

The Catholic Courier and Journal

Official Paper of the Diocese of Rochester... Published at 227 Andrew St., every Friday by THE CATHOLIC COURIER AND JOURNAL, Inc.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One Year \$3.00, Foreign, one year \$4.00. Make all checks payable to Catholic Courier and Journal, Inc.

Editorial Staff: Priests of the Diocese, Maurice F. Sannoms, Managing Editor

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, July 10, 1931.

POPE PIUS SPEAKS OUT

With the shadow of a mailed fist upon him, Pope Pius XI has issued a vigorous encyclical in defense of the Catholic Action clubs of Italy, recently closed by arbitrary order of Mussolini.

That which was desired, and that which was attempted, was to tear away from Catholic society, and through this process to tear away from the Church, the young and all the young, Pope Pius says.

Mussolini, once a Socialist, pretended to put Socialism out of existence. But, says Pope Pius, he has brought back Socialism and other anti-religious organizations and has made them stronger than ever before.

Such an oath, as it stands, is illicit, Pope Pius declares.

If any other man in Italy made that statement the chances are his back would be against a firing wall in no time.

Disbanding of Catholic Action, the Pontiff says, was carried out as if "action was being taken against a dangerous organization of criminals." Mussolini, in other words, acted as if it were a great crime against the new Italy to teach the ideals and truths of the Church and of God.

This, then, is what confronts the Supreme Pontiff of our Church. This is what Mussolini seeks—supremacy! Supremacy of power, supremacy of the state, supremacy over the mind and supremacy over the soul.

And so, with the shadow of the mailed fist upon him, Pope Pius proclaims the truth to the world. It takes courage to do that, when, by keeping silent, he could sit and bank in the golden friendship of the great Mussolini.

The Dreamers

The rhysses passed her little gate— She stopped her wheel to see— A brown-faced pair who walked the road, Free as the mind is free;

Her shining plates against the walls, Her sunlit, sandal floor, The brass-bound wedding chest that held Her linen's snowy store,

She watched the foot-free rhysses pass; She never knew or guessed The wistful dream that drew them close— The longing in each breast.

—Theodosia Garrison.

WHO WILL DETERMINE WHAT IS RIGHT AND WHAT IS WRONG?

For the past six years a Commission of carefully selected clergymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church in America has been studying the divorce question.

The report of this Commission, a dangerous step towards full approval of divorce, will go before the general convention of the Episcopal Church in Denver, Colorado, on September sixteenth next.

Bishop Herman Page of Michigan, chairman of the Commission which favors this revision of the Episcopal Church canon on divorce, issued a lengthy statement in connection with the report of the Commission.

"Who is to determine what is right and what is wrong? Obviously it is necessary that some one should interpret the mind of Christ."

But the Bishop, finding no one to interpret the mind of Christ, turns logically to the proper authority. He says:

"The traditional attitude of the Roman Church in regard to marriage and divorce has been accepted by the entire Anglican Communion, and indeed has become more or less basic in the civil law of the whole Western world."

Then he gives utterance to this sturdy Catholic thought:

"If the Church is to make effective the Christian ideal of the indissolubility of marriage, it must do everything in its power to uphold at every cost the idea of the sanctity of marriage; and there is grave danger that if we begin to allow exceptions they will become more and more numerous and that divorce will be accepted by the rising generations as an act quite as moral and justifiable as marriage itself."

But in spite of the very grave warning to which he himself gives utterance, Bishop Page falls into indecision again, and says:

"On the other hand, many devout Christians believe that the Church should make more provision for the remarriage of many innocent people who have been divorced, emphasizing their conviction that when Christ was talking about marriage and divorce, as usual He was laying down principles and not rules."

Dr. Bell of St. Stephen's College answers this with:

"What the Commission recommends is directly contrary to the explicit command of Jesus Christ, and repudiates Christian ethical theory for the past nineteen centuries, apparently to conciliate a contemporary paganism."

THE MISSION CRUSADE

The seventh biennial convention of the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade, held last week at Niagara University, brought in a striking way before the Catholics of America the great work that is being done

The Catholic Church

has been the pioneer of Church unity. She looks with dismay and regret at the multiplicity of Christian denominations, and invites them all into that unity for which Christ came into this world, suffered and died.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY WAS FIRST GRANTED IN AMERICA BY A CATHOLIC, LORD BALTIMORE, IN 1649

by the missions of the Church. Missionaries from all parts of the world were present at this convention, and there were many exhibits illustrative of the life and work of the men and women who are carrying the Cross into pagan lands.

Dog sleighs and igloos from Alaska and other regions of the Far North, Eskimo trinkets from the land of perpetual ice and snow, treasured keepsakes from China and Japan, from Oceania and Russia, from India and the Philippines, and handiwork from many other lands and peoples—all these brought home to the delegates to the convention heart-touches of the practical side of missionary life and sacrifices.

One of the exhibits was the original letter from a Chinese bandit leader demanding \$20,000 ransom for the Rev. Edward Young, C.M., a prisoner of the bandits, and threatening death to the missionary if the demand was not complied with.

From Hunan province in China—scene of many a martyrdom—there was a striking exhibit in charge of a Passionist priest, the Rev. Theophane Maguire, who for five years worked and walked in the midst of death.

These and many other exhibits made a deep and lasting impression upon the great representation of Catholic students in attendance at the convention. The recital of them should make a deep and lasting impression upon us all.

For these "Marines of the Church" we should and do have great admiration. We help them, and rightly so, whenever possible, and especially through that splendidly organized promoter of the Missions, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

CAPITAL AND LABOR STUDY

Courses of study on the relations between capital and labor, unemployment, socialism, communism and the division of wealth will be prepared for the ninety-one Catholic colleges and universities having membership in the National Catholic Educational Association, under resolutions adopted by the association at the recent annual convention of that body in Philadelphia.

The courses will be conducted in accordance with the pontifical encyclical on social and industrial subjects. A commit-

tee has been appointed to prepare a syllabus for a six-semester course of social problems in the light of Christian principles and the encyclicals of the present and former Popes.

This is a practical step, and a commendable one. The mere reading of the great encyclicals on labor by Pope Leo XIII, and the more recent one by Pope Pius XI is always helpful, of course. But when these encyclicals are studied by many thousands of young men and young women in colleges; when the spirit of fair play, of honest dealings, of living wages, of the justice and right to which all workers are entitled—God-given rights—when these things are implanted year after year by sympathetic teachers in the hearts and minds of college students, the good that will be done is almost beyond calculation.

THE BREW OF HATE IN SPAIN

The brew of hate is boiling in Spain. Anarchists and Communists, enraged beyond all expression because leaders of the new Republic have not joined them in efforts to kill religion in the land, are determined to go to every extreme to hurt religion and show their detestation of it.

Spain is Catholic at heart, even if too passive in times of stress. Its Anarchists and Communists are a noisy, rowdy, law-breaking murderous minority. They showed their true colors in May when they attacked and burned many churches.

This is why the Communists rave. They want blood, like Russia. They want tortures, like Russia. They want destruction of churches, obliteration of priests, sacrilege of God, like Russia.

When You Make Your Will

Always, in every Diocese, there are churches and institutions which have heavy financial burdens, and whose work is handicapped by these burdens.

"I give and bequeath to the Rt. Rev. John Francis O'Hern, D.D., Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Rochester, N. Y., or his successor or successors in office, the sum of \$..... to be used at his or their discretion for the work or the institutions of the Diocese."

If you are interested in some particular church, charity or institution a clause like this may be added: "I am interested particularly in..... Bequests, large or small, are a great blessing to religion, and it is highly edifying to read of them in any will. No Catholic will should be without one or more such bequests."

BOGUS PATRIOTISM

The Rev. James M. Gillis, editor of "The Catholic World," said some good things about "bogus patriotism" in an address to the Knights of Columbus in New York City on Independence Day.

"Let us see what we can do to maintain that eminence," Father Gillis said. "When we were inflicted with an inferiority complex, it might have been correct to boost ourselves, but we don't have to do it any more. Among the dangers to our eminence is a misconception of patriotism. There has arisen a body of superpatriots—100-per-cent Americans."

"They say the only true American is of a certain race they are pleased to call Anglo-Saxon. And now they have dropped Anglo-Saxon and say the only genuine American is the Nordic. They rule out Italians, insisting that all Italians are undesirable aliens, and, since the war, the Germans. The Irish they reject as aliens. They have detestation for every race but their own, whatever that is."

The enemies of America, Father Gillis rightly says, are those who stir up hatred at home and abroad. "Beware of hysteria and prejudice," Father Gillis warned his hearers. "The true American does not confuse his country with the Deity. He separates patriotism and religion. Patriotism is an adjunct of religion. The genuine American patriot is a man who thinks for himself, studies out problems for himself and does not confuse his government with religion."

WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor

There were 35,805,632 automobiles in the world on January first, according to an automobile census just made public. The United States had 26,697,398 of these.

The U. S. figures are consoling. A lot of us will be able to keep ahead of the Sheriff if the gas holds out.

A total of 483 persons lost their lives on the Fourth of July this year. Six were killed by fireworks; 160 by automobiles; 181 were drowned; 21 died from over-exertion in the heat; 14 were killed in airplane accidents, and 98 in various other ways.

The city of New York is building thirty-one new public schools, or additions to schools already built. The estimated cost of this work has been placed at \$20,273,521, furnishings and equipment not included.

The Pittsburgh Catholic tells of an interview accorded some years ago to the late Alexander Moore, when he was Ambassador to Spain. It was during a visit to the United States that he told the editor of this paper there were many powerful figures in Spain who were posing as Catholics, but who were really nothing of the sort.

The reign of terror started immediately after the monarchy fell, but fortunately was checked before it swept the Nation. The danger is not over yet, however, and only the most determined watchfulness and energy on the part of Catholic people will prevent a widespread holocaust of churches and convents.