PAGE FOUR

The Catholic Courier And Soursai

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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, June 18, 1980.

OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF PARKS

Rochester is fortunate in having at the head of its city parks a man of the ability, the experience, the knowledge and courtesy of Patrick Slavin. He knows the parks as a singer knows songs, and he loves them in like manner. For the parks, for forty years and more, have been to him treasures of surpassing beauty; songs of the soul; music with melody of health, happiness, comfort. He has been a foremost factor in the development and beautification of our parks. Their care has been to him a labor of love, their loveliness a joy that has radiated to all the ćity.

It was most fitting, therefore, that the new Commissioner of Public Safety, Donald A. Dailey, knowing these things, and appreciating them, should name Mr. Slavin as Director of Parks. A mindful city is glad to see him honored in a manner so fitting, and the parks, we may be sure, will blossom in gratitude to their friend, caretaker and director.

A GREAT CELEBRATION

great celebration, held by

CATHOLIC COURIER AND JOURNAL, FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1930.

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There Should Be a United Church

Catholics believe the true Church of Christ should be united, that is, all Christians should believe the same truths, assist at the same sacrifice, profess the same faith, partake of the same Sacraments, and obey the same spiritual authority. John 10, 16, "And other sheep I have which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and they shall become one flock, one shepherd." How much quicker the world would be converted to Christianity, were not so many and such contradictory brands and assort. ments of belief and doctrine offered it.

CATHOLIC MISSIONARIES FIRST DISCOVERED THE COPPER MINES

IN THE LAKE SUPERIOR REGION

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

"The Institute of Social and Religious

Senator Simmons of North Carolina for re-nomination to the high office he has filled these many years is a striking illustration of the fact that the voters of the State are sorry for their sins. Senator Simmons led a revolt in his State against Afred E, Smith in the late Presidential election, though he had been for years the recognized leader of the Democratic party of the State. He helped carry North Carolina for President Hoover. In this he was assisted by ministers of manychurches, who turned their pulpits into political jack-pots and spread lies and slanders that Christian men and women should be ashamed to repeat.

SORRY FOR THEIR SINS

The overwhelming defeat of U.S.

The people of North Carolina, we may be sure, are like the people of other American states-the great. majority honest, sincere and upright. We never yet knew a people deceived by fraud and lies, but what that people turned in wrath upon the disseminators of these frauds and lies. This is just what has happened in North Carolina. We firmly believe the people of North Carolina have awakened to the fact that Al. Smith is not a -drunkard, that a Catholic is not a menace to American liberty, and that they are violently ashamed of themselves for going back on their party and its candidate in a spirit of intolerance and bigotry. The results show that. Senator Simmons, all powerful in his State for more than a quarter of a century, is suddenly politically torn asunder, drawn and quartered, because he carried the black flag of bigotry and hate in his State in the Na-

Research, financed by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., has just issued an abundance of statistics on the growth of church membership in the United States. The report contends that the churches. of America are holding their own in

membership, and that out of every one hundred persons over thirteen years of age in the United States, fifty-five are members of some church, just as they were ten and twenty years ago. Only fifty-two per cent. of the rural inhabitants are church members, as compared with fifty-eight per cent. of the population in towns and cities.

There are 212 separate denominations in America, according to the report. Sunday schools have an enrollment of 21,000,-000 pupils, although Catholic Sunday schools have fallen off seriously in the past ten years, due to the enormous growth of parish schools, which eliminate the necessity of Sunday schools.

The value of church edifices alone, not including rectories schools, convents hospitals asylums, homes, etc., under church care, and erected with church money, is placed at \$3,800,000,000. The total expenditures of churches in 1926 is placed at \$817,000,000. There are 232,000 churches in America, the report says, as compared with 256,000 public schools.

From 1906 to 1926, the report says, the rate of increase in the enrollment of parochial schools was nearly twice that of public elementary and secondary schools indicating the rapid multiplication_of_such_schools.—

Finding You

Dear God, I wish I could have been Among those girls and boys You called to come and talk with You, And who left all their toys, And ran and climbed up on Your knee, And held your Hand, and sat Around You, learning lovely things--I wish I had done that! But God, I know that even now I can get close to You. I know You still love children wes Indeed! I know You do. And so I often slip away-Into the Church and kneel Down at the altar where You are, And tell You all I feel. I cannot see Your face, and yet I know that You are there. I know I'm just as close to You As all those children were! -- Mary Dixon Thaver.

CURRENT COMMENT

WHAT ONE LAYMAN DID

Jerry Donovan was not a missionary by profession. He was just a masoncontractor, building a new church in a new church in a South Carolina village. But in some manner, whether by word orexample he exerted an influence that led to the conversion of Mrs. Mary Rogers. She died recently, aged eighty-eight, leaving sixty grandchildren and fifty-eight great grandchildren, all of whom adhere to the Catholic Faith. Instances of this kind are worth noting. They will encourage others to exert a like influence.-Catholic Citizen, Milwaukee, Wisc.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The supreme principle governing frequent Communion is the fact that this Sacrament is not intended as a reward for those who are exceptionally worthy of it -no creature, however excellent and exalted, could ever strictly merit such a favor-but it is ordained to be the regular food and ordinary medicine of the supernatural life of the soul. It nourishes. sustains, strengthens and develops that life, which, like the other and lower forms of life-rational, sensitive and vegetative -is enfeebled and must ultimately perish if starved. The less faultless we are and more prone to sin, so much the greater need have we of drawing daily from this celestial fountain of strength and virtue. No one can ever be so good as to be able to afford to dispense with a single possible Holy Communion.-The Pilot, Boston, Mass.

TELEPHONE MAIN 1567

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WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor.

The Irish Free State Censorship Bureau has barred four more English newspapers, all weekly-"News of the World," owned by Lord Riddell; Empire News, Thompson's Weekly News and The People, all of which had substantial circulations in Ireland. The official reason is "Because they devote an unduly large proportion of their space to the publication of matter dealing with crime."

The District of Columbia Court of Appeals recently upheld the right of members of Congress to utter false and libelous statements, and to be free from legal responsibility therefor. A gentleman named Cochran learned this when he tried to sue Senator Couzens for libel. This leaves the Senatorial windbag from Alabama free to continue his learned diasertations on the Pope, the Church and all her children.

A Buffalo truck driver, aged 25 years, was sentenced recently to serve 15 years in Auburn Prison, because he parked his truck on a highway at night and left it without lights. An automobile ran into it, and four persons were killed and another badly injured. The truck driver was convicted of manslaughter, second degree. and while his sentence is a severe one, it should be a warning to all motorists to use every possible precaution to safeguard the lives of other people.

The Diocese of Cleveland has just purchased the historic and stately St. Paul's Episcopal Church in that city, and will remodel it into a Shrine for the perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Senator Mark Hanna was buried from this church, and the Senator's daughter, Ruth Hanna, was married to Medill McCormick of Chicago, in the church. The home of John D. Rockefeller adjoins the church, which is situated on a sightly corner on Euclid Avenue.

Patrick—F—Scanlan,—editor—of—The-Brooklyn Tablet, has been awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Villanova College. This is an honor well bestowed, for Mr. Scanlan is a Catholic editor whose work and ability have wrought much good for Catholicity in America, and for the Church in general. We congratulate the new LL.D., and may his days be long and his pen remain mighty all the years of his life.

Our Mother of Sorrows Church on-"Paddy's Hill" last Sunday, in observance of the centennial of the church. The presence of Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt. of Mrs. Roosevelt. of U.S. District Attorney Tuttle, and of Bishop O'Hern, numerous priests and a great concourse of people of all faiths, gave to the event an importance that was State-wide. This was well justified, and the event was in every way worthy of their presence.

An inspiring feature of the celebration, and one that was happily emphasized by Bishop O'Hern in his address, was the union of all creeds in observance of this centennial. "It makes me think," said Bishop O'Hern, "of the great mass meeting held a few weeks ago in Convention Hall, where Protestant, Jew and Catholic sat side by side on the same platform, and spoke in unison for religious freedom in **Russia and everywhere else in the world.**⁷⁷

This spirit was splendidly manifested in, the centennial celebration. It is the spirit of Christianity, the spirit of Catho-licity, and the spirit of God. May it continue and grow in a wonderful way throughout the land, and throughout the world-

A MODERN ANANIAS

When Bishop Cannon of the Methodst Episcopal Church, South, toht the Senate Lobby Committee the other day, under oath, that he is being persecuted by Catholic and wet interests, he told an unqualified falsehood, as far as Catholics are concerned.

The Catholics have no interest or concern in the hop-skip-and-jump activities of Bishop Cannon, neither in his stock market adventures, his political migrations, his Prohibition antics, nor in the mysterious cash collections that have been stuffed into his hip-pocket for surreptious-use abroad in the land.

But when Bishop Cannon disgraces his cloth, when he cheapens and degrades his church position, when he commits acts and deads that come under the scrutiny of District Attorneys and Legislators, when he makes a political polywog out of himself, and gets into difficulties that call for the censure of the good people of his own church-when he does all of these things, and cries out that the Catholics are persecuting him, he is merely spilling more upon his episcopal shirt, dirty enough

While there may be some who will appland the Bishop for what he has said and done, we firmly believe that in the in his voice will have no more influin America than the voice of than's ass reverberating down through ages. For this pragedy he alone is catholics had no part in his y are not responsible for his day tion, and they will not tolerate wood he flags with such sweets-

tional election. His defeat is an overwhelming one, almost a shameful onemore than 70,000 votes. It is a tragic ending to the life-work of a poor, deluded old man.

CAN YOU WARBLE?

Punk. Whatever that is. "Worse than punk," said the self-constituted critic as he left the Church after late Mass. His companion listened for more. He heard more. It was a criticism of the choir by a man who did not know la from fa. He had a voice like a sick cow's. When he tried to sing everyone went out and far, far away from the horrible sounds. "Where do they get that stuff?" asked he.. He had heard the noble Gregorian music of the late Mass, well sung by a male choir. "I would rather hear some second-rate opera," he added.

In that church as in many others, the pastor was giving the best he could to God, the music sanctioned by the Church, music far removed from the opera and jazz. The trouble was that too many of his flock did not understand or appreciate good music when they heard it. The sentimental, lovey-dovey strains of some love song, or the crashing and grumbling of the American musical nightmare called jazz were more to their taste. The pastor held that those who wanted opera musicor trash could get it, and that the church of God, where the Blessed Sacrament resides, was not the place for it. Hence he tried to educate those of his flock who needed the training to love the solemn, elevating music of the Church. In this case, however, the listener asked the critic: "What was the matter with the rendition of the Mass that morning?' "O," said he, "they can't sing." That was the answer his friend wanted. And he added: "You were at Mass with me when the pastor asked more men to join the choir. He explained to the men that they did not need to know how to read music to make a start. And when one of your friends told you that he would join, you made fun of him, ridiculed him and the poor weak man with the fine voice, didnot dare brave your ignorant criticism. And there are others of the same disposition. They would like to sing, but fear the criticism of their friends.

"You," said the friend to the critic, "have no reason to find fault. You have not done one thing to help build up that choir, and you have done much to keep others out of it. Now, do not pull down what others are building up-Help and do not hinder, and if you cannot understand or appreciate good church music, don't tell every one your weakness-Boost your choir and join it fryou have a voice.

'A Catholic newspaper in the home a mighty influence for good, combatting as it does the evils of the times. No family should be without one.

There are five women church members to every four in the country. The total church membership is given as 44,380,000. Of these, 13,000,000 are credited to the Catholic Church, counting only those who are over thirteen years of age. This means, the report says, that three out of every ten adult church members in the United States are Roman Catholics.

The second largest denomination in the United States is the Methodist Episcopal Church with 3,700,000 adult members, or 8.4 per cent of the national total. It is followed by the Southern Baptist Convention with almost 3,300,000 adult members, or 7.4 per cent. of the entire total,

The membership of Jewish congregations is estimated at 2,930,000.

The two other denominations with more than 2,000,000 adult members each are the Negro Baptists and the Methodist Episcopal Church South, while the Presbyterian-Church in the United States, the Protestant Episcopal Church, the Disciples of Christ and the Northern Baptist Convention have from 1,000,000 to 2,000,-000. The United Lutheran * Church in America and the Congregational Church have roughly 900,000 and 860,000 respectively, and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and other States, 700,000. No other denomination has as many as 500,000.

Protestant Episcopal and Roman Catholic Churches are also largely urban, with more than 80 per cent of their members on the rolls of city churches.

The Roman Catholics, Jews and other non-Protestants taken together make up 38 per cent of the total church membership of the United States, while the Protestant denominations include 62 per cent. The South constitutes the stronghold of Protestantism. There are eleven States, all-below the Mason and Dixon Line, which report at least nine out of ten members as Protestants.

The industrialized East tends to be dominantly Roman Catholic. In all the New England States Roman Catholics make up at least half the adult church membership.

The Southwestern States of Arizona and New Mexico with their strong Spanish traditions are also predominantly Catholic.

The Jews are particularly numerous in New York and to a less extent in New Jersey, while the Mormons claim half the members in Idaho and nine-tenths of the total in Utah.

Of the 71,500 ministers of the seventeen white Protestant bodies studied, almost 29,500, or 41 per cent, did not claim to be graduates of either college or seminary while only 33 per cent claimed to be graduates of both.

The Roman Catholic Church, the report says, "makes a far better showing, and the Negro bodies a far worse showing.

VACATIONS

Summer vacations bring some verv pertinent considerations to the fore. Catholics have an obligation to hear Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation all the year through. Catholics have need of the Sacraments. Catholics must say their prayers and must abstain on Fridays, besides being ever mindful of God's Commandments.

When planning a vacation either for the children, the family or one's self, it is well for Catholics to select places that afford every opportunity for the fulfillment of all the obligations imposed both by God and the Church.

Select a spot that affords abundant means of living intimately with Our Lord, and a place where the practices of the people are sustaining and exhilirating. The only thing that can be said for laxity during the summer season is that any weakening in our religious practices is due entirely to culpable indifference or downright neglect.—The Evangelist, Albany, N.Y.

TO WIPE OUT THE SLUMS

Alfred E. Smith, ex-Governor of New York State, has been elected President of the Housing Association-of New York." a society organized for the express purpose of wiping out the slums of New York City. Some sixty prominent men and women, representing many welfare organizations, and with religious beliefs that are widely diversified, are members of this new association.

To remove "blighted districts" by slum clearance and new construction, to prevent the creation of new slums, to enforce existing housing laws and to raise by additional legislation the legal housing standards are among the major purposes of the association. Through a subsidiary corporation to be known as the Housing Foundation, which will eventually be capitalized at several million dollars, lowcost housing enterprises and experimental demonstrations will be promoted.

The association hopes in time to make New York a city of model housing for people of limited means.

Mr. Smith is enthusiastic about the plans of the Association. He recalled that when the old tenement house law waspassed almost forty years ago it was predicted that the dilapidated tenements would be torn down in twenty-five years. "I walked down Cherry Street the

other day, and there those same old buildings were still standing just as they used to be," he commented. "I happened to live in one such house in Dover Street. I know it is still there because I know the people living in it.

Billions are spent annually for philanthropy and the study of crime, Mr. Smith says, and for the study of delinquency and disease, but very little goes to remove

Union graduating exercises were held on Thursday evening last week by the Schools of Nursing of the Rochester General, Strong Memorial, Genesee, Highland and Park Avenue Hospitals. There were 114 student nurses in the combined class. The exercises were held in the assembly hall of the beautiful new Masonic Temple, corner Prince and East Main Streets. The invocation and the benediction were given at the exercises by the Rt. Rev. John Francis O'Hern, D.D., Bishop of Rochester—illustrating the happy community spirit that exists in the city of Rochester between the people of all religious beliefs.

PRESBYTERIAN FORESIGHT

The Presbyterian General Assembly, in session at Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, this week, adopted a resolution denouncing modern divorce as a "destroyer of civilization," and calling upon-all-ministers of the church toonght it.

This is commendable action, as well as good foresight. Divorce has been growing at a frightful rate in America, in some cities as high as one divorce to every seven marriages. There is no fair field of progress, or of worth-while human accomplishment ahead of this. There is only one field ahead of it-moral degradation. The Presbyterians are foresighted enough to see this, and they are taking a creditable stand, a stand that would be much more effective if they passed a resolution forbidding divorce and the re-marriage of divorced persons in their church.

Human law has never been able to improve God's law; nor will it ever be able. And God's law is: "What, therefore, God hath joined together, let no man put asunder."

There can be no quibbling about the meaning of that. It is positive, and it is final.

their fundamental cause, bad housing. This is right in line with some of the things we have been told by Chaplains of Jails and Reform Schools-that when delinquent young men serve their terms and go back home, they usually go back to conditions that are instrumental in driving them straight back into a life of crime. Slums are bad for health, bad for morality, bad for character, bad for everything. Ex-Governor Smith will do a great work for New York City if he helps knock down the tenement in which he lived as a boy, and similar tenements wherever found in New York City. His election to the presidency of this important organization is pretty good evidence of the growing regard in which he is held by people who know him, and is also another evidence of the fact that he has no intention of going into inocuous desuetude, Grover Cleveland's favorite resting place for candidates who die in the race for political honors.