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Friday, May 22, 1931.

A RICH MAN'S SON

When we read of the doings of a rich man's son, he is usually in Reno, or his wife is there; or he is riding a-top the hot wire of a blazing scandal. Nicholas F. Brady, who died not many months ago, was a splendid exception to that. Religion and charity knew him as a devoted and generous friend. Now we have another shining example—John Barry Ryan, son of the late Thomas Fortune Ryan. He recently donated \$110,000 to the Catholic Charities of New York, through Cardinal Hayes. The Encyclical of Pope Pius on "Christian Marriage" interested him greatly, and he is publishing many thousand copies of this, all of them to be sold below cost.

In doing this work Mr. Ryan is inspired, we are told, by his devotion to the Holy Father, his admiration for the Encyclical, and the conviction that by wide and distinguished distribution of it many of the evils mentioned in the Encyclical can be counteracted, it is said. The project is entirely his own conception.

It is good to read of work of this kind; it is good to know of men of this character and thought. They blaze the way to fine and fruitful apostolic work on the part of the laity. They embody what Pope Pius asked the world to embody in his Radio talk last Friday—prayer, action, sacrifice.

THE PARENTAL SPINE

The parental spine, it seems, is a vital factor in State and National life. It is the flag-pole on which are hoisted the emblems of law and order. It is the steering gear to straight traveling. It is one of the most important perquisites in family life—much more so than a cook stove or a folding bed.

This fact was impressed upon the recent convention of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs. Ellis Parker, Chief of the Burlington County detectives, told the ladies the world needs a severe stiffening of the parental spine, "to safeguard children from factors that tend toward demoralization." Home training and good environment are the most important agencies in the development of boys and girls, and home training will not be effective unless the parental spine is stiff, he said.

Which is right to the point. Every father and mother should know how to say "No" at the right time, and with the right meaning. Not so much stern severity as good common sense backed by honest determination. "The right discipline, the right atmosphere—obedience exacted, harmony, respect one for another, mutual love, clean literature and clean language, a wholesome and sincere portion of religion, love and loyalty to Church and to God—these, with the right kind of parental backbone, will bring the average boy and girl safely through youth to upright manhood and beloved womanhood.

PRAYER, ACTION, SERVICE

Speaking to the world last Friday, through the miracle of the Radio, Pope Pius XI reminded all peoples that the day was the fortieth anniversary of the issuance of that great encyclical on labor, "Rerum Novarum," by Pope Leo XIII. He also announced that he, too, will soon issue an encyclical on labor, and that he hopes to make it a memorial and a reminder of Pope Leo's encyclical. All the eloquence of the "Rerum Novarum" and of his own encyclical can be put into three words, he said—Prayer, Action, Service.

Prayer is the most essential of all, the Supreme Pontiff tells us, because "Without Me you are able to do nothing"; prayer, which comes up to God, prepares us with divine grace for the action which the world so needs.

What you need, he tells the world, is to be a neighbor. You hear a lot of wild rumors about him. You are suspicious of him, worried lest he may harm you or your family. Every little while some one tells you things about him that increase your distrust of him. You would like to get rid of him, get him out of the

Vocation

Dear Lord, I saw the beauty of the earth, The trees, the flowers, All; I saw the children's mirth, I felt the gentle breeze, I heard the birds' sweet call, I loved it all; And yet, I longed for more— Something to fill the void Within my soul, Something whole; Something—I knew not what, Something that contained each joy, Each, all—and yet Where'er I turned I found alloy. Until—Ahl sweet and wonderful I heard Thy voice; That I must come to Thee, Must rest at last in Thee, My Love I come, my heart is Thine alone, Complete Thy Love, and take me for Thine Own. —The Southern Cross.

Church "has always besought the co-operation of her sons."

But sacrifice is even more necessary than action, the submission of your personal ideas, co-ordination and subordination, and obedience to leaders—"this is what the Holy Mother Church demands of those who labor with her in the vineyard of the gospel, and in the divine work of the apostolate."

And so, everywhere in the world, the employer and the employe are asked to join in prayer, action and sacrifice. For thus only will the elements of humanity be welded together, good-will and co-operation exist, and the spirit of Christ abide in the hearts and souls of the people. Millions heard Pope Pius make this plea to the world. Labor leaders, regardless of their religious affiliations, were pleased with it. They feel, and rightly, that it opens for Capital and Labor the doors of a new and better world—the world in which Christ planted His flowers of love and mutual trust. In this world happiness will be found, peace, and contentment, adorned by enduring justice and charity.

AT LINCOLN'S TOMB

Reaching reverent hands towards the ghostly hands of Abraham Lincoln, representatives of the American nation will assemble at the tomb of the martyred President, at Springfield, Illinois, on the seventeenth of June, there to accept and re-dedicate the magnificent completed monument that will be presented to the people of Illinois and of the Nation by Governor Louis Emmerson of that State. This monument is the tomb of Lincoln. Outwardly, little change has been made in it. Inwardly, it has been completely transformed. The body of Lincoln has been placed in a new sarcophagus of red marble. In the same chamber are the bodies of Mrs. Lincoln and three of their sons, Edward, William and Thomas.

Nine flags will be placed in the sarcophagus chamber. The Stars and Stripes will have the place of honor, and there will also be the flags of the seven States in which the Lincoln family lived at different times, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois. The ninth flag, the flag of the President of the United States, will be placed in the chamber by President Hoover at the re-dedication exercises.

Nine bronze statues of Lincoln by six famous sculptors, Daniel C. French, Fred Torrey, Leonard Crunelle, Lorado Taft, Adolph Weinman, and the late Augustus St. Gaudens, will stand on pedestals in the galleries of the monument.

The Governors of the seven states in which the Lincoln family lived will be present at the exercises. President Hoover will be one of the speakers, and the occasion will be one of great public and patriotic interest. The voice of Walt Whitman, silent long since, like that of Lincoln, will breathe into the hearts and souls of the multitude that will be present the stirring words of his poem:

"O Captain! My Captain! Rise up and hear the bells; Rise up—for you the flag is flung—for you the battle tells— For you, bouquets and ribbons wreaths— For you, the shores a-crowding; For you, they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces turning. Here, Captain! Dear Father! This arm beneath your head! It is some dream that on the deck You've fallen cold and dead!"

Well will it be for America if something of the soul of Abraham Lincoln shall be breathed into the soul of the Nation on this occasion—respect for law, love of justice, love of God, love of children, kindness, charity, and tenderness that moves to tears. Lincoln the boy starting out alone in the great forests, to find a preacher to say a prayer over the grave of his dead mother; Lincoln the man praying devoutly to God in the dark days of the Civil War; Lincoln the President at Gettysburg delivering his immortal address upon the battlefield where died so many thousands of heroic Americans—these are things it were well for us all to remember. "This true that 'now he belongs to the ages,' but most of all he belongs to America.

CATHOLIC INFORMATION

You have a neighbor. You hear a lot of wild rumors about him. You are suspicious of him, worried lest he may harm you or your family. Every little while some one tells you things about him that increase your distrust of him. You would like to get rid of him, get him out of the

Education Helps Catholicity

The Catholic Church has made wonderful progress in countries where scientific advance has reached its greatest heights. The more the world progresses, the more the Catholic Church does, for progress and Catholicity go hand in hand. 400,000,000 Catholics today believe the same truths, profess the same faith, and are all united under one Head. Matt. 16, 18.

THE FIRST PUBLIC LIBRARY IN AMERICA WAS IN A CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

block, out of the city and the State. So you and your other neighbors start whispering about him, plotting mean or evil things against him, anything to get rid of him.

But suddenly you discover that he is human, that he is kind, honest, honorable, God-fearing, worth while in every way. You go to him with a smile, a warm hand-clasp, an open soul, and you say? "It's awful good to know you, and I'm sure we are going to be good friends and good neighbors. "You feel better. The whole neighborhood feels better. The whisperings stop, the plotting stops.

This has happened in the little village of Narbeth, Pa. There was bad feeling in that community after the national election in 1928. Bigotry, anger, distrust. A small group of Catholic laymen held a meeting, outlined a plan of action and of education, submitted it to their pastor and obtained his approval. He called a meeting of his parishioners, explained the proposition, and was pledged their co-operation. In March, 1929, these laymen mailed a letter to a number of non-Catholic families in their community, telling them they were going to send them Catholic information from time to time, with their permission.

There were ten written replies to that letter. Eight asked for the information; two declined it. Many verbal replies favorable to the proposition were received. Once each month a pamphlet prepared by the laymen, and approved by their pastor, is sent to all non-Catholics in the community, except those who ask that it be not sent. These are few. Each pamphlet is devoted to one subject: Confession, the Mass, Holy Communion, and the like. The pamphlets are written in the manner of one neighbor's talk to another, with kindness and understanding, but with not the slightest tinge of compromise. In every case the pamphlet appeals to the non-Catholic's reason and sense of fair play. It does not touch upon his own creed. It avoids debates or controversies. It is Catholic information. Nothing else. Once each month an excellent Catholic paper is mailed to these friends and neighbors. What are the results? One of the founders of the society answers this question:

"In our whole two years of endeavor, we have had just fourteen who have asked us to desist, and their requests were written with courtesy. We have discovered no bitterness anywhere, but have, on the other hand, found an undoubted Catholic consciousness that did not exist before our work began. Our friends of other, or no, creeds, now recognize the fact that they have living amongst them a group of Catholics who stand four-square for their faith, for their country and for religious knowledge and tolerance; and each of these Catholics, like Charles Carroll of Carrollton, has his name plainly printed on the back of every pamphlet printed, together with the invitation—"If it's anything Catholic—ask a Catholic."

SACRILEGE IN SPAIN

Spain, kneeling by the ashes of her ruined convents, schools and churches, appears to be returning to her Christian senses. But not before many thousands of her children had written with sacrilegious hands a new and shameful chapter into the history of this Catholic country during the past two weeks. The destruction they wrought to Church property is well nigh incalculable for the treasures of centuries, priceless and irreplaceable, were among the riches fed to the flames.

A significant phase of this vandalism was the desire to desecrate as well as destroy. Sacred vessels of all kinds were torn from the tabernacles of the altars, carried brazenly through the mobs, or smashed with profane accompaniments upon statues and altar railings. Statues of Saints, images of the Blessed Virgin, crucifixes, priceless paintings, historic churches, convents, monasteries, schools—these all felt the profanity of Communist hands. Aged nuns, some of them of the cloistered orders, were harried by howling mobs. Monks were driven from their monasteries, priests from their schools, churches and homes, and in one instance an aged Archbishop was badly beaten. Rob, desecrate and destroy, seemed to be the watchword of the hour.

The millions lost, the treasures destroyed, the buildings ruined—these are the smallest part of the damage. The great damage is to humanity, to religion, to immortal souls. Terrible is the thought that after all its centuries of splendid Catholicity, so many thousands of the Spanish people could be found who would arise and with sacrilegious hands destroy what love had built, what religion had established, what Faith had consecrated. And terrible, too, the thought that in a country so pro-

founderantly Catholic and so deeply and truly religious, that swift and immediate retribution was not visited upon the mobs that struck with such viciousness at places and peoples where they felt certain no one would strike back. The cowardliness of these attacks was matched in part by the supineness of the officials of the new government. Where were the seions of the men who had fought the Huns, the Vandals, the Moors? Where the descendants of Ferdinand and Isabella? Where the successors of the martyrs who had died at the behest of Diocletian? Where the militant spirit of Catholicity that for centuries had made Spain one of the best beloved daughters of the Church?

Pity it is, and tragical, that Communists with hatred in their hearts for Christ, and for the servants of the Prince of Peace, were permitted, practically unhampered, to wreak such diabolical damage upon the sanctuaries of the Lord. If a Government is to live and endure, it must show spirit, energy, determination. The new Government of Spain showed none of these in dealing with these Communist mobs, these sacrilegious atheists.

On the Church itself there can be no reflection. From the days of Calvary to the present the cry of Communist mobs has been: "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" For those people who assault religious are opposed to all law, all order, all sense of fairness and decency, all justice, virtue and truth. The wanton of the streets who danced upon the altar of Notre Dame in Paris during the French revolution typifies best of all, perhaps, the spirit and the purpose of such mobs. They want no virtue. They want no restraint.

But Spain will come back. The hearts of her people are anchored safely to the Cross. The hopes of her people are centered in God. Her charred churches and desecrated altars will light anew the fires of faith that drove Arabs and Moors backward on many a bloody battlefield, keeping the Cross triumphant above the Crescent. Her Faith, grounded in Christ, runs rich with blood worthy yet of martyrdom as glorious as that of any of her ancient Saints, and she will not lie in the dust for sacrilegious feet to trample religion from her soul.

BOOK REVIEWS

Christ Our Brother: By Karl Adam, Professor in the University of Tubingen; translated by Dom Justin McCann, O.S.B.; published by the MacMillan Co., 60 Fifth Avenue, New York City; approved by His Eminence Patrick Cardinal Hayes. Price, \$1.75.

This book is devoted entirely to the Saviour of the world, His life, His work, His preaching and His prayer. The author pictures Him as the Church has always held Him before our eyes—true God and true man; true and perfect at all times. There are seven chapters, each rich in thought, and in logic designed to bring us nearer and dearer to God. They are: "Jesus and Life," "Jesus and Prayer," "Through Christ Our Lord," "Christ's Redeeming Word," "Christ's Redeeming Work," "Come, Holy Ghost," and "The Way to Christ."

The last chapter is the key to the thought of the author—the way to Christ, how we may know Him better, love and serve Him better, and be happy with Him for all eternity.

The purpose of Christ's life on earth is told in the first sentence of the book: "The glory of His Father, the fulfillment of His divine will, the establishment of the Kingdom of Heaven."

Dr. Adam paints a wonderfully appealing character—a kind Saviour, a solicitous Saviour, a gentle and loving Saviour who "loved men and loved their life and the will of His Father." Christ was drawn to man not merely by his tears, but by his laughter also, he tells us. "Away, then, with Nietzsche's supposition that Jesus never laughed," he declares.

Striking passages are found all through the book: "There was no eye so keen as His for the wretchedness of poor humanity." "His soul was attuned to the sublime melody of unwearyed patience with the miseries of men." "In laying down His life for us He became the Master of ministering love." "The sting of hopelessness has been extracted from all sin." "Christianity is constant Thanksgiving." "There is nothing in the whole world which should hold us away from man, not even their sins.

We could multiply these many times over. The thought and language are appealing. Dr. Adam writes as though he

were talking to you, telling you what a beautifully sweet character the Saviour possesses, and pleading with you to know Him and to love and serve Him. His book is rich in fuel for your soul, in fire for your faith. It is compelling and captivating at the same time. It is a good book to read and to re-read, for it brings Christ, a true friend and kindly, into your hearts and your homes in a way that is inspiring to know and blessed to remember.

The Frequent Communicant's Prayer Book: By Rev. M. V. Kelly, C.S.B.; published by John P. Daleiden Co., 1530 Sedgwick Street, Chicago, Ill. Price: Plain edges, \$2.25; gold edges, \$2.75, with special wholesale price for religious and clergy.

This prayerbook has the approval of his Eminence Cardinal Mundelein of Chicago. It is a convenient size, three and five-eighths by five and five-eighths inches; bound in beautiful pin seal soft flexible cover; well printed on India paper, easy to read and convenient to carry, and with 448 pages of carefully selected material. It will make an ideal gift for graduation presents, birthdays or holidays.

The author says that for twenty-five years, as a priest, he has observed the great need of a prayerbook for those who go to Mass and receive Holy Communion frequently. The book contains several methods of hearing Mass; many exercises before and after Communion; devotions before and after Confession; all the approved Litanies; devotions to the Sacred Heart, to the Blessed Virgin, and to St. Joseph; the Way of the Cross for private devotion; hymns for various occasions; prayers for different stations in life, and other features that will appeal to the devout lay person. There is a complete index, and a table of contents. The book will be a joy to the heart of any frequent communicant, and it should find ready favor in lay and religious circles.

WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor

We read in the daily papers the other day about a nurse in Bath being "showered with honors." What was the matter with the water?

The Senate Campaign Expenditure Committee has put Bishop Cannon's investigation off until August. Waiting, apparently, for the poor fellow to die a natural death.

The Methodist Church in Sparta, Ga., recently adopted resolutions calling for the resignation of Bishop James Cannon, Jr., from his office as bishop. Trying to fire their Cannon, apparently.

A Chicago police captain has just been found with \$40,000 graft money securely banked. A Chicago policeman was recently ordained to the priesthood. This ought to balance things for Chicago.

The Patrolmen's Benevolent Association of New York city adopted a resolution the other day asking motion picture producers to stop "glorifying the lives of gangsters, gunmen and racketeers." The Motion Picture Producers' Association long ago announced they were going to do this very thing, and make a lot of other reforms, too. Most of which was hokey. If New York policemen will follow up their resolution by giving a lot of "professional" attention to theaters that exploit gangsters, we will expect some results from their efforts.

The Southern Baptists, at a recent convention in Birmingham, Ala., pledged themselves to help defeat any candidate for public office, from the President down, who is opposed to the Prohibition Law. No other qualification was mentioned. We have a right to assume, therefore, that any candidate, however unfit for public office he may be, will be supported by these people, providing he is dry. This is the policy of the entire active dry outfit, regardless of church affiliations. Such a policy is a distinct menace to good government in America, and it deserves severe condemnation. We are glad to believe, however, that many Baptists will not be influenced by any such resolution, and that they will vote as American citizens, and not as Baptists.

Politics is the least offensive extraneous subject some of our separated brethren bring into their pulpits. Listen to this from the lips of an alleged minister of the gospel, in a Rochester pulpit last Sunday, and published in a Rochester daily paper for "spiritual" reading Monday morning:

"The matter of sexual problems doesn't seem to agitate youth as much as their parents. They do not see impurities in many things which former generations have tabooed. Promiscuity is thought to be unfair, but where a couple are seriously interested in each other certain liberties seem permissible.

The above philosophy of life was adduced from a "questionnaire" this preacher said he sent to fifty young people of his church ranging in age from seventeen to twenty-four years. These young people, this minister blandly told his congregation, "believe in God" and "regard the Bible with reverence," but never read it.