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Priests of the Diocese, Maurice F. Sammons, Managing Editor

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KEEPING THE TORCH LIT

The recent Encyclical of Pope Pius XI "Christian Marriage" is not a document to be read one day and forgotten the next. is a staunch and stirring defense of marriage in keeping with the ideals and teachings of Christ and His Church. It is likewise a staunch and stirring champion of the Christian home, of decent family life, of virtue and right living, and it is not the purpose of the authorities of the Church to let it be forgotten after a few brief days.

Here in the Diocese of Rochester, and in other Dioceses all over America, pastors and Lenten preachers are using the Encyclical for their Lenten sermons. Point by point they are bringing home to all the people the truths emphasized in the Encyclical, the importance of right living, the necessity of married couples living in keeping with the laws of God and the laws of God's Church, Much good will surely come from these discourses. The howling of the wolver of immorality and of indecency will be drowned, and the sound of their rasping voices soon forgotten. Truth lives, because it is eternal.

NO COMPROMISE

On a great historical occasion, early in the national life of America, trouble with France was brewing. The American ambassador to France was Charles Pinckney. Certain French officials hinted to him that the young American nation might avoid further trouble with the powerful French nation by payment of certain tribute. Whereupon Pinckney arose to his full height, raised his right hand solemnly above his head, and thundered: "Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute!"

Thus stands the Church to-day in opposition to modern evils that are sweeping like a deluge over the world-millions to fight them, but not one cent of tribute. The great Cardinal Hayes of New York City emphasized this in a letter read in all churches in the Archdiocese of New York Sunday, calling the attention of the people to the great importance of the recent Encyclical of Pope Pius on "Christian Marriage," and asking the priests to speak upon that Encyclical during the Sundays

No spirit of compromise with the loose advanced ideas of the present day with regard to the marriage state can be tolerated by Catholic conscience," the Cardinal said.

The whole power, strength and resources of thee Church pledged to fight these modern evils; not one inch of ground yielded by retreat, nor one moral principle, be it ever so small, surrendered to the peddlers of indecency and of immorality. What our Saviour said to the Scribes and Pharisees long ago in Jerusalem the Church says today to Judge Lindsey and his lechemous ilk:

Woe to you Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you go round about the set and the land to make one proselyte; and when he is made, you make him the child of hell, twofold more than your-

A SPLENDID INSTITUTION

The dedication of the new infirmary g at St. Ann's Home for the Aged thop O'Hers on Sunday afternoon Bases of Here on Sunday afternoon before the work of this institution home to the properties of the institution home to the properties of Strongerh, this home has been some year a real and blessed home to the men and women. Here the twilight that they are never to make a round their than the second to and around their than the second to the properties of proper and

The Old Cathedral

Eloquent of the Evermore, The old cathedral calmly stands And blesses, as with outstretched hands, The city plodding past its door.

The furrowed steps, the walls' gray stone, The arched windows, plain and high, That snatch white squares of sunlight From the brimmed bosom of the sky,

Are symbols of the heary faith Whose steps lend up a footworn way, And through whose misnamed window,

Their glances the abundant day.

Within, vague whisperings of hope Go trembling by where, echo-trod, Prayer-crowded incense pathways grope Their dim way upward unto God.

Though priestly chant may backward roll, Heavy with weight of conscious bass, The faltered prayer of one faint soul Mounts the light inccuse to His face.

Here the mute, quivering heart may rest, However slight its wisdom be.
And best its cares out on the breast Of an omniscient Sympathy.

-Arthur W. Upson.

and care. Even an elevator on which they may ride up and down, with a feeling, sometimes, that they are on their way to

The work of St. Ann's Home should endear it to all in the Diocese. The good Sisters in charge of this institution are doing a beautiful work-consecrating their lives to men and women whose only claim upon them is that they are brothers and sisters in Christ, in need of a home, and in need of loving care. Men and women of means, when making their wills, would do well to provide generous bequests for this home. For if devoted women are glad to give their lives to the work of the home, surely there should be some who will gladly give money, with which to finance the home and ensure its future progress and safety. Many an aged man or woman, closing eyes in death, has exclaimed: "God bless the good Sisters for their kindness to me!" Let those of us who are able to do it show the most generous possible kindness to the Sisters who are doing such noble work for the aged, encourage them in their work and help them in their difficulties. They are worthy of the best we can do for them at all times.

WHO WON THE WAR?

The answer to this question can be found in General Pershing's account of the sixth session of the Supreme War Council, held on June first, 1918, just six months before the World War ended, and published in Tuesday's papers this week.

America won the war! Not by battle so much as by discipline, stability, power and the amazing growth of power, while all of the Allies were shat-Supreme War Council meeting in June, 1918, was a hodge podge of irritable nervousness, fright, worry, contention, suspicion, and of an apparent conspiracy on the part of all other Allied leaders to force the Americans into the conflict in larger numbers, whether they were ready for battle or not. Lloyd George even went so far as to suggest that the British be authorized to designate one of their generals to inspect the American armies and tell them whether they were fit to do battle or not. Pershing, his back to the wall, fought off these contentions, diplomatically at times, and with stern determination at others. He was the one man there, seemingly, who had faith and hope in his cause, and who did not see black defeat staring him in the face. Even Foch walked up and down, wringing his hands and exclaiming: "The battle, the battle, every-thing must give way to the battle!" Thus do nations and men, in times of great crises, crumble and collapse unless they are fortified by something more than human strength.

Reading General Pershing's account of this Supreme War Council meeting, one cannot escape the inevitable conclusion that the Allied cause was on the verge of complete collapse; that there was the disunion of despair in their thoughts and actions. The brave words their leaders sent out to their armies were not reflected in their own opinions or feelings. Each Allied leader was grabbing frantically for the American army, without thought for the common good, and certainly without thought for American prestige or individuality.

It was from this black chaos that faith and hope grew around the strength and power of America. In America the Allies found their last hope, the final spurt of the speed and strength, and of the courage and determination, they needed to win success. It is almost unbelievable that European nations, facing annihilation and ruin as these were insultably at that time, would ever again want another war; would ever again want to face such a despairing situation in their national lives. Better far for these, and for all other nations, the spirit, ideals and principles of Christiainty, the justice and love of peace taught by Christ. Putting these aside, no nation can live, no peoples can survive for long, for they who live by the sword shall perial by it.

LENTEN REPLECTIONS

Mary, hurrying home from work, met as come on the street and talked with him for several minutes. A little later she passed her parish church, started to go in,

As For Threats of War

As for threats of new wars, while the peoples of the world still so painfully feel the scourge of the last dreadful war. We cannot believe they are real. because We are unable to believe any civilized State exists which is willing to become monstrously homicidal and also almost certainly suicidal. If We even only suspected the existence of such a State We should turn to God with the inspired prayer of the prophet-king, who knew both wars and victory, to "scatter the peoples who wish war," and the prayer of the Church, "Give us peace!"— Pope Plus XI, in an Address to the Cardinals on Christmas eve, 1930.

THE FIRST HOSPITAL ON THE AMERICAN CONTINENT WAS A CATHO-LIC HOSPITAL, BUILT IN MEXICO CITY IN 1524

then changed her mind and walked rapidly homewards.

"Did you stop in the church and say a prayer for the souls of the faithful departed?" her mother asked. "Oh, mother, I didn't have time," she said. Then her face flushed guiltily, and she remembered that she had plenty of time for the living, but none for the dead. And she made a firm resolution never to do that again.

"Why do Catholics observe Lent." the sincere non-Catholic asked two young Catholic friends.

'Because," said one, "our Church tells

us to do it." The face of the non-Catholic clouded. Then he looked expectantly towards the other friend, "Because," said the second one, "our Saviour prepared for His life work by going into the desert and fasting forty days and forty nights. We fast and abstain from food and from luxuries and pleasures to satisfy God for our sins, and to prepare ourselves for a fitting celebration of the great feast of Easter Sunday. We are imitating our Saviour when we observe Lent."

'I am glad to know that," said the non-Catholic, very respectfully.

"Why do you run into your Church every noon?" the non-Catholic girl asked her chum.

"To be with God, to pray to Him, to talk with Him, and to ask Him to help me. I always feel better and stronger when I do this, and able to work better and endure troubles without worrying."

"May I come with you to-morrow?" the non-Catholic friend asked. "Does your Church permits outsiders to go with their

"You are welcome to come with me, or to go alone at any time. Everybody is welcome in our Church. You will see colored people and white people sitting in the same pews, and praying side by side. You will see men and wormen, poor laborers, in their working clothhes, kneeling by the side of wealthy men and women. They are all praying to God, and it is our belief that we are all alike in the eyes of God—all His

"I could love a church like that." said the non-Catholic girl.

We are well advanced into Lent. Let all of us ask ourselves these questions: Have we said a single special prayer?

Have we made a single real sacrifice? Have we visited a church once a day during the week, or even one day a week -just one lone special call upon God?

Have we attended the special Lenten services of our parish church? Are we making preparation to receive Holy Communion once a week during

Have we helped a single poor family, quietly and without ostentation?

Have we taken our troubles to the foot of the Cross, or to the shrine of Mary, and asked for help to bear them as Christ wants us to bear them?

Have we asked God to keep us just a little closer to Him, because we try to show him more love and deeper devotion during this holy season of Lent? Have we attended Mass every weekday

morning, or even one morning a week? If we have done all of these things, or

most of them, we are keeping Lent in the right spirit; if mone of them, then let us begin now to reach our hands and hearts towards God, whose love and whose care we shall need many many times in the future, and especially in times of great sadness, and at the hour of our death, or the deaths of our loved ones.

We get fuszed sometimes about the uncharitable doings and sayings of men like Bishop Cannon and Tom Heflin. But in these happy and blessed days we know little, after all, about the reality of vicious bigotry in America. In England, where the Church has made glorious strides in some ways, it is different. Not long ago Archbishop Downey of Liverpool went to the Notre Dames convent for a ceremony. He found simob of howling bigots around the convent, and they notified him he could not enter. He had to call the police, and a small riot occurred before the officers were able to get the Archbishop into the convent. Then the mob hurled stones and bricks through the windows and went away yelling: "Down with Popery!" To us this sounds a lot like a movie melodrama, but in Liverpool, according to Associated Press dispatches, "such things are not without precedent." The "Die-Hards" die hard over there. Here a lot of them are killed by automobiles and some of them by Tunn Hadin's speeches.

CURRENT COMMENT

MODERN MARRIAGE

Born of materialism, nurtured by selfishness, a new type of married couple has come to be part and parcel of presentday society. It is the childless couple. The man plays an equally selfish part with the woman. But somehow we halo the woman with a love for motherhood. There is no sadder sight than to see the women of the land grasping at ignoble honor and rejecting the noble, abdicating their true throne to grasp at the kingdom of fashion, ceasing to protest against impurity and giving it encouragement, turning away from God's highest mission to pamper self and feed self's ambitions. Just as long as women refuse to guide and inspire, as long as they forget their nature and frustrate God's commands by bending life into a distortion of pleasure, as long as they shrink from the word "mother," in so far can we expect a morally corrupt society, and a tendency to flaunt the deeply-implanted laws of God.—Southwest Courier, Okla-

THE BALTIMORE FUND

Archbishop Michael J. Curley, D.D., of Baltimore, addressed last month a very personal and earnest letter to his people under the title "Friends of Catholic Education." It is simple in its language and most moving in its message. In it His Grace tells of the creation of a new organization to be known as the Catholic School Association. Membership entails the annual donation of a dollar or more. In return the school children and their teachers will make a constant memento of their benefactors.

The Archbishop pledges the offering of a Mass every week by himself for those who thus serve the financial welfare of his schools. To gather dignity about the organization, these donations are directed to be sent to the Archbishop's Secretary. The nature of the appeal is frankly and stirringly stated thus: "I am anxious to give our poorer children every possible opportunity to receive a sound Christian education. Here is your opportunity to become an active partner in this blessed

Undoubtedly many large yearly donations will swell the fund. Over a range of years the income should be very satisfactory, growing as the Catholics of the diocese come into the Archbishop's viewpoint and see for themselves the imperative need of giving complete Catholic training to all, especially the poor. A step in an excellent direction has thus been taken. The Catholics outside of Baltimore will remember the origin of this educational association, will wish it well and long to learn of its progress and of the good works in the delighting field of child-training which the fund will finance.—The Brooklyn Tablet.

CHRISTIAN TEACHING

That capitalism is in a chastened mood as a result of world-wide depression is evident as much in the caution and moderation displayed by financial and business leaders in forecasts regarding the recovery of industry and employment, as it is in the discussions which have been reflected in the press generally concerning the deeper factors of depression and the need of devising permanent remedies against the recurring hazard of employment.

The fact of the matter appears to be that society is sick from over-cupidity, from the unrestrained pursuit of money and the power that money brings, from the concentration of wealth in comparatively few hands, leaving masses of people under the incessant and often paralyzing fear of insecurity and want. The common good has been lost sight of by lust of individual gain, through the operation of fear of insecurity and want. The common economic fallacies, promulgated under the guise of atheistic principles, and the flaunting of the moral law in the practical

affairs of life. If through the present depression there should come a searching examination, which should make itself felt in practical legislative measures and devices for minimizing fraud, speculation and unfair advantage in the conduct of commercial dealings and in bringing to bear from within the control of Christian conscience by the application of the principles of justice and charity so clearly embodied in Pope Leo XIII's great Encyclical on the Condition of Labor, doubtless many of the evils that now periodically afflict nations

and peoples would be largely eliminated. There is need of going to the root of things, of putting into practice the principles of Catholic social teaching.—Union & Times, Buffalo, N. Y.

THE POPE AND MUSSOLINI

The intensive militaristic program for the youth of Italy instituted by the Fascist regime is causing anxiety in the Vatican whose head, Pius XI, speaks in no uncertain tones of condemnation to the assembled Lenten preachers of Rome. Under the terms of the Lateran treaty Rome was to be maintained as a religious center, said His Holiness, but government institutions were encouraging neglect of the primary teachings of religion.

This is not the first time since the establishment of the Vatican State that the Pope and Mussolini have clashed. It is not likely to be the last. Among the Fascist institutions which are breaking down the religious traditions of Rome and all Italy is the compulsory pre-military training of youth which includes a Sunday morning drill. This training precedes by a year and a half the regular military service. The Roman Catholic Church is trying to meet this issue squarely, for it is one of the most menacing things in Europe. Those who fear the spirit of Fascism say that it is corrupting the youth of Italy; sowing seeds of hate and revenge, aiming to create, in the words of the Pope, "an aggressive, militant, warlike, conquering race."

Mussolini is plainly out to make a nation of boy soldiers. Military training now begins at eighteen, and conscription at twenty. The purpose of this training of youth is candidly stated by Farinacci as the establishment of "a warlike people ready with every audacity to assure the future and create history."

The Pope of Rome, as a representative of the Christian principles of humility and peace, may well be severe in his condemnation of this system whose ultimate objective is war. - The Times-Union, Rochester, N. Y.

WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor

"Big Bill' Thompson of Chicago has been re-nominated again for Mayor of that city. Thus is the stability and dependability of American buncombe vindicated.

The Legislature of South Carolina voted the other day to invite Alfred E. Smith to give an address before it. There were only six opposing votes. These based their opposition upon the excuse that the Legislature was too busy with its own work to hear Mr. Smith. This is a splendid indication, we take it, of the growing popularity of Mr. Smith in the South, and of the repentance of the better-minded Southerners for the bigotry that swept their states during the late Presidential campaign.

We who occasionally make one convert to the Faith, with all conditions favorable to us and to our work—we swell up with pride and show an inclination to boast about it. But over in China. where the black skeleton of famine and the red sword of the bandit-Communist have taken many thousands of lives-over there, in the Wuchow mission in Southwest China, thousands of converts were made last year, adding twenty per cent. to the total Catholic population of the district. The missionaries who carry the Cross are in very truth the Marines of the Church, not afraid to march, not afraid to suffer, and never afraid to die. All honor

The New York World, founded by Joseph Pulitzer, Sr., many years ago, and for some years conducted by his three sons, has been showing a deficit of nearly one million dollars a year for several years. Now the end of a big surplus is in sight, and the sons of the founder have asked the courts to give them permission to break the will of their father, which forbids them to sell the paper, and directs them to keep it "as a public institution from motives higher than mere gain." Publishing a newspaper, as many a man has discovered, is a serious financial responsibility these days. Costs mount and mount until, oftentimes, financial tracedy follows. Every newspaper needs good friends, loyal and faithful subscribers, and a cash revenue that never seems too large.

The little country village of Williamstown, N. Y., has a healthy, splendid spirit when it comes to charity. Word reached the village that there was a serious shortage of food in Kentucky. The people didn't hold a debate, like Congress does, or pass resolutions of sympathy, or send speeches to the newspapers. But, with the American Legion Post in charge, they sent a freight car jammed to the roof to Bradenburg, Ky. The car contained 624 packages of onions, carrots, potatoes, turnips, cabbages, beans, wheat, apples and canned applesauce. A second car, filled in like manner, was then sent to Dixon, Ky. Drought sufferers will be eating this food while they are reading eloquent speeches by Congressmen on the best methods of relief, and whether it is better to call it a "dole" or a "donation." The woodchucks may chase the roosters around the barns in country villages, but when it comes to charity and kindliness the people know the best and quickest way to do things at the right time.