

The Catholic Courier And Journal

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Friday, September 12, 1930.

A FRATERNITY WITH A HEART

The Knights of Columbus organization is a fraternity with a heart. The Supreme officers of this great organization, in session in New Haven, Conn., the other day, received a request for assistance from the American Consul General at San Domingo.

Many times in the past the Knights of Columbus have taken similar action. The Galveston flood and other great tragedies found the Knights at the front when relief work was started.

HOW CRIME HAS GROWN

The Travelers' Insurance Co. of Hartford, Conn., recently completed a survey on crime conditions in eighty-five cities having a combined population of more than twenty-five millions of people.

As forty-six of the eighty-eight cities reported arrests for 1920 as well as for last year, the following survey is based on the comparative figures of these forty-six municipalities.

Arrests for robbery, burglary and theft crimes led to the arrest of 16,905 ten years ago as against 52,751 last year, an increase of 212.04 per cent.

Arrests for robbery, burglary and thefts gained in percentage more than ten times as much as the population. The intoxication arrests increased more than seven times as much.

Champions of the Prohibition law who read of the number of arrests for intoxication cannot help having a feeling of horror, if they are sincere.

Country Churches

Symbols of faith, they lift their reaching spires Above green groves down many a country way; And on the wide plains there are altar fires

IN OLD SANTO DOMINGO

More than four thousand dead, more than five thousand injured, more than thirty millions of property damage done, more than half the city of Santo Domingo, capital of the Dominican Republic on the island of Haiti, destroyed—thus is the world reminded of the feebleness of man.

The famous cathedral, which has stood against the hand of man and the hand of time for 400 years and is a jewel of architecture, was among the buildings that escaped destruction.

Working and walking among the dead and the dying, the rescuers are working and walking on ground of tremendous historic interest to the New World. Here Columbus lived for several years, and from this island he made, in chains, his last voyage to Spain.

The old Cathedral, standing like a sad mother above her dead children, is mother not only to Santo Domingo, but to all the Americas. For as Santo Domingo is the white man's most ancient city on the new continent, the Cathedral is his most ancient church, and the see of Santo Domingo the mother see of the New World.

In 1586 Sir Francis Drake, English navigator, turned his guns upon the city, and burned section after section to the ground, until the terrified inhabitants paid him a ransom of thirty thousand crowns.

In 1577 Pope Paul III made Santo Domingo the metropolitan see of the New World. Other churches were erected in Santo Domingo, and among the historic ruins of the city are several ancient convents and a Franciscan Church, conquered by Time, but still fervent champions of Faith.

Toussaint L'Ouverture, black man of historic fame, champion of liberty and leader of his people, fought here, and died, victim of accursed treachery by the white man.

Nearly all of the million inhabitants of the island are Catholic. Blood of Spain, blood of pirate and buccaneer, blood of black man, of Indian and of white man, all are intermixed in the veins of the inhabitants.

Catholics Believe Christ

instituted seven Sacraments—Baptism, Confirmation, Penance (Confession), Holy Eucharist (Mass and Holy Communion), Extreme Unction, Holy Orders and Matrimony. These Sacraments are seven channels whereby God's grace is communicated to our souls.

THE MAINLAND OF NORTH AMERICA WAS DISCOVERED BY JOHN CABOT, A CATHOLIC, JUNE 24, 1497

brought, will look with reverent and grateful eyes upon the Cathedral walls and Cross and, out of the misery of their own desolation, will thank Almighty God for the preservation of their beloved church.

Meanwhile, all the world is reaching Christian hands of help and hope towards this historic city and its people, and the Red Cross is taking charge of rescue work with commendable speed.

TREE SITTING

Aloysius O'Reilly, twelve years old, sat in a tree for forty-two days. When he came down he knew all about rough bark, still knees, sore joints, variable winds, indigestion and mental agony.

"Isn't he the wonderful boy?" said some of the neighbors.

Patrick Rafferty, twelve years old, sat in a parochial school for forty-two days. He came home afternoons, of course, and went to bed at night as regular as clockwork.

"Isn't he the wonderful boy?" said all of the neighbors.

Aloysius O'Reilly walked, for days and days, as if a bull-dog were running between his legs.

Patrick Rafferty walked, all of the time, with body erect, head high, a smile on his face, joy in his heart and a feeling of kinship with the gladness and beauty of the world.

"My boy," said Mrs. O'Reilly, proudly, "is the champion tree siter of the State."

"That Rafferty boy," said Sister Mary, principal of the parish school, "is the joy to the heart of everyone who meets him."

Keep your boy's body, and his mind, too, out of the trees.

THE GUTENBERG BIBLE

More than three thousand books, all of them printed before the year 1,500, have been acquired by the Congressional Library in Washington, and will be preserved there and treasured.

The Gutenberg Bible was printed between the years 1,450 and 1,456, before Martin Luther was born, and long before any of the so-called "emancipators" of the Bible saw the light of day.

This Bible will be displayed in a glass case in the Congressional Library in Washington. It will be a treasured exhibit of the art of printing five hundred years ago.

No one will accuse the Government of the United States of "chaining" the Bible or of "keeping it from the people," because the Government guards it securely in the Congressional Library.

CRIME PREVENTION

Gangsters come from gangs. Gangs are recruited from the boyhood of a block, or district. "Chicago Wars on Gangsters," and "New York Out to Fight Gangsters" are common headlines in daily papers.

But there is a way to fight gangs and gangsters. It is an effective way. Of course, the best way of all, and the surest way, is to watch the boy, train him properly, educate him correctly, teach him to love God and the things of God, and to respect the rights of his fellow-man.

There is another way, not as effective, but a good way to fight gangs and gangsters. Commissioner Mulrooney of the New York police force is following that way, and is training his men to follow it.

The purpose of all this is to make friends with the children from the poorer districts, the districts in which gangs and gangsters are usually numerous and aggressive, and to make friends with the mothers. Commissioner Mulrooney sums up the work in this way.

"The members of the department feel that in giving these outings, they have done a far better thing than they have ever done, that it has been a real expression of their gratitude to the people of the city of New York and that they have taken a distinctly forward step in the matter of crime prevention."

We think so, too. It is a splendid way to check crime, right at its source—in the hearts and minds of the boys themselves. Police officers represent law. They represent right, justice, honesty. They represent Government. Children who become friends of police officers, who receive favors from them, who grow to know them and to like them—well, these lads are not nearly so apt to become gangsters in gangs as are boys who grow up with a hostile feeling towards the police, and all they represent.

Commissioner Mulrooney will have 37,223 propaganda agents for the police busy in New York City—12,595 grateful mothers, and 24,682 happy youngsters, all of them nurturing rich memories of the kindness and goodness of an army of two-fisted guardians of the law. This is a splendid way to prevent crime.

METHODISTS IN MEXICO

News dispatches tell us that the Mexican Government has started action to seize all the churches of the Methodists in that country. There are some fourteen such churches in Mexico City alone, and a number of others, most of them with very small congregations, throughout the country.

All Catholic churches in Mexico were treated in the same manner some time ago. When this action was taken many Methodist preachers rejoiced openly, encouraged the Mexican action, and looked for better days for their own denomination in that country.

The domination of any churches by any country is not a healthy condition of affairs. Serious trouble is bound to result, and religion will inevitably be handicapped. While the Catholic Church is at peace at the present time with Mexico, and is making the best of a bad situation, the Church is looking hopefully to a happier future, with full ownership of its churches, a full and free exercise of religious rights at all times; just as the Church enjoys these rights in this wonderful country of America.

WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor

Fame: The U. S. Government has published a postage stamp with the picture of Baron von Steuben on it; Napoleon has a cigar named after him; Babe Ruth has opened a haberdashery shop in New York.

Devious are the ways of life and politics. Senator Carter Glass of Virginia refused to bolt the Democratic ticket and come out against Alfred E. Smith in the late Presidential election, though his own wife was a leading and aggressive bolter.

The pathway of the self-exalted is not smooth. A gentleman in Gary, Ind., Ralph B. Bradford by name, has been indicted on the charge of smuggling narcotics. Ralph is the Ku-Klux leader of his community—one of those wonderful "one-hundred per cent Americans."

THE GOOD SHEPHERD SISTERS

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd, who devote their lives to the Mary Magdalenes of the present day, and to other girls who need corrective and helpful influences, are building a home and school for girls on Winton Road. On Wednesday of next week the members of the Catholic Women's Club will conduct a "donation day" at the convent of the Sisters.

Fortunate indeed is the Diocese of Rochester to have a community of so kind—thoughtful, helpful, considerate Sisters whose lives are inspired by the beautiful lesson our Lord taught the work when he reclaimed Mary Magdalen. Their work will be a blessing to the city and Diocese, and blessing of incalculable good to all girls or women who come under their care and influence.

NORWAY'S SAINT

Nine hundred years ago Olaf, King of Norway, suffered martyrdom for his Faith. He was a great king, a good man and just, and he accomplished notable deeds for his people and for the Church he loved.

Strange are the mutations of Time. Though King Olaf was put to death for his religion, the descendants of the very people who killed him joined recently with the Catholic people of Norway in celebration of his anniversary. The event was made a national one of great proportions, for the fame and the greatness of King Olaf have grown with the passing centuries, and his character and deeds have become very dear to the people of Norway.

Pope Pius XI sent a special message to the Catholics of Norway at the time of the celebration. He spoke of "the memory of St. Olaf, most famed King and Martyr," and told how he "preached the Gospel as an Apostle, founded Christian Temples and called from England priests and monks of high repute to initiate the living clergy into the mysteries of Jesus Christ."

Few men survive the dust of nine centuries. It covers their names and memories, as well as their bones. But Olaf is stronger and greater now than when heretics pierced his heart with their spears. For so does truth live, and goodness, and justice and virtue, blossom perpetually in the hearts of all who love God and the ideals and teachings of God. Long live King Olaf!