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The Catholic Courier And Journal

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Friday, Augunt: 14, 1981.

THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

Saturday this week is the feast of the Assamption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God. Like other mortals, Mary lived, worked, suffered and, like them, died. But from the very beginning of her life, the arm of God, loving and solicitous, was around her. She was born free from original sin-the immaculate Conception. For she who was to bear the Son of God, bring Him into the world and be His guide and His companion, was never tainted by sin. Immaculate, she was born; immaculate she lived, and immaculate she died.

Many of the most beautiful paintings of the great masters are centered around the Assumption, Indeed, Mary the beautiful mother, was a source of perpetual in-"" apiration to the greatest of the world's artists. Invariably they painted her with the child Joeus in her arms. Invariably they painted her as the perfect mother, the ne not glorious mother; the mother dear to the heart of her Divine Son, and dear to the hearts of all humanity. She was their ideal of womanhood, and her Immaculate Connt : ception, her Assumption and other phases of her life are embodied in numberless treasures of the lovellest art of the world. In the paintings of her Assumption the great artists represent her as rising from cartin to heaven from a profusion of roses and lilies. Beautiful her surroundings: beautiful the radiance of her countenance, with surpassing beauty enveloping her from all sides. "Tradition has it that the Apostles after Mary's death, went to her burial place to honor her and to pray. There they dis-covered that her body had disappeared, that her Divine Son had not permitted the MANT body of His Mother to go the way of the bodies of all mortals, but had borne her, body and soul, into Heaven. Thus it is that there are no pilgrimages to the tomb of EAU * Mary, for there is no tomb, no burial place that holds the body of the Mother of God. We like to think of her in many ways, but especially in three ways-first, with the child Jeaus in her ams in the stable at Bethlehem, the loving mother; second, at the foot of the Cross on Calvary, the sorrowful mother; third, at the right hand of God. In Heaven, the glorious mother, crowned Queen of Heaven, there to be our friend, our Mother, our intercessor all the days and years of our lives. The feast of the Assumption is one of the six holydays of obligation on the calendar of the Church. Therefore, all of us who can possibly do so will go to Holy Mass on that day, and will kneel and pray before the tabernacle of God in our parish churches. There, communing with Jesus and Mary, we can ask them for their help, their friendship and their love, as well as their guidance and protection for ourselves and our dear ones all the days of our lives. The Assumption to us should be a day of riadmess and of rejoicing, for it represents the glorious future that awaits all of us who are faithful to God, and who love and serve Him with fidelity-the Resurrection of the body, its unity with the soul, and the Assumption of all to the home of our Father in heaven. Sorrow at an end, sufall the tragedies and tribulations of earthly life marged in the never-ending joys of a life managed in the never-ending joys of a May hanness tal with God in Heaven—this is what the feast of the Assumption means to an And Mary, sweet Mother of God-Mary who stood by the Gross and felt the record of sorrow in her soul: Mary who back, equaled, by the form at Calvary; Mandemark, each of the farm at Calvary; Mandemark, and the farm at Calvary; Mand

The Assumption But old what human tongue can speak That day when Michael came to break

From the Air'd spirit, like a veil, Its covenant with Gabriel Endured at length unto the end? What human thought can apprehend That mystery of motherhood When thy Beloved at length renew'd And His right hand embracing thee?

Soul, is it Faith, or Love, or Hope, That lets me see her standing up Where the light of the Turone is bright? Unto the left, unto the right, The cherubim, succinct, conjoint, Float inward to a golden point. And from between the seraphim The glory issues for a hymn, O Mary Mother, be not joth To listen-thou whom the stars clothe, Who meest and mayst not be seen! Hear us at Inst, O Mary Queen! Into our shadow bend thy face, Bowing thee from the secret place, O Mary Virgin, full of gracef -Danie Gabriel Rossettl, in "Ave."

WHY_PEOPLE_LEAVE-CHURCHES-

It is good to read of men like the Rev. Caleb R. Stetson, rector of Trinity Episcopal Church in New York City, taking a determined stand against the things which kill or degrade religion in the souls of the youth of America. Dr. Stetson-recently expressed himself as unalterably opposed to any change in the canons of his church, permitting the re-marriage of divorced persons. He also expressed vigorous condemnation of birth control, and of trial and companionate marriages, and he declared they are nothing less than "throwbacks to outworn and outmoded kleas common enough in pagen society," but out of place in Christian communities.

Many a sincere minister, preaching to empty pews, wonders why his people do not come to hear him and encourage him. Dr. Stetmon tells why. He says ::

"People do not turn away from church because they are indifferent to religion as such. Indeed there is a very general and intelligent interest in religion. People are leaving the churches because often so little is given them that appeals to their reason, their intelligence or their spiritual nature. Sermons on politics, the latest 'best seller,' "Topics of the Times' leave them cold. This is not what carnest people come to church for. The last act of hopelessness on the part of some individuals is the attempt to rival the attractions of theatres or movies by staging entertainments, 'Tom Thumb weddings and special musical features in church buildings."

He is right. Ministers who now are congratulating themselves about their success in politics will have abundant opportunity to weep alone, or nearly alone, in their pulpits later on.

ONE GOOD PLAY; FORTY BAD ONES

Education and the State

A conception of the State which makes the young generations belong

entirely to it without any exception from the tenderest years up to adult life

cannot be reconciled by a Catholic with the Catholic doctrine, nor can it be

reconciled with the natural right of the family. It is not possible for a Catholic

to reconcile with doctrine the pretense that the Church and the Pope must limit

themselves to the external practices of religion, such as the Mass and the

Sacraments, and then to say that the rest of education belongs to the State.

-Pope Pius XI, in his Encyclical "Catholic Action."

MR. CAPONE MORALIZES

Nature is the same whether we drive a donkey or use a machine gun. When in. trouble, we are all willing to moralize; to tell the world it doesn't pay to be bad, and to cover our own frailty with a little dash of virtue.

Which leads up to the fact that Mr. Capone has been moralizing-Scarface Al., the gentleman whose energy and zeal have kept many a man from worrying about the pangs of death by thirst. It is no secret that the United States Government has had Mr. Capone on the frying pan, and that the gentleman had agreed it was time to have a bed prepared for him in a Fed-eral institution. Contemplating his en-ergies in the past, and comparing them with his proposed limited activities in the future, Mr. Capone recently fell to moral-

izing. I've been offered two million dollars to write a book, but I won't do it," he said. "I've had lots of offers from moving picture producers, but I feel about that as I do about books.

"You know, these gang pictures-that's terrible kid stuff. Why, they ought to take all of them and throw them into the lake. They're doing nothing but harm to the younger element of this country. I don't blame the censors for trying to bar them.

"Now, you take all these youngsters who go to the movies. You remember reading dime novels, maybe, when you were a kid. Well, you know how it made you want to get out and kill pirates or look for buried treasure—you know. Well, these gang movies are making a lot of kids want to be tough guys, and they don't serve any useful purpose.

Americans are a good people, but curi-ous. We believe a book by Mr. Caponea book not written in Shakespearian style -would be worth two million to a publisher, and that. Mr. Capone could make more money off a motion picture in which he was the star than he can off the liquid covered by the labels he sells. But what he says-or what someone else wrote for him to say-is true. Gang books are bad. Gang pictures are bad. Boys crave excite-ment, action, daring. They never look to the other side of the gangster's life-to the cowardly side, the sneaky side, the treacherous, murderous side. They look to the showy side. Years ago the writer sat in a motion picture theater in the metropolis and heard three-four-ths of the people in a capacity audience applaud the picture of a low-down, contemptible, yellow murderer whose crimes had been exploited by tabloids and other cheap newspapers. Wholesome, clean-looking boys and girls joined in that applause. The exploitation of such criminals in motion pictures should be prohibited by law, and that law should be enforced. The average gangster is a contemptible specimen of humanity, and he should not be made a hero in the eyes of the youth of America. Which leads to the conclusion that a lot of people who have not benefited by Mr. Capone's activities in the past will benefit by them in the future, providing he does not write a book or go into the movies.

the Right Rev. John Francis O'Hern, D.D., Bishop of Rochester, as President of the Board. Outstanding facts are these:

The foreclosure of the mortgage on the building has been stopped.

A new, easier and better financial arrangement has been made.

Emergy, thought and labor, put heretofore largely into efforts to finance the building, will go now into making the maintenance and operation of the building one h undred per cent. perfect.

Insprovements will be made throughout the building, and every part of it will function in ways that will appeal to and please patroris and the public.

The Civic Center atmosphere of the building will bourgeon and blossom in better and brighter ways, and within the structure men, women and children will find am atmosphere inspiringly wholesome, a civic spirit cordial and uplifting and a welcome that will warm the heart.

Ferw if any cities in the United States have a Civic Center so thoroughly modern, so embracingly complete, so splendidly adapted to the needs, the betterment and the entertainment of all people. Under the protecting roof of this magnificent structure sure housed a spacious auditorium, equipped for athletics, dramatics, motion pictures, social events, banquets and musical productions; an assembly hall and ball room of suitable size and inviting atmosphere; a superb dining room, with the finest of modern equipment; club and lodge rooms that brighten the lives and warm the hearts of occupants; bowling alleys that are the last word in excell nce and in arrangement; a gymnasium that is of outstanding superiority; a swimming pool urnusually large and perfectly located and equipped; a thoroughly modern Turk-ish bath, with rest and reclining rooms; shower baths, hand ball courts, library, reading, writing and game rooms, and a myriad of other things that make a great Civic Center a blessing and a benediction to a community. And one must not forget the three-hundred and more bright, attractive and well-conducted rooms for men and womera-a happy and delightful home for all who love to find rest, comfort and con-

For the first time since the Sassenachs invaded Ireland, away back in 1169, the

tide of Irish immigration has turned home. During the past six months only 476 emigrants came to America from Ireland, while approximately one thousand returned to Ireland from America to make their homes permanently in the old land.

THE TIDE FLOWS HOME

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For more than seven hundred years English rule dominated Ireland. The record of these seven centuries is one of the blackest, bitterest and most disgraceful in the history of the world. Decade by decade and century by century the British impoverished, broke, crushed and killed the spirit of Irish life, and kept the land red with the blood of the children of Erin. That time, happily, is past. Now Ireland, though connected with the British Empire, governs herself in fact and act, makes her own laws, rules her own people, and is surely even if slowly regaining some of her ancient prestige. She is one of the best-governed countries in the world; the freest of crime, the warmest in hospitality, the noblest in ideals,

The inhuman and tyrannical conditions under which the Irish had to live for centuries under British rule drove her sons and daughters by the hundreds of thousands-yea, by the millions-immigrants and exiles into every land in the world. They came to America by the hundreds of thousands, to Australia they went, to Van Diemen's Land, to Africa, to all countries in South America, to the continent in Europe, even to the frozen north of Russiaanywhere, everywhere that they hoped to find liberty, happiness, humanity and homes free from pitiless persecution. Ireland was drained of her heart's best blood. Decade after decade, generation after generation and century after century, this has continued.

Now, even though feebly, the tide has turned. The sons and daughters of the Gael are going back home. Happy, hopeful, their hearts filled with love and longing, they are returning to the old loved places. May the tide, feeble now, flow stronger until it moistens and warms the heart of all Ireland, even to the dissected. hills of the North, the last camping ground of the old regime that brought such sadness and suffering to a noble and gifted race.

WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor

New York City is planning to put its biggest Diamond in a secure setting.

When Father Lynch has a wedding in² Bath, the bridal showers are considered an appropriate adjunct.

Flying across the ocean is getting to be almost as common as nodding in a back pew.

When a man tells you he hears Mass

One good play; forty bad ones-this is the record of the metropolitan stage for the year, according to a bulletin just issued by the Catholic Theater Movement of New York City. These plays are a menace to decency, an enemy of religion, an insidious poison to the soul. On top of this, they have become a "potent factor in fighting the Church," according to the Rev. Robert E. Woods, an assistant priest at St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City. Father Woods gave a powerful sermon on the Catholic Theater Movement Sunday. He made a plea that Catholics everywhere "present a solid front against the attacks made on our Faith," and he urged that vigorous action be taken against the indecency of the stage.

The Catholic Theater Movement, with the Rt. Rev. Monsignor M. J. Lavelle, rector of St. Patrick's Cathedral at its head, has launched determined attacks upon the immorality of the metropolitan stage from time to time. And it is well that it does. For, as Father Woods says, a great manyof the metropolitan visitors who patronize the theaters in New York City are Gatholic people who are seeking clean and worthwhile dramatic entertainment in the city that is supposed to be the heart of the theatrical world for America. That forty bad plays and only one good one are being featured on the metropolitan stage is a dis-

graceful and vicious condition. "Public anusement must be judged by Christian standards of right thinking and right living," says the Bulletin of the Catholic. Thester Movement. When dramatic productions are not grounded upon these standards they deteriorate and degenerate rapidly, to the ultimate moral ruin of thre stage and to the moral detriment of all patrons. The trouble is that too many of our so-called dramatic authors are without real genius, and they mistake dirt for spice, immorality for originality. They are wrong. Dirt and immorality are without the charm of youth. They are as old as humanity. Spice and originality, pep, anap, and dramatic vigor-the condiments of plays that grip and hold—are products mot of the garbage cans of the ages, but of keen and brilliant minds, clean and wholesome minds. Good plays should be encouraged. Bad plays, evil and salaclous plays, should be fought with vim and vigor at all times. Sometimes they entertain patrons with empty or distorted mindes But aways they kill the stage, its dramatic worth, its art and its beauty. dramatic worth, its art and its peauty. And, what is more important to Catholics and, indeed, is all good Christians—they are member of God and of His Church, of religion and M merality and merality

THE COLUMBUS CIVIC CENTER

Splendid news, and thrilling, was given out from the Chancery office the other day. when announcement was made that the board of Directors of the Columbus Civic Center-Rochester's newest and greatest community building-had been reorganized and that the control and management of the building had been taken ovyr by a committee of capable priests and laymen, with | during power for good in the community.

veniences when working hours are over and peace blesses the soul.

It is this building—amazingly large, modern and inviting—which now offers, under the inspiring leadership and civic progressiveness of Bishop O'Hern, a newer and better life to the men, women and children of Rochester and vicinity. Built in loving pride for the city and its people every brick of it warm with the fires of generosity and shaped superbly by the sacrifice and labors of its promoters, founders and financiers-it stands to-day, and will stand for long years yet to come, as a monument unsurpassed of achievement that may well be called glorious. Years of consecrated labor and effort, of thought well directed, of planning well carried out, of ideals correctly grounded in the great school of love and service, made this building a splendid reality. The love and loyally of the city and its people are needed now to make it what its founders hoped it would be-a blessing and a benediction to all the people of this community. Surely these will be had fully and completely, and with more enthusiasm than ever before, when John Francis O'Hern, Bishop of Rochester, blesses the Columbus Civic Center by the sunshine of his presence and the inspiration of his leadership. And all who worked, wrought and planned all who gave of their talent, time and thought; all who by generosity and sacri-fice, crowned by love, placed the soul of service in the heart of this great structure -all of these will hope and pray that God will bless the efforts of the new management of this building and make it an en-

When You Make Your Will

Always, in every Diocene, there are churches and institutions which have heavy financial burdens, and whose work is handicapped by these burdens. When you make your will, the best way in the world to help these needy ones is to insert a paragraph something like this in the will:

"I give and bequeath to the Rt. Rev. John Francis O'Hern, D.D., Bishop of the Catholic Diocess of Rochester, N. Y., or his successors recessors 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 editying to read of them in any will. No Catholic will should be without one

over the Radio, ask him if he expects to get to Heaven the same way.

Al. Capone escapes jail, and President Hoover escapes an extra session of Congress.

You get a shock reading about some anniversaries—the electric chair was first used in Auburn Prison forty-one years ago last Saturday.

"I see by the papers the President is going to have Congress take care of all the folks who are hard up next winter," Sy Perkins remarked to Jim Simpkins. Well," said Jim, "if I was you I'd dig my potatoes just the same, and lay in a lot of turnips and corn."

"With any candidate other than a Catholic wet, Democratic chances look good," Clinton Howard, the dry geyser of these parts, said in Asbury M. E. Church here Sunday. Looks as if he's afraid Al. Smith would be elected if nominated. So let's nominate Al. and thresh out this bigoted talk for the sake of a clean, wholesome spirit in America.

A great Catholic sanatarium, costing three million dollars, is to be built near Raton, New Mexico, and a home will be established there for priests. Construction will be started in the Fall or early Spring, and the project, it is announced, will be financed through a national campaign for funds. Bishop Schrembs of Cleveland, 0., selected the site, and is greatly interested in the project. It will be the largest hospital in the great Southwest when it is completed.

Many Rochester people heard Bishop Hafey of Raleigh, N. C., speak here when the Catholic Daughters of America held their convention here some few months ago. North Carolina is a great mission state. It has less, than ten thousand Catholics out of a population of more than three millions. Recently a group of good women, anxious to help Bishop Hafey in his work, formed a community known as the Society of Christ Our King. Their purpose is to make the Church betterknown to Catholics and non-Catholics, particularly women, by giving instructions and holding retreats for them. Two ladies in Greenville, N. C., were among the first to join the new community, and they are giving the use of their spacious home to the work of the community. This under-taking will be watched with interest, and there is every reason to believe it will be a great success.