

The Catholic Courier

and Journal

Published at 157 Andrew St., every Friday by THE CATHOLIC COURIER and JOURNAL, Inc.

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RELIGION HAS NO PLACE

Every once in a while some jack-in-the-box preacher rams around the country, telling how "free" religion is in Russia, and how there is no truth to stories of religious persecution or religious suppression in that unhappy land.

Maurice Hindus, author of "Red Bread" and "Humanity Uprooted," books that are analytic of the Soviet government, has an article in the October Ladies' Home Journal entitled "What's What in Russia."

At the reader, remember that to the Russian revolutionaries the creation of a new society with new institutions and new social values, is even more important than the abolition of mammoth tractor plants and steel shops.

Religion, for example, has no place in their society. From the earliest days of the revolution they have been mercilessly attacking all religions and all churches.

In my wanderings in Russia I visited Roman Catholic churches, Greek Orthodox churches, Protestant churches, Mohammedan temples, Jewish synagogues, and everywhere I saw people worshipping without seeming interference.

The five-year plan presupposed an intensified campaign against religion, and this campaign is being energetically pursued through lectures, motion pictures, dramatic performances, and especially through the curriculum in the schools.

Older people, particularly of the Protestant denominations, may cling stubbornly to the faith of their fathers, but youth is rapidly abandoning this faith.

These reforms have lifted marriage and divorce out of all restrictions. Both have become a matter of individual wish or discretion.

Divorce is as easy as marriage. Either party may obtain it with or without the consent of the other.

The farmer with the big potato or tomato was in evidence then, as now. For we read on the front page:

The Bells of San Gabriel

There was the sun and the wine The blood of the grape that nourished The blossoms and fruit of the vine

And every stroke of every bell Sang Gabriel, Rang Gabriel In the tower that is left

Who are they now, O Tower The locusts and wild honey Where is the sacred dower

And every stroke of every bell Sang Gabriel, Rang Gabriel In the tower that is left

dren in the family the divorced parents are held responsible for their support. Usually the mother is awarded the custody of the children, and the father pays alimony

Abortions and birth control are legal, Mr. Hindus tells us, and "The Soviets have launched a widespread propaganda in favor of birth control.

There you have it—no religion, no morality, no virtue, no marriage, no home life, no Church and no God!

IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS

We hear a lot about the good old days every once in a while. We read quite a bit about them the other day, when The New York Times, celebrating its eightieth anniversary, published a photographic copy of the first issue of that paper, issued on September 18, 1851.

"A Bloomer costume made its appearance in Sixth avenue day before yesterday. A crowd of 'Conservatives' manifested their hostility to this progressive movement by derision.

"At a peasant's wedding, when the procession of the betrothed was moving toward the church, the gendarme approached the bride and summoned her immediately to divest herself of the red, white and green ribbons which she had in her tresses, according to the custom of the country girls, saying that these colors were revolutionary.

"The gendarme retired, the procession proceeded to the church, but at the moment the bride was kneeling at the steps of the altar to receive the benediction, the gendarme rushed forward and cut her tresses and ribbons with scissors from her head.

This happened in Austria. On the same day New York had its troubles, for the workers in rival blacksmith shops met in the evening at the corner of Seventh Avenue and Twenty-second Street, and a 'desperate and fearful conflict' would have ensued but for the timely arrival of a posse of Sixteenth Ward police.

The farmer with the big potato or tomato was in evidence then, as now. For we read on the front page:

"The State of Long Island is some on tomatoes. We were shown the other day

Collection For Diocesan Seminaries

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Our seminaries care for vocations to the Priesthood and supply our churches with Priests. Every Catholic realizes the duty and obligation of contributing to the support of St. Andrew's Preparatory Seminary and St. Bernard's Theological Seminary.

a tomato raised by Mr. Frederick Rowland of Hempstead, one of those vegetables which measured 22 1/2 inches around it, and weighed 2 pounds 3 1/2 ounces. Who can beat it?

An American yacht defeated a British yacht in a race across the sea, and England's pride is mighty badly hurt. Brief news dispatches cover the happenings of Europe.

THE DEAD AT BELIZE

Tragedy, like love, makes the whole world kin. When a hurricane tore the city of Belize, capital of the British Honduras, into shreds and left the ruins filled with wounded, dying and dead, relief was hurried from many lands, and help sent by many peoples.

Among the ruins, and among the dead, there were two places that stood out before all the world—the Jesuit College of St. John, where eleven Jesuits lost their lives, and a Catholic Church filled with little children about to be instructed for their first communion.

The hurricane brought death and desolation, but on the wings of the wind it carried to all parts of the world stories of heroism, tokens of amazing sacrifice, and of love and devotion to duty of the noblest kind.

THE YORKTOWN ANNIVERSARY

The one-hundredth and fiftieth anniversary of the surrender of the British army at Yorktown, Virginia, will be celebrated with fitting ceremonies, October sixteenth to nineteenth.

It is fitting that in the celebration of this jubilee the Catholic Church should have an outstanding part. That part has been allotted: For on Sunday, October eighteenth, the Rt. Rev. A. J. Brennan, D.D., Bishop of Richmond, Va., will celebrate a Pontifical Mass on the assembly grounds at Yorktown.

On the same day, in all Catholic churches in the Diocese, special prayers of thanksgiving will be said.

Yorktown would, in all probability, have had a different and darker ending

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 of 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.

WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor

We notice that prisoners have been running away from jails lately. They are very foolish to do that. Things are worse outside than in.

Bishop Cannon, home from Europe, and dry as the stock market, announces that he is tee-totally—which means prohibitionally—opposed to the nomination of Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt for President.

The Mayor of Atlanta, Ga., was "fired" as teacher of a Sunday school class the other day by a Methodist minister because the Mayor told what he thought about that great American pile of junk, Prohibition.

We don't have to read the funny magazines any more. We get plenty of humor out of the speeches of politicians on how to cure the depression—which means how to relieve the suffering people without letting the other fellow get any credit for it, or the other party any votes.

Yeast raises the dough. The Fleischman Yeast Co. was fined three thousand dollars the other day for selling its product to a bootlegger.

"Ex-President Coolidge," said the cigar agent, looking us blandly in the eye, "hit a man with his automobile, then gave him a pint of blood to help save his life."

Peter J. Brady of New York, labor union leader, banker and capitalist, was killed in an airplane accident on Staten Island the other day.

Seventeen states, including New York, now have old-age pensions. The American Association for Old Age Security has made a nation-wide survey of these pensions during the past three months.

It is cheaper, and far more satisfactory, to pay pensions to aged poor than to care for them in institutions.

CURRENT COMMENT

ALFALFA BILL

We bow to Alfalfa Bill Murray, Governor of Oklahoma. His activities in oil struck many contemporaries as a bit unusual but they may still prove to have been exceedingly wise.

The average old-age pension in the United States amounts to only \$14.32 per month, while the average cost of maintaining an inmate in an almshouse is \$27.88 per month, exclusive of the cost of buildings and equipment.

Few dishonest claims are made by aged people, and these are quickly discovered. The finest kind of gratitude is shown by the pensioners. Aged men and women are able, because of pensions, to remain

with their loved ones, or with old-time friends, which is much preferable to life in an almshouse.

The Old-Age Pension Law is a good law. The benefits cited above are practical benefits, and the law is a help and a blessing to every aged person in need of help. It should and will be continued.