

The Catholic Courier and Journal

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MEMORIAL DAY: Priests of the Diocese, Maurice F. Sammons, Managing Editor

Thursday, May 29, 1930.

MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day is to the Nation what All Souls' Day is to the Church—the day sacredly set apart for special communion with our beloved dead.

But when all is said and done, the best tribute we can pay our fallen soldiers is to live up to the ideals for which they died—ideals of truth, justice, right action, liberty.

Here is my love to you, flag of the free, and flag of the tried and true; Here is my love to your streaming stripes and your stars in a field of blue;

Here is my love to your silken folds wherever they wave on high, For you are the flag of a land for which 'twere sweet for a man to die."

BOOK PRICES CUT ONE-HALF

Four American publishing houses, including Doubleday, Doran, one of the largest in the country, announce that they will make a fifty per cent. reduction in the price of their fiction books.

This drastic cut in price means that efforts to safeguard young people from the effects of harmful books will have to be redoubled.

A bad book is poison to the mind. A bad book has been likened to a mad dog, running here and there, biting everybody and inculcating its victims with the virus of the rabies.

We do not mean that these firms are publishing a lot of evil books all of which they probably will publish only because there will be other buyers of the filthy kind.

Ora Pro Nobis

The great drive over, at close of day, Side by side on the field they lay: One from France, from Bavaria one; For each the battle of life was done.

Then he who had fought for the hills of France Fixed on the cross his drooping glance, And a light-of-the-soul came on his face: As he prayed, "Hail, Mary, full of Grace!"

And he from Bavaria turned his head: "Ora pro nobis," his white lips said, "Pray for us now and when death draws near."

The heart of the other leaped to hear. "I fought for my country, you fought for yours—

Who knows? The Kingdom of Heaven endures; Thither, my brother, we go as one." And together they passed—the great drive done.

—Edith Thomas.

THE JESUIT MARTYRS

On June 29 eight Jesuit martyrs of North America will be canonized Saints of God in Vatican City—Jean de Brebeuf—the "Ajax of the Missions"—Noel Chabanel, Anthony Daniel, Charles Garnier, Isaac Jogues, Gabriel Lallemand, all priests, and two lay brothers, Rene Goupil and John de la Lande.

These will be the first North American Saints in the history of the Church. South America has had her saint for long years—Saint Rose of Lima, canonized in 1671. They make an amazing company of heroes.

Captured by the Iroquois in March, 1649, with Father Lallemand, he and his fellow priest were tied to stakes in the midst of a group of their Huron converts. Brebeuf, tortured ferozishly himself, gave not the slightest heed to his own sufferings, but called words of encouragement to his converts and to Father Lallemand.

Lallemand, physically weak, possessed a soul of fire and was a rock of fortitude in the terrible death that was meted out to him. Chabanel, once a professor of Rhetoric in France, lover of poetry, cultured and retiring, died like a warrior on a field of battle.

Jogues, Goupil and De la Lande—our own New York State Saints—showed similar heroism and met similar tragic deaths. Father Jogues' life work reads like some great Romance of Love and Faith, devotion to duty and devotion to God.

They died—these heroic soldiers of the Cross—ad majorem Dei gloriam. Warriors of heroic mold, chivalrous Knights of the Faith, fearless advance guards of religion and of civilization, they made every sacrifice, endured every torture, and in agony unutterable gave their souls and their destiny to God.

The new curate preached on "Purgatory" for an hour and a quarter. "Did I keep you too long in Purgatory?" he asked a little, old lady after Mass.

31,000 KILLED; MILLION HURT

The National Conference on Street and Highway Safety has just issued a collection of statistics that is more than startling—it is terrifying. There were 33,060 deaths in the United States from accidents last year, 31,000 of them being due to automobile accidents.

This is the story, then, from the driver's seat in the family car, the taxi or the truck—31,000 killed; one million injured. It is an appalling total, worse than any battle ever fought by any American army.

The statistics show that deaths and injuries from automobiles are increasing more rapidly than is the motor vehicle registration. Fatalities from auto accidents increased 10.8 per cent. over 1928, and 147 per cent. over 1920.

Between 1922 and 1928 child fatalities from automobiles increased only 22.9 per cent, while adult fatalities increased 106.9 per cent. This is believed to be due to the fact that all schools teach safety and are continually warning children to be careful.

Drastic action is recommended by the National Safety Conference to put an end to this appalling state of affairs. And drastic action is necessary. The automobile has well-nigh destroyed all sense of kindly courtesy on streets and highways.

The novena held during the present week, at the direction of Bishop O'Hern, is one that has appealed to the people of the Diocese, old and young alike. Our Bishop has asked us to pray for more vocations to the religious life.

VOCATIONS

Our Bishop has asked us to pray for more vocations to the religious life. This Diocese has grown rapidly, and it is in need of many more churches and many more schools.

God, who made us, made us for some particular purpose. Some, He made for His special service in religion. Some, He has called to Himself in the Church to stand at the altar, or to work for the young in the schools and the sick in the hospitals.

This sad condition comes from many causes, and one of them is selfishness on the part of those called, and of their parents. The writer knows one young lady who was called to the religious life. She is a sample of many others.

When the Methodist Church, South, gets rid of such hypocritical windbags it will be doing something worth while for religion. There are signs that decent Methodists are becoming aroused to the necessity of a good healthy house-cleaning.

There are many wonderfully fine citizens, men and women, in the Methodist Church—decent, upstanding companionable persons who respect their Catholic friends and neighbors and who have no use for the scurrilous mountebanks who are posing as "ambassadors of God."

and by many of our girls giving themselves to the noble life of the Sisters who have done and are doing marvellous work in our Diocese.

Catholics Are Loyal Americans

"Next to love of God should be the love of country. Let us glory in the title of American citizens. We owe our allegiance to one country and that country is America. We must be in harmony with our Political Institutions. It matters not whether this is the land of our birth or the land of our adoption. It is the land of our destiny. Here we intend to live and here we hope to die."—James Cardinal Gibbons.

GEN. "PHIL" SHERIDAN, ONE OF THE GREATEST UNION LEADERS IN THE CIVIL WAR, WAS A CATHOLIC

CURRENT COMMENT

THE INNOCENT VICTIM

"The child clung to her father until she was literally torn away by the attendants. Long after he had gone she wept and cried hysterically, refusing to be comforted."

UNUSUAL TRIBUTE TO MARY

On Mothers' Day at the Delmar Baptist Church, Skinner road and Washington avenue, St. Louis, a sermon was delivered by Rev. Dr. Ryland Knight, in which he spoke at some length on Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and portrayed her as the "Ideal of Motherhood."

SELF-APPOINTED AMBASSADORS

The Rev. "Bob" Shuler of Los Angeles, Cal., got away from a jail sentence just in time to reach Dallas, Texas, for the closing sessions of the Quadrennial General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Well, well. He must have appointed himself an ambassador after he was sentenced to jail.

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WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor

The Literary Digest's straw vote has been completed. The straw is all wet.

Why men leave church: A clergyman named Collin, from the Union Theological Seminary, talked on "Death" in New York City recently.

A U. S. Home Economics chemist announces that he has found a lot of vitamins in watermelons. We knew that those black things resembling pants buttons were not all seeds.

The meetings of the Anti-Saloon League are opened with prayer, according to F. Scott McBride, the superintendent. We know a fellow who opens his hootch with prayer.

The Literary Digest poll showed that educators are dry. College students discovered that centuries ago. But the lawyers voted wet. They've got to stick to the bar.

Bishop Cannon wept when the Methodist Conference accused him of gambling in the stock market. Well bet he didn't weep half as hard as he did when the market crashed.

The sanity of the U. S. Senate is unquestionable. It was impossible to obtain a quorum one day last week because there was a double-header on in the baseball field.

A minister in New York says the age-old differences between Catholics and non-Catholics would come to an immediate end if we all had a sense of humor. All right, let us all laugh together.

A Scotch aviator fell 20,000 feet out of an airplane Sunday. There is, of course, no evidence as to the cause of his fall, but it is believed he thought he saw an angel passing the collection box among aviators in the sky.

New York City has a new Police Commissioner, Mulrooney by name. He is a veteran police officer. One of his first acts was to dismiss minor charges against more than 100 policemen—a real sign of ability. An inexperienced police official makes mountains out of minor charges; an experienced man shoves them in a pigeon hole and forgets about them.

THE CROSS AND THE FLAG

When Governor Fuller of Massachusetts was leaving his office at the Massachusetts State House, making place for the coming in of a new incumbent, he kissed the flag which had stood on his desk since his induction into the office.

There are a good many people who see nothing but superstition in the Catholic custom of kissing the Cross on Good Friday, who will find Governor Fuller's kissing the flag quite seemly and natural. It is a sacred thing in the civic sense to the governor and to all good citizens, and it is quite in keeping that he should manifest his devotion to it and the country for which it stands.