# The Catholic-Courier And Journal

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Maurice F. Sammons, Managing Editor

Tanzaday, December 81, 1931.

# A HAPPY NEW YEAR

There is expectancy all over America hat the New Year will bring an end to the depression that weighs so heavily upon millions of our people all over the land. We are going through one of the most trying periods in the history of our country. Millions of people out of work, millions of copie without sufficient fuel, food or lothing, and a colossal amount of charity, private and public, necessary in every State in the Union. Tragical as this is there is good in it also. For the necessity of sober and serious thought has been brought home to everybody. Many people, careless and thoughtless in religious matters, are turning devoutly to God. They have learned the futility, the weakness, the incompetence of human help, and in prayer and petition they find what the world cannot give them heart and hope for the future.

With overcast skies, therefore, the American people are lifting hopeful faces towards the New Year. Prayer is in their hearts, and growing confidence in God, His se and His power. To Him, with spiding love, we turn when we look for sighs of a happier and better year in nineteen-hundred and thirty-two than we had in nineteen hundred and thirty-one. "With the help of God," the Irish immigrants of other years used to say when they exthe help of God, therefore, we join in the hope that the New Year will be rich in blessings, temporal and spiritual, for all people, and in the prayer that the depression, having taught us the needed lesson of greater reliance upon God, may come to

The Catholic Courier & Journal, lifting a hopeful face to its thousands of readers, wishes to each and all and to their families and other loved ones a happy and blessed New Year. May God's blessing of love shine upon them, warm their souls, gladden their hearts and make their lives happier and better in the coming year. The happiest New Year, all of us should remember, is the year we are closest to God: Let us strive to make the coming year the happiest in this sense, and with the help of God we shall succeed.

# A DANGER TO EDUCATION

In keeping with the recommendations recently made by President Hoover's Advisory Committee on Education, urging the creation of a Federal Commissioner of Education, with a place in the President's Cabinet, Congressman Reed of this State has introduced a bill providing for a Federal Department of Education. This measure should be fought with vigor by all people who are in favor of keeping the educational system of America in the hands of the various states, as it is at the present time. The proposed measure has been roundly denounced by nearly all of the leading daily newspapers of America. It should not only be denounced, but beat-

on decisively.
There is a small, but powerful clique which is making persistent efforts to swing control of all schools from the States to the Federal government. Some of these persons are actuated by honest motives. dany of them are influenced by the belief that a multitude of high-salaried political jobs will be created. Quite a few are pro-tessional bigots who see in Federal control the opening door to autocracy over, and parhaps persecution of parochial schools.
Last year when the Robinson-Capper bill sought Federal control of schools the chief spokesmas for that measure was Jim Vance editor of the sotorious "Fellowship Ferral, one of the vilest bigoted sheets pathland in America. In addition to specify the measure in his consciencethe conscious to help legislate through congress sust what the same as through the same as the same as

The deaths of Sheridan at West Point burden. However, the and of Murphy at Fordham, two of the

### Home Building

I want the rain to wash you, and the sun to kiss you dry.

The sighing winds to whisper and caress. you going by:
And if the singing robins condescend to bulld their nest On sheltered caves or rafters, I shall know that you are blest.

I hope the flowers will blossom by your windows and your doors, That golden bes will buzz and buzz as they sip the nectar stores. And when the snow is falling I shall be content to see It cover ledge and casement like a robe of

I want you strong and sturdy, unarraid, of storm or heat; And always kind and friendly, with a fragrance mild and sweet.
Your windows shall be glowing with the lights that never fall. And every chimney sending out a sirrous blue trail.

I hope your little doorways will invite the Anr promise all who enter in a boon of peace and rest; For you must have a greater power than the urge to roam,

And be the faithful guardian of the very

-Honor Walsh, In The Catholic Standard and Times.

main thing to remember is that any measure sponsored by notorious professional bigots bodes no good for the Church or her schools. It would be a tragic thing to have any situation develop in America that might jeopardize the present happy relations of all religions. It would likewise be a tragic thing to have any situation develop that would jeopardize the stability and progress of the educational system of

Secretary of the Interior Wilbur, a member of President Hoover's cabinet, recently made a vigorous attack on this pronew law. He warns the American people that the creation of a Federal Department -of - Education - will -place - the schools of America in the political football arena, and cause untold harm to them. This bill, therefore, should be beaten, and beat-

### FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Pope Pius XI, in an Encyclical dated Christmas Day, appeals to all-Protestant and Eastern Orthodox Churches to unite with the Catholic Church and find strength in morals and security in religion. "It is necessary," he says, "that all good, men unite in Jesus Christ, and in His mystical spouse, the Church, with single uniform and sincere profession of Faith, because everywhere so many men try to shake off the light yoke of Christ, reject the light of his doctrine, stamp out the sources of grace, and finally repudiate the divine authority of Him who has become, according to the gospel, 'the sign of contradition' on

Pope Pius believes that, in the present disorganized condition of the world, with the accompanying lack of religious stability there is a genuine longing for one fold, under one shepherd. Comments made upon his Encyclical by a number of non-Catholic clergymen indicate that the Pontiff has a correct understanding of conditions. The comments were smpathetic, kindly and in some cases hopeful that results might be obtained. For some time past there have been definite movements among non-Catholic churches towards a general Christian unity. None of these movements has brought results, nor are they likely to bring any. There is a tendency on the part of various denominations to insist upon certain supremacy of ideals and of teachings, as well as beliefs. This tendency, of course, will make itself felt in discussions that will be given to the invitation of Pope Plus XI. But the invitation, we believe, will find warm response in many hearts and will be productive of great good throughout Christendom. It is the voice of a solicitious and kindly father, deeply sincere and earnestly anxious for the wel-

fare of humanity.

Beautiful and appealing are the parts of the Encyclical dealing with devotion to the Blessed Mother. The Encyclical, issued in commemoration of the fifteenth centenary of the Council of Ephesus, which affirmed, among other things, the doctrine that the Virgin Mary is the true Mother of God, pays beautiful tribute to Mary and peals to all Christians, and especially to all mothers, to lift their eyes to her in prayer and veneration. The Encyclical, coming at a time when all the Christian world is paying homage to the Babe of Bethlehem, is certain to find fertile cases in many lands barren of sincero religion: May it prove a blessing and benediction to all Christian peoples.

# FOOTBALL FATALITIES

Forty-one football players were killed this season, according to reliable, records kept by news agencies. The majority of: these were in what sports editors are pleased to call "sand lot" games. Untrained amateurs, in other words; boys who were not taught how to tackle properly, or how to fall safely when tackled. The record is a bad one, and an alarming one. Football officials all over America. have been offering suggestions on how to avoid future fatalities, and it is quite likely some definite action will be taken towards amending playing rules to give additional protection to players.

# Why We Are Catholics

We are Catholics because we are Americans, natives of the soil. And Americans more than others, have abundant reasons for being Catholics. Columbus himself was a Catholic, it was his staunch, unwavering allegiance to his Catholic faith that made it possible for him to be introduced to his royal Catholic patrons, who enabled him to set out on his unparalleled voyage of discovery. The primary scope and object of the great navigator was to propagate the Catholic faith, and it was Catholic money, furnished by the Catholic Church, that purchased and fitted out his sailing vessels.

finest and best-trained players in America, were most spectacular and most startling. These young men, devout Catholics and splendid athletes, were thoroughly experienced football players. Members of two of the foremost teams in the country, their tragic deaths seemed almost like those of heroic warriors on battlefields. The body of Sheridan was given an honored place among the great wise rest at West Point, Murphy was elected honorary Captain of Fordham's team for next year, with the hope and prayer, perhaps, that his spirit, faithful to the death, may guide the team in a supreme inspirational way.

But the deaths of all other football players, whether sand-lot or not, were just as sad and regrettable, and brought as deep sorrow to the hearts of bereaved parents and other relatives. It is certain that a sport which leaves a fatality list of this kind in its wake will not long remain a popular sport. It will dig its own grave with the graves of its victims, if it is not better safeguarded. The good of the game requires that something be done in this matter. Football is a great sport, fine. manly, upbuilding, and popular with the public. But it should not be allowed to develop into a sport that leaves young men maimed and crippled, and that buries broken hearts of mothers in new-made graves. It has a better future than that, and its future should be safeguarded.

#### "PART OF MY DUTY"

Father Patrick Turk, missionary priest in llankow, Chinaptescaped from Chinese bandits the other day after ten terrible weeks of captivity. He looked gaunt and broken in health, and was weary and footsore. He escaped an a hail of bullets, but delined to be made a hero of by his friends. "It was only part of my duty," he sald, modestly, "and what's the use of taking about it."

Mistreatment, torture, and death in close proximity, were his lot. But he did not flinch. He went through it bravely, putting his trust in God. It was only part of his duty, and like a good soldier he did his duty,

How many of us have Father Patrick Turk's sense of duty? Would we face torture and death, run in a hail of bullets and come home smiling and happy, thankful to God that we did our duty? Or do we fail and fall in little things that part of our duty-prayer, reception of the sacraments. attendance at Mass, good example to others, observance of the Commandments of God, kindness and charity to the poor? We do not have to go through a hail of bullets to be practical Catholics here in America, and we should be thankful of it. But in doing our duty, let us find wonderful inspiration in Father Patrick Turk, and do it modestly and faithfully, with a fine sense of loyalty to Church and God.

# "GET OUT OF MY OFFICE"

In a talk to members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society the other day, the great Cardinal O'Connell of Boston told how he had sent one of his priests to a wealthy Catholic in that city to solicit a donation for a deaf and dumb institution in the Archdiocese. "Get out of my office, I don't want anything to do with it," Cardinal O'Connell said the rich man shouted at the priest.

Such men ought to be flogged," said Cardinal O'Connell. "It is the only suitable punishment for them. They are insensible to all appeals. They are thoroughly and completely blind to things about them. They have their money bag around them, and that's their faith."

Eardinal O'Connell told his hearers all rich men are not like that, but that many are generous to every worthy cause and glad of opportunity to be of service to humanity. He mentioned a number of generous Catholics, and two Boston men, non-Catholics, recently deceased. "God rest have done," he said, "They were not of our Catholic faith. They did not know it, but they had the spirit of our Faith, and that is better than the mere dry letter. God sees to that.

"We must inculcate a love of poverty. not degraded poverty. I mean detachment from riches. The money first came from God and should go back, through the poor, the sick, not every last dollar, but when one has provided for the necessities and some of the luxuries of life in God's name what else can you do? That's why I say these rich men are stupid for holding ing on to wealth."

Charity is a heautiful virtue. Those who possess it are rich; those without it are pitifully poor. Not many people, we hope, are so hardened as to say to Chari-Get out of my office." For God may walk, with Charity, through the door,

### THE VATICAN LIBRARY

The recent collapse of the roof on one of the wings of the Vatican Library, with the tragic deaths of five persons and the damage or destruction of numerous priceless paintings, art treasures, books and manuscripts, brought world-wide attention to the Vatican and to its great collections of priceless treasures. The collapsed building was erected by Pope Sixtus V in the year 1,588, but it had treasures of many ages long before this time.

Among the rare manuscripts were the autograph manuscripts of Petrarch's sonnets: one of the acts of the Apostles, written in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, and given to Pope innotent. VIII by the Queen of Cyprus; the noted fourth century Greek Codex B of the Bible, a fragment of a sixth century manuscript of the Gospel of St. Matthew, fourth and fifth century manuscripts of Vergil, a fourth century early manuscripts of Terrence, the breviary of Matthew Corvinus, King of Hungary, dating from 1487; a copy of "The Divine Comedy" made by Boccacio and presented by him to Tetrach.

In the Library were exhibited autographed letters of Martin Luther, Tasso, Michelangelo, drawings by Raphael, a small bound collection of love letters of Henry VIII to Ane Boleyn, a Camaldolese book of 1470 containing a portrait of Federigo II of Urbino, and an early history of the Duke of Urbino containing miniatures of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

Among the important groups of books in the library are the Palatine Collection, libraries of Dukes of Urbino, the collection of the Swedish Queen Christina Alexandra, the private library of Pope Pius II. the Ottoboniana library, the Capponi collection, the library of Count Cicognara, the private collection of Alexander VI, the collection of Cardinal Angelo Mai, and the Borghese collection containing 300 codices from the old papal library at Avignon.

Many of the books in the library are said to be unique. Every type of written or printed record on papyri, vellum, parchment, and paper is said to be represented. The pages of some rare volumes are perforated and interwoven with violet sheets to simulate lace work, and some are printed on silk. The library is said to possess one of the finest collections of oriental manuscripts in the world.

Pope Pius XI has had American firms engaged in building new book racks, cabinets and shelves; and American experts have helped in cataloguing and listing the priceless treasures of the Library. The Pope, an experienced librarian, has shown

### RUSSIA, SPAIN, MEXICO

Russia, Spain, Mexico—this is a sort of triangle over which hovers the greatest menace, Pope Pius XI said on Christmas eve, in a talk to a score of Cardinals who visited him in the Vatican to extend Christmas greetings to him. "Spain." he said, "has torn out the most beautiful pages of its history, desecrated the family and desecrated the schools in a manner which is truly painful."

Mexico, he said, is showing some improvement, though the struggle against the Church is grave and sharp. Russia, trampling upon all religion, is worst of all. The Pontiff thanked God that "in America troubles are not so grave as in other countries." We have, in truth, much to be thankful for here—the confidence, friendship and love of the great mass of the American people, and a fine feeling of respect for things Catholic all over the land. It is well that we are not part of the triangle of tragedies and sorrows uniting-Russia, Spain and Mexico-in-an-arena-hostile to religion, and in many ways hostile to the finer and better ideals of Christian

# CURRENT COMMENT

#### A TAINTED LITERARY FLOOD Out of a total of 800 books for juveniles -

published last year, a committee of the Child Study Association found only 140 that were fit for children. Of the rest more than 500 volumes were passed over as worthless, while 150 were found to be "actually harmful," embodying false ideals or sensationalism, often with a gangster or some villain as the hero.

Nevertheless, the huge output of children's literature in 1930 must have proved financially profitable. Publisher's lists of books for juveniles covering the first nine months of the present year show an increase of 185 titles over the output for the same period last year. The popularity of modern books for children doubtless indicates that many of the old fairy tales are losing their hold, their places being taken by tawdry modern creations, either baneful in their effects on the child, or comparable in cultural value to the comic sections of the Sunday newspaper.

The attitude of the committee of the Child Study Association is that the child's reading should be supervised and that such supervision does not stultify the free development of the child's faculties but rather furthers it. Another school of opinion deprecates such supervision, lest it "rob the child of his sacred freedom of choice."

Somewhat inconsistently, so far as freedom of choice is concerned, the aims of this latter school received striking exemplification recently in the successful protest of a group of women against the inclusion of a devotional picture (Peggy and Peter saying their prayers) in a nursery volume depicting modern preparation for life. Doubtless this is an extreme case of the influence exercised by an outspoken but small minority. Yet, in view of the findings of the Child Study Association, it is apparently this sort of influence that is guiding authors and publishers in their output of modern books for children.

At the same time there appears to be a dirth of children's books from the pens of Catholic writers. The Catholic cultural background is an inexhaustible source of children's stories, and every teaching nun knows the child's vital interest in religion. Modern thought, having lost touch with the meaning of life, is driven more and more to cheap sensationalism to capture passing interest. The literary tastes and religious ideals of Catholic parents can be brought to bear effectively in protecting the child from these vulgar and cheapening influences, from this literary backwash and bilge. The cultivation of religious ideals and discriminating taste must begin in the nursery, giving the child an opportunity to grow into a deepening appreciation of the really interesting and worthwhile things of life.—The Western Watch-

The December number of the S. O. S. Magazine for the preservation of the Faith, published by the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity, at Holy Trinity, Alabama, contains an excellent photograph of the Right Reverend John Francis O'Hern, D.D., Bishop of Rochester, with the Very Reverend Thomas A. Judge, C.M., M.S. SS. F., Custodian General of the Missionary Servants. The photo was taken at the time of the recent ordination to the priesthood, in the chapel of St. Bernard's Seminary, by Bishop O'Hern of the Reverend Paul Anthony Fursman, M. S. SS. T. Previous to his entrance into the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity, Father Paul Anthony, who was known as Colonel Fursman, was the Commandant and one of the chief organizers of the Columbus Cadet Corps of New Jersey, and director of the Knights of Co. lumbus summer camp at Culver Lake, His life has always been spent in affectionate devotion to boys and their spiritual and temporal welfare.

a great desire to have the whole world benefit by the treasures of this wonderful Library, and the whole world suffers a loss as a result of the calamity. Priceless though the books and manuscripts are, it is fine to know that the Pontiff was more concerned about the safety of the workmen trapped in the ruins of the building than

with the loss of any of the great treasures.
"All workmen, all children of labor, are especially dear to us and particularly to those who work near us," he said. "Truly, the most painful part of the event is that men met their death in it.".

# When You Make Your Will

Always, is every Diocesa, 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 rive 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 edituing to read of them in any will. No Catholic will should be without one or moore moch bequests.