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Vatican State's Coins Snapped Up By Collectors At Twice Their Face Value

Entire Issue of First Coinage Bought at a Premium—
Nine Different Coins Issued, With Sacred
Images Stamped Upon Each Coin.

Vatican City, April 17.—The Vatican State placed in circulation last week the first coins issued by its new mint—nine different coins in values ranging from 100 lire to five centimes. The entire issue was bought up immediately by coin collectors for twice its face value. It is expected that there will be a great demand for these coins the world over, and the purchasers expect to make a handsome profit of them.

One of the coins is gold, two are silver, four nickel and two copper. The coins, which are the work of the well-known artist, Aurelio Mistruzzi, are beautifully engraved with figures of Christ, the Virgin Mary, saints and other religious figures.

The Osservatore Romano, the only newspaper published in the Vatican State, had a lengthy editorial upon the coins and their significance.

Traditions Revived
"Vatican City," it says, "has re-

turned in its coins the traditions of Catholic States and evoked at the same time the glorious memories of civilization. The artistic models conceived by Aurelio Mistruzzi and coined by the Italian mint seem to take from the ancient collection in the museums the old coins of the Christian communities, signifying, republics and monarchies on both sides of the Alps, rendering them not only commercial but also spiritual exponents of modern life.

"We see again the protectors of cities and States engraved on coins together with the image of the Prince, representing the faith, veneration, hopes and fortunes of peoples. Thus St. Mark, St. Ambrose, St. George, the Holy Virgin and the sacred figures and symbols of saints which once embellished flags and told stories of immortal enterprises, and threw their metallic light on Christian economy, on commerce, industry, traffic banks and on the whole of that world of struggles, battles and conquests in which the name and power of Christian municipalities, lords and nations left such a wide track of civil prudence and economic

Money Fallen Into Evil

"To-day all this is a pale and distant memory. Nowadays coins with images of Christ, of the Holy Virgin, of the saints and of celestial sovereigns appear strange, queer and anachronistic. They appear strange, queer and anachronistic because the whole conception of money, of its use, of the ends for which it must be used, of the emotions it awakens and the rivalries it serves have fallen to the antipodes of religious thought and customs.

"When sacred images were familiar, when they appeared as the symbol and seal of all manifestations of human existence, then the prosperity of the Commonwealth, the dignity of labor, honesty in commerce and good faith in all economic relations were worthy of those symbols, which played the role almost of witnesses and guarantors. Dishonesty and fraud would have been considered a profanation even more than the profanation to place the same images on coins which have become the evil and ill-famed instruments of the greatest and most dangerous individual, collective and international conspiracies.

The Sacred Images

"One, when sacred images could appear on coins and letters of exchange without causing surprise and scandal, public economy was protected by a wonderful providence, even amid difficulties and misadventures in business. States and banks, republics and merchants, amid the vigorous flowering of production and trade engaged, out of gratitude, in glorious undertakings which often, it is true, were profitable but always glorious, full of piety and valor.

"These coins, with their precious metal and sacred images, seemed wonderfully to unite nobility of ideals with practical valuation of their results. Nevertheless, it was thought that whenever in any bold venture practical considerations outweighed the ideals which inspired it, then the calculations on which it was founded invariably proved to be mis-

When Money Deteriorated

"The cruades and the struggles against piracy and slavery afforded the most notable examples. Whenever greedy avidity and desire for personal gain hid behind the sign of the cross and freedom, they were successful only by an optical illusion. When the reverse of the coin prevailed over the obverse and the sacred images replaced by numbers, then practical considerations prevailed over the ideal, moral became ephemeral, easy and double-faced, like the coin themselves; money ceased to be a means and became an end and Christian economy sought refuge in numismatic collections, together with the worn coins which were its symbol and expression. We all know what was the result.

"Vatican City has revived the pure traditions of Catholic States. On its coins are sacred images which represent the three virtues, through which a Supreme Power's spiritual sovereignty spreads through the world; namely, faith, charity and peace. Faith is represented by Christ the King and by the Immaculate Virgin. Charity is expressed by the Good Shepherd and the apostles. Peace is proclaimed by regina pacis and by the archangel replacing his sword after putting to flight the powers of darkness."

St. Augustine's Minstrel Show On April 20th

Entertainment and Party Will
Be Held in Columbus Auditorium
Next Monday Evening
—Open to Public

Next Monday evening, April 20th, the young people of St. Augustine's Church will give a minstrel show and dance in the Columbus Auditorium, corner Law and Chestnut Streets, beginning at 8 o'clock. This event is open to the public, and all interested people will be welcome. Present and former members of St. Augustine's Church are especially urged to attend.

Music for the evening will be furnished by the St. Augustine's Orchestra. There will be special features of entertainment that will please patrons, and the minstrel show will be well worth seeing. The members of the cast have been drilling for a number of weeks and they have a number of likable productions. The dance after the show will give patrons an opportunity to round out a pleasant evening in a beautiful hall, and amid the right kind of surroundings. Tickets may be obtained at the door the night of the show.

Catholic Book Club MARCH BOOKS

"Mere Marie of the Ursulines," a biography written by that gifted and famous Catholic essayist, Agnes Repplier, is the April selection of the Catholic Book Club for its members. The book is published by Doubleday, Doran & Co., and it sells for \$2.50. The editors of the Book Club call "Mere Marie of the Ursulines" an "overwhelmingly fine book" written by an "exquisitely skilled artist." The editors give the book unstinted praise, and conclude their review with the statement that her book is and probably will remain the classic on the subject. It is the life story of a French woman who led a group of nuns to the New World in 1633, and whose life and work for many years thereafter were among white men and red men, some saints and some demons.

"Courage was cast about her like a dress
Of certain comeliness:
A gathered mind and an untroubled face
Did give her dangers grace."

Other books recommended are: "Three Ships Come Sailing" by Monica Selwin-Tait, Doubleday, Doran, \$2.00; "Italian Adventure" by Isabel C. Clarke, Longmans, Green & Co., \$2.50; "The Winning Lane" by Sir Philip Gibbs, Doubleday, Doran & Co., \$2.50; "William Russell Smith" by Anne Crosby-Smith, The Dolphin Press, \$5.00; "The Doom of Conatze Mor" by W. E. Walsh, Louis Carrier & Alan Isles, \$2.00; "Green Hell" by Julian Huxley, The Century Co., \$3.50; "The House of Gold" by Bede Carrick, and E. C. Clarendon Library Association, \$1.25.

REUNION

Dawn, with the shadows rising
High up in the Washington sky
Leaving the cool, gentle Pacific,
Bears a message of peace from on high.
Quiet the night in the hospital—
No tapping of death at its door.
Confidence glows in a patient,
Hope is re-born once more.
Cars speeding in gleam of day,
Carrying "the next of kin" to his bed.
Over the continent's wide spaces,
Fleeting fast he be dead.
East—the long journey completed,
New Hope lights in every heart.
Homeward they'll bear him triumphant.
Never again from his own to depart.
—MARIE LEROY LEAHY.

Strange Easter Custom

Among the peculiar customs in connection with the celebration of Easter was on in Bavaria in the 15th century, in which the priest interspersed his sermon with riotous laughter. One of these stories was a description of how the devil tried to keep the doors of hell locked against the descending Christ. Then the speaker would draw a moral.
But the custom at length gave rise to grave abuses of the word of God, and was accordingly prohibited by Clement X in the 17th century and by Maximilian III and the Bishops of Bavaria in the 18th century.

The Great Spirit

CREATION
Creation moves in circles vast.
There's naught in space stands still.
The Great Spirit rounds His Universe,
Creating new constellations at will.

SPACE
Space is an endless vacuum,
Only fools strive to find it.
They never give the other side,
A brainstorm is their trend.

SUNS
The stars are magnetic globes,
Immortal through space they fly.
Immune from distance and decay,
The spiritualistic never die.

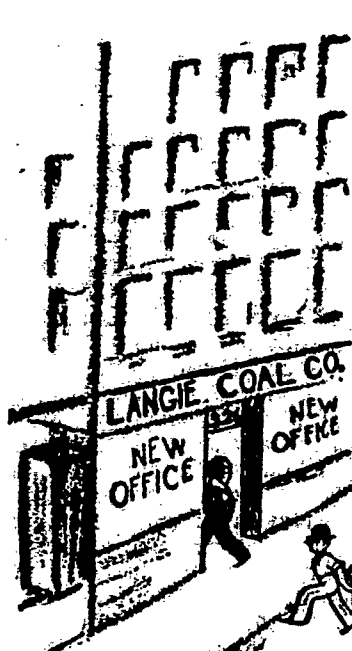
PLANETS
The planets' rough rounded hat,
Essentials to life must flow.
With their waxed centers,
Between two pulls they go.

TIME
Time was made for mortals,
Ends with their passing shades.
To the Great Spirit's Heavenly Circle,
Outside hopes dark, gloomy haunts.

HELL
Do not scoff at this,
Or want to see His Face,
Hell and not shortsightedness,
Wins for us God's grace.

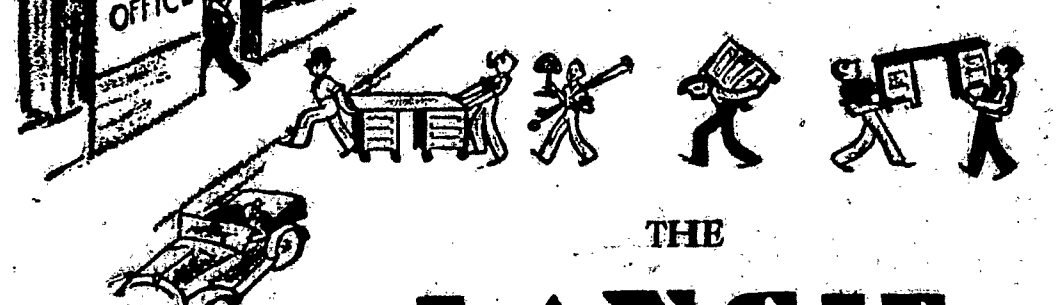
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Birth Control Is Not Approved By M. E. Bishop

Bishop Warren A. Candler
of Atlanta, Ga., Says
Council of Churches Had
No Authorization for Action.

Atlanta, April 17.—The recent action of the Federal Council of Churches in giving the official sanction of the Council to the birth control movement is sharply condemned by Bishop Warren A. Candler, in a letter to the Atlanta Constitution. Bishop Candler said the position taken by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America in sanctioning birth control under certain conditions did not represent the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

"The Federal Council of Churches," the Bishop wrote, "is composed of members appointed by several of the Protestant Churches and it is designed to represent these churches within proper limits."
"In deliberation of the matter of birth control has no authorization from any church supporting it, and what it has said I regard as most unfortunate, not to use any stronger words."

"Broken Dishes" Tuesday Night In Auditorium

St. Mary's Social Club will present "Broken Dishes," Tuesday evening, April 21st, in the Columbus Auditorium. Mrs. Harry J. Wilson is general chairman, assisted by Miss Ann McCarthy. The play will be directed by Mrs. Mary Louise Taggart.
Members of the cast are: Miss Bernice Farrell, Marion Brennan, Margaret Schaffer, Miss A. Smith, Mr. John Gagan, George Manning, Dave Manning, Franklin Haveron, Harry J. Wilson, and George Andrews, Jr.
The public is cordially invited to attend. Tickets are \$1.00, \$1.50, and \$2.00. The admission price is a box seat.

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