferers' lives.

Recently, at Sunchong, where Father Robert J. Cairns of Worcester, Mass., is the Maryknoll pastor, a Catholic girl, seventeen years old, was ejected from her home while critically ill, covered with a mat, and left to die. The Chinese woman catechist of the mission called Father Cairns, who anointed the girl, and left medicine for her. The catechist devoted herself to the care of the supposedly dying girl, who recovered her health, and is now perfectly well again.