# The Catholic Courier

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Priests of the Diocese,

Maurice F. Sammons, Managing Editor

All communications for publication must be signed with the name and address of the writer, and must be in the Courier office by Tuesday preceding the date of publication.

#### Friday, April 18, 1980.

#### EASTER IN RUSSIA

"The Godless One" in Russia calls for peace on Easter Sunday. "The Godless One" is the official organ of "The League of Militant Godless," a society organized to fight God; to drive God out of Russia, and out of the hearts and lives of the people. "The Godless One" has a circulation of several millions of copies. The League has several million members.

The League had been planning to make a mockery out of Easter Sunday; to hold carnivals, open-air meetings, noisy demonstrations, etc., in front of every church that is still-used for Christian worship and Christian prayer. But the great public meetings of protest that are being held all over the Christian world—similar to the mass meeting in Convention Hall at which the Rev. Edmund J. Walsh, S.J., was the principal speaker—have had an effect, apparently, upon the atheistic minds of the Soviet rulers.

A recent issue of "The Godless One" carried an article entitled "No Noise," asking atheists and others to refrain from disturbing religious meetings on Easter Sunday. "It is not necessary, and it is not practical." the article says.

This change of heart, if really a sincere one, illustrates the great effect of moral force; the psychology of world action. No nation can exist for long to-day and stand alone; no people can succeed without the co-operation and good-will of other peoples. The Russians know that, and now they are "soft-peddling" the blasphemies they had planned for the great feast of Easter Sunday. Even this, the first sign of yielding to world prayer and protest, is well worth while. The voice of justice, like the voice of God, shall have weight and shall be heard. It is good.

## AN UNEXPECTED FRIEND

The Methodist Episcopal Board of Prohibition, Temperance and Public Morals
was put on the rack before the Caraway
Lobby Committee in Washington, D. C.,
the other day. The Committee launched
an inquiry into charges that the Methodist
Board is a lobby group. Representative
Tinkham, Republican, of Boston, was the
plaintiff. He is a non-Catholic, but on
various occasions has made public attacks
on the Methodist Board because of its
alleged interference with political affairs
in the Capitol.

Congressman Tinkham presented to the Committee many photostatic copies of official statements by the Methodist Board in political matters. He charged that the board kept a card index of all Senators and Congressmen, that the religious affiliation of each was recorded on the cards, and that the Methodist Board sought to influence votes through church channels. Senator Thomas Walsh of Montana, a Catholic, was the only member of the Caraway Committee who showed any inclination to defend the Methodist Board. The Methodists have ninety-four

"The Methodists have ninety-four members in the House of Representatives and thirty-two-in the Senate," Mr. Tinkham declared.

"What is wrong about that?" Senator Walsh demanded.

"The Methodists have listed these men

for the purpose of influencing their votes," said Mr. Tinkham.
"Isn't it a long stretch of imagination

to say that?" Mr. Walsh asked.
And so it went, Mr. Tinkham digging shapply; at the Methodist Board; Mr. Walsh staunchly defending some of the actions of the Board.

We wonder how Bishop Cannon, chairman of this Board, will feel about the unspected friendliness of Senator Walsh. Pinis and again Bishop Cannon has used a cose and libelous tongue on the Catholic Church, and has appealed to the religious projections of the Methodist people, was especially obnoxious in the common libelous alection. Now, when his board is threatened with a seat on the Carressional investigation, has Transley voice in its to Senator. To us there was a special section that A good these progressions investigation in the common that a good these progressions was a senator.

#### A Canticle for Holy Week

I see Thee 'neath the olive-trees once more,
Kneeling apart in grief, and lonely dread.
The blood out-gushing from each sacred

Dyeth Thy Seamless garment rosy red. The sin, the shame, the sorrow of a world, Upon Thy gentle Head, gigantic, hurl'd, Crush It, a broken Flower, to the

O Heart of Jesus! wring with agony,
The more Theu art abased and bruised
for me,

The greater grows, O suffering Lamb of God!
My love for Thee!

Robed in the ragged purple, meek and dumb,
And crown'd with piercing thorns, my

soul's Adored!
Thou standest in the old Pretorium,
The sport and victim of a brutal horde;
While in Thy hand they thrust the filthy reed,
Thine open wounds beneath Thy mantle bleed.

And ev'ry nerve is rack'd with suffering,—
O thorn-crown'd Heart! o'erwhelmed with obloquy,
The more Thom art abased and pierced

for me,
The stronger, deeper, grows mine outraged King!
My love for Thee!

The awful Sacrifice, at last, complete,
Upon the cross, I view Thee, cold and
dead;
All pulseless hang the mangled Hands and

Mutely pathetic droops the patient Head.

The white, the Roman soldier's javelin

The dear, defenceless Side hath entered in,
The last sweet drops are from the
Winepress pour'd,--

O wounded Heart! laid bare on Calvary, The more thou art abased and cleft for me, The greater, stronger, deeper grows, dear Lord!

My love for Thee!

—Eleanor C. Donnelly.

is a good Catholic, and the Methodist Board need have no fear that he will be anything but fair, square and impartial in any investigation to which the Board may be subjected. His Church has taught him that, and it would be well if all people would give thought to his action and learn the same good lesson of Christian justice and American fair play.

#### WHO CARES?

We all should care. We all should have an interest in others' eternal welfare, as our Lord had a great interest in ours. When the first muder took place in this world, and the first-born children of our first parents had their quarrel, Cain ran away from the bleeding body of his brother Abel. But he was stopped, and God spoke from high heaven, asking him where his brother was. And the answer was an insult to the Creator: "Am I my brother's keeper?"

Are we our brothers' keepers? We all are. During this Easter time all Catholics are to receive the Body and Blood of their Redeemer in Holy Communion. That is a law of the Church. It represents the least we can do. It does not show that we have any great love for our Saviour when the Church had to make that law. The loveof us for Him who opened heaven to us, a real heaven, should draw us to Him in that Sacrament of His love. No law of the Church should have been necessary. But it had to be made. Most of us are not driven by that law to the Communion rail. Most of us go because we want to go and receive the living Body and Blood of Him who died on Calvary, and Who rose from the dead on Easter day. But what about those others? Have we not a duty of charity to them?

Men who are brave enough on the battlefield are a little timid at times about approaching the Sacraments. You men, who are good practical Catholics should make yourselves your brothers' keepers. In a kind way you can extend to some brother man who is careless about going to the Sacraments an invitation to go with you. He will not go alone. But he will go with another. Then you become your brother's keeper; yes, the keeper of many of your careless brothers, for it is worth

We admire the man who at the risk of life will rush into a burning building to save the lives of others. We admire our brave fire laddies for the many heroic acts they have done in their usual duty, And it takes some spirit of heroism on our part at times to do more than saving a material life, and to invite another to go with you to confession this Easter time and to kneel by your side at the Communion rail. Perhaps it is your son who needs the invitation. Perhaps, sad to say, it is your father. Anyway, try by prayer and a cordial invitation to another to become the keeper of your brother's soul and show your bravery in saving one at least from eternal death, because of his neglect of the duties he owes to His God.

Some time ago two men brought another man to the church and introduced him to the pastor. He knew him. He had been trying to get him to come to the Sacraments. But he failed in spite of his good will and efforts. But his friends, the laymen with whom he worked, talked to the man, asked him to come with them and the three made their confessions and received their Easter Communion hext

Perhaps our friends the ladies; know of some they could influence in the same way Maybe daughter, it is your mother.

# \*Catholics And The Bible

Catholics believe the ordinary method of propagating Christianity is by PREACHING, not by reading or circulating the Bible. See Mark 16, 15. "Go ye into all the world and PREACH the gospel to every creature." PRINTING WAS NOT INVENTED UNTIL THE 15th CENTURY.

THE WORD "VOLTS" COMES FROM VOLTA,
THE GREAT CATHOLIC ELECTRICIAN

#### MINDING HIS OWN BUSINESS

"I should like to be known as a former President who tries to mind his own busi-

Thus Calvin Coolidge writes in the May issue of the Cosmopolitan magazine.

He is not throwing his soul into reform movements, or selling his photographs to safety razor or canned prune companies.

He is not carrying banners pro or con in the Prohibition debacle, or telling luncheon clubs what causes crime or indigestion.

He is not clamoring for this reform or that, or asking that our battleships be sunk and the tariff on chewing gum be reduced for the benefit of the poor.

He is quite content with life, serenely hopeful of America's ability to exist and run its owns affairs, and he is glad to get back to the quietness of private life and the blessed peace of his home

the blessed peace of his home.
"When I left Washington," he writes,
"I left public office. It is an incomprehensible relief."

It takes a sensible man to say that, And when Mr. Coolidge says he should like to be known as a former President who tries to mind his own business, we have a right to feel this is a proclamation that he is glad to get away from the busy-bodies in public life; from the professional reformers; from the men and women who are forever minding other peoples' business; in short, from the numerous common nuisances that infest American public life. He endured a lot from them. Every President has to endure them. But not every ex-President is honest enough to come out and say it is an "incomprehensible relief; to get away from them.

## EASTER WEEK, 1916

Easter Week in Ireland brings a commingling of religious and patriotic thoughts. For Easter Week in Ireland recalls that tragic execution of fifteen young Irishmen who had thrown themselves into the great task of attempting to set Ireland free. None knew better than they that the work was hopeless. But none knew better than they that the blood of patriot martyrs is necessary to keep a cause alive; to keep a nation alert. And so they died for Liberty—died gladly and with a fine, firm faith in the justness of

Patrick H. Pearse, Thomas McDonough, Joseph Plunkett, Edmund Kent, Thomas-J. Clark, James Connelly, John McDermott, Edward Daly, William Pearse, Cornelius Colbert, J. J. Heaston, Michael O'Hanrahan, James McBride, Michael Mallin, Thomas Kent.

Irishmen, the world over, this Easter week, will pray for the repose of their souls and will be watchful of the cause for which they gave their lives fourteen sad years ago.

## THE HAND OF GOD WILL FALL

The ridicule with which the Holy Father's recent effort to restore religious peace to the Russians demonstrates the hatred in the Soviet heart for the worship of God. It is a bold affront to the great ruler of Christendom who sent food and clothing in large quantities to rural Russia when the dump cans made their daily rounds to gather up the wasted remains of its hopeless human creatures. Then the Soviet accepted this great act of Christian charity and permitted the commissioners of the Holy Father to perform their works of mercy among a troubled people. But with the passing of that day, the disciples of the vicious Lenine began anew to persecute the millions who wished to kneel in their churches to worship God in peace.

It is inevitable that the hand of God will fall upon Sovietism and that a darker day will come—darker even than the blackest in the winter of anarchy.—Union and Times, Buffalo, N. Y.

In the Spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love—of the old bus.

The writer knows mothers who never go to Mass. They send their children. Why they do not come to Mass and the Sacraments is a puzzle to those who know them. The ladies then could become their sisters' keepers. It is worth while to try to bring back some wandering lamb. That lamb may owe his or her eternal happiness to you. And for an eternity that lamb, returned to the fold through you, will not fail to increase your happiness, because you saved a presions will for Heaven.

# CURRENT COMMENT

#### EASTER SUNDAY

Calvary's tomb, consecrated for all time by the body of the Saviour, is open now; the stone, rolled back. Death, king for a brief span, has been dethroned. The night's darkness is done. The gloom is gone.

"And in the end of the Sabbath, when it began to dawn towards the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalen and the other Mary, to see the sepulchre."

A tragic and historic picture these blessed women made. Grief in their hearts; sorrow in their souls; despair, almost, possessing them. The Grucifixion, with all its attendant horrors, its agony and its pathos, had submerged them with the desolation of woe. And with the dawn of that first glorious Easter morning in the long, long ago, they walked to the place where their hearts were buried with Him whom they loved.

It was not joy they expected; not the Resurrection they sought. It was to weep and pray by the tomb; relieve their souls of the sorrow that surged within; give themselves to God in love and in sweet communion. And lo! the great stone was rolled back, and an angel sat upon it.

"And his countenance was as lightning, and his raiment as snow."

Brilliant beyond the brilliancy of all things on earth; pure as the purest snow from Heaven. And the guards—Roman soldiers, sons of an empire that ruled the world—"were struck with terror, and became as dead men," St. Matthew tells us. But the angel turned towards the women and said: "Fear not you: for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified!"

Love answering love; joy unto joy: God's peace for the souls of God's servants. And it was thus that the news of the first Resurrection was given to the world: "He is not here, for He is risen, as He said. Come and see the place where the Lord was laid."

And they went quickly from the sepulchre with great joy, to tell His disciples; to tell all people that Christ had risen. And from the dawn of that wonderful day, through all the ages of time, in all the nations and among all the peoples of the Christian world, this great miracle of miracles, this Resurrection of the dead, has been heralded as a glorious event, celebrated as a great feast, with joy akin to that which filled the souls of "Mary Magdalen and the other Mary" in the shadow of Calvary's tomb, but a few hours after Calvary's sacrifice. The abysmal night of death is gone when Easter comes. Joy reigns. Love reigns. Gladness submerges the soul. We kneel at the altar of God. We partake of the body of the Saviour. We know and feel the beauty and the glory of Faith as we reach suppliant hands towards the all-hidden throne of the

May this Easter Sunday be blessed and happy for us all, and be a harbinger of other days akin to it, and may we keep its sweet significance in our hearts and souls, so that we shall live, walk and work closer to God and in ways that are pleasing to God. May its glory leave us never.

## TRAINING THE LAITY

It is well to study all the causes of the falling away from the Faith, and then to train our forces among the laity to cooperate with the clergy in bringing them back again or at least to stop the leakage still going on. If a hundred years ago, or fifty or even less, we had organizations of the laity as we now have the losses in fallen aways would not have been so great. We now have some trained workers at immigration points, social workers, home visitation nurses, social centers, day nurseries, catechists, student teachers for children going to public schools, summer religious vacation schools, kindergartens, St. Vincent de Paul societies, juvenile court workers as big brothers and big brothers and big sisters, etc.

The Catholic press, too, has grown by leaps and bounds and brings news and information on all these agencies and creates zeal for assisting in the work of the lay apostolate in the Church. No, Oklahoma is not a rare exception and not the last big field of defeat unless we prepare to promptly stem the tide of leakage in many places. Haiverse Pulletin, Cleve, land, O.

# WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor

President Hoover is showing signs of staunch Americanism. He opened the baseball season in Washington this week, pitching the first ball.

"Lady wins \$25,000," we read in a headline the other day. We thought she was betting on a horse race, but on reading the article we discovered it was a breach-of-promise suit.

Knock on wood. Mrs. Elfen Hayes, 100 years old, of Hull, England, dropped dead the other day as she finished reading a message from the King of England congratulating her on her long life.

When you sing "The Star Spangled Banner," it will be well to remember that the original manuscript of this famous patriotic song is now in the Chicago Archdiocesan Seminary. It was purchased some time ago by Cardinal Mundelein.

Getting a man's goat isn't half as bad as the goat getting the man. An Oakland, Cal., barber is suing the Knights of Pythias of that city for \$101,800 for injuries suffered while being initiated into the order. Two broken knees are among the memories he retains of the goat.

The White House, it seems, has no private library for the President and his family. Generous citizens are remedying that defect, and are presenting 500 beautifully-bound books as a nucleus for the library. Among the books is Alfred E. Smith's autobiography, "Up To Now." When President Hoover escapes from office seekers, professional reformers, public nuisances and aggressive legislators for a few minutes, it will do him a lot of good to sit down and read how Al. Smith has become a permanent and beloved leader in American life.

#### A GOOD DEED SHINING AFAR

There will be fewer men in the unemployment ranks, fewer wives and mothers anxious about the wolf at the door, and fewer children deprived of their childhood, when the \$2,000,000 diocesan building program inaugurated by Bishop Francis J. O'Hern of Rochester goes into effect this Spring. The effect of his letter to the priests of the diocese, urging their co-operation in this plan to aid the unemployed, will reach out far beyond parish lines and will make many understand the significance of the words—Catholic Social Action.—N. C. W. C. Social Action Bulktin.

## ABOUT NEWSPAPERS

It is of passing interest to note some figures about the daily papers started and the weeklies discontinued in 1929. Ayer's American Newspaper Annual for 1930 says that last year there was an increase of thirty-five in the number of dailies and a decrease of 404 in the number of weekly publications. At the same time there was an increased circulation for all periodicals of nearly 4,200,000 in the United States and Canada. "Among the Catholic press," we are told, "1929 played considerable havoc, as at least three weeklies ceased publications. What is still more discouraging is that several others are reported to be in straits." However, suspension of Catholic papers is considered encouraging by some, who say there are "too many" such papers, and who may hope to profit by what appears to be the misfortunes of others. There are not too many Catholic papers for a country having about 20,000,000 Catholic people. What is discouraging to publishers is that they are not fairly supported in many instances, even by persons who are loud speakers for a "strong Catholic press."—The Western Watchman, St. Louis, Mo.

## A PRECIOUS RELIC

Freighted with the memories of more

than a century Old Ironsides is a treasured relic that holds an affection in the hearts of Americans that will preserve the frigate as a memorial of the heroes who fought and died upon-her deck that their country and its liberty might be preserved. She has a distinction enjoyed by no other vessel of the American navy. Her deck is the only one in our navy that was trod by the feet of the Vicar of Christ. Beneath the Stars and Stripes that flowed from the masthead of the Constitution the saintly Pius IX, was guest of honor. In 1848 she was cruising in the Meditteranean Sea. The Pope had left Rome on account of Revolutionary troubles and was guest of the King of Naples. The Constitution under command of Captain Gwynn was anchored in the Bay of Naples with the war vessels of several other nations. An invitation was extended by Captain Gwynn to the Holy Father and the King to visit the ship. They accepted the invitation and were rowed out to the ship, by the captains of the other men-of-war. After greetings had been extended the Holy Father requested that the Catholic members of the crew be drawn up in line. This was done and the Pope gave each his blessing and presented each man with a rosary. Captain Gwynn died shortly afterwards and was buried in Italy. The Southwest Couries Oklahoma