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CATHOLIC COURIER AND JOURNAL, FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1932.

The Catholic Courier

And Journal Official Faper of the Discose of Rochester Published at 237 Andrews St., every Friday THE CATHOLIC COURIER and JOURNAL, In With the Approbation of the Right Rev. John Francis O'Hern, D.D. Bishop of Rochester TELEPHONE MAIN 1567

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Editorian/Stan: tests of the Diocess. Maurice F. Sammons, Managing Editor

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Friday, January 8, 1973.

MEXICO SEETHING AGAIN

Mexico is seething with bigotry again. Several states have passed laws limiting the number of priests in a way that vir--tually means the closing of all churches in here states, The Federal District itself, embracing Mexico City and suburbs, is the latest to join in this movement. By manimous vote a law was enacted limiting. the number of priests in the district to onefor every-fifty-thousand inhabitants, or a total of twenty-five priests for a million and a quarter Catholic people. In addition to limiting the number, the priests are ordered to register, reviving the subject on which Church and State split so seriously sbout three years ago. The results are that all churches in Mexico City are closed. No priests have registered, and none will register.

Archbishop Pascual Diaz has issued a pastoral letter declaring the new law unconstitutional, and calling upon clergy and laity to refuse to obey it. His letter instructs his people not to resort to violence, but to use legal channels in fighting the law. The Archbishop dites three articles of the Constitution which he says the law violates. One of these reads:

"Everyone is free to profess the religious belief which best suits him and to practice the ceremonies, devotions or acts of its worship in temple or home, provided, they are not of a penal nature.

	The Nursing Sisters
by nc.	You know you have our praise, but what are praises? Love is your only fee, Who wipe in every dabbled head upon a pillow The brow that sweated in Gethsemane.
· · ·	We seek the blithe; you turn aside to anguish. We levites who pass by Hall you Samaritans who halt your journey Because you hear a fallen traveller's ory.
	Not for yourselves, for allver, or for glary. You labor, gentle host; Because in every wound you bind you see the lashes That once were suffered at the flogging poster
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Midnight or noon, you choose the wracked and helpless And never count your loss, Because in all the parched whose Mps are slaken You hear the thirst that moaned upon the Gross. —Eileen Duggan, in "Catholic Missions."

A GREAT NEWSPAPERMAN

Half a century ago a young newspaper reporter, Richard V. Oulahan, went to Washington to cover the news of the Capitol for The New York Times. He died last week, and was buried Saturday from Holy Trinity Church, Georgetown. President and Mrs. Hoover were present at his funeral-Mass. Secretary Stimson, Senator Borah, scores of other men prominent in national affairs of America, Ambassadors from many foreign countries, representatives of all news agencies at the Capitol, and many other distinguished people. In an enlogy at the conclusion of the Mass the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward Buckey said: "The death of Michard Oulahan is a mo-

mentous and poignant loss, not only to the community, but to the whole country as well.

President Hoover, Ex-President Coolidge, and scores of other distinguished Americans paid beautiful tributes to the life, the work, character and ability of Richard Oulahan. They extolled his unfailing courtesy, his always honest and fair accounts of Capitol news, his love of truth and championship of justice, his devotion to his home and family, and his fidelity to the noblest and finest ideals of life and of manhood. President Hoover was visibly affected by news of his death, and called him "an outstanding journalist, a good friend and wise counselor."

Richard Oulahan, fortunately, represented a newspaper that would not tolerate yellow journalism, muck-raking, misrepresentation, cheap sensationalism or dishonesty of thought or word in its news dispatches. Fortunately, too, his character and ideals fitted-beautifully into the high ideals of his newspaper. He measured up to the duties and obligations of his position so capably that few men in the public life of America have been so honored in death, or so highly praised by so many distinguished men and women. Richard Oulahan respected confidences, sought to help rather than to hurt, to build rather than to destroy. He was the close personal friend of at least five Presidents, and of the statesmen of all nations at Washington. He was the dean of newspaper correspondents at the Capitol, and he set all his associates an example of sublime lovalty to truth, to patriotism and to religion. We may believe that his unusual success was due in large part to his fidelity to the teachings of his Church and to the truths of God. It is good to know how appreciative is the world, and the great ones of the world, of the life, character and work of men like Richard Oulahan. He was, in very truth, a great newspaperman, untouched and unspotted by the dirt that has

ers in a country that boasts of nearly 21,000,000 Catholics? Strange, because of the fact that each year we graduate so many thousands of Catholic young. men and women from our high schools colleges, and universities. This month we have sent out in the world thousands of Catholic youths, all with an academic training in the Catholic religion and many with a training even in Catholic philosophy. Some of them have had brilliant scholastic careers, and still, I repeat. the percentage who manifest a Catholic leadership in the religious, social, or even civic world is very small. This is true regarding even the defense of the Church.

Catholic Action

Isn't it rather strange that there are relatively so few Catholic lay lead-

What is the reason for this? Can we say it is entirely lack of appreciation? I do not think so, since our Catholic lay-folk personally practice their religious duties, even at the cost of sacrifice and that demands appreciation of them. Is it a lack of organization entirely? Well we have, theoretically at least. a perfect organization in the Hierarchy, the pastors, the parishes, the Catholic school, and the religious lay-organizatious. Isn't it possible that the fault may be due largely to faulty training, placing too much emphasis relatively on the academic instruction and not enough on demonstrating how practically it can function? Isn't there a possibility, at least, that our religious training of youth, splendid as it is, and carried on at the cost of so much sacrifice, could be improved practically?-Rev. Gerald A. Fitzgibbons, S.J.

record of pathetical marital ruin, brought | to numbers, in the commission of all Kinds about by our lack of religious training and of crimes.

lack of reverence for the teachings of God. Five good marriages out of six are all that keep us now from walking hand in hand with Russia, champion of irreligion and promoter of free love. Unless we clamor for this kind of company we had better watch with jealous eye our five good marriages, add to them if we can, and sprinkle with bug poison our Renos and their offsprings. Records-of Renos will never build enduring - homes, and homes are hearthstones, blessed by God, of patriotism, religion and love. America needs them, and America should safeguard them.

A BLESSING IN DISGUISE

These are serious times through which we are passing. In every country on the globe there are hundreds of thousands of people unemployed, and as a consequence are suffering pangs of hunger and of cold. And yet this awful crisis may be a great blessing in disguise. Because of present conditions men are becoming more kind and charitable toward their fellows, men who have a surplus of this world's goods are giving to men who have not. So, perhaps, there is a great purpose behind it all.

In times of great prosperity the peoples of the earth are often entirely forgetful of God, and of the needs of their fellowmen. Men seem to think they can get along very well without God's help. And looking down on such a world. God decides that if men are made to suffer, that if He takes from them the material things, men will again return to things spiritual. And is this not true, today ? There is never a loss so great that man cannot gain something by it. And if a man were to lose all of his material possessions and thereby gain eternal life, would not the gain far exceed the loss? So let us look on present world wide conditions as blessings in disguise. Let us ever be mindful of the fact that-God is in His heaven and all is right with the world. Let us ask Him in our daily prayers to be mindful of our needy brothers, and to bring soon prosperity to. the world again. If we go about it in the proper way we can change each material loss into a spiritual gain.

A member of the Birmingham Southern College faculty recently made a report to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, at New Orleans, on the homicide record of American cities. Cities with the largest foreign-born population are not at the forefront in this report. Cities with almost exclusive nativeborn-populations-hold--unenviable first places. Chicago, for instance, with its widely heralded gang killings figured in, is fortieth among 174 cities, and New York is seventy eighth. The first dozen places are held by cities in the South, beginning with Memphis, where the murder rate of 59 per 100,000 inhabitants is more than eight times the New York rate, more Than four-times-the-Chicago-rate. Out of the first thirty cities on the list the South has twenty-three. In the North the unenviable leadership is held by Gary, Ind., and Hamtramck, Mich., with homicide rates more than four times that of New York.

The South's evil pre-eminence is explained by the large Negro population. Yet when the Negroes come North they are not notably more addicted to homicide than their white neighbors. How wrong is the popular impression of gang murders in large cities is shown by the fact that even in the South the large cities have a lower homicide rate than the smaller -places

Religion is the best preventitive of murder in the world. Young America has grown so independent that it snaps its fingers at human laws, and in large percentage at divine laws. But teligion, with its sweet and impressive appeal of love and respect for the rights and the lives of others, touches the heart quicker and

deeper than any human laws, and only through religion-will America get rid of its notorious and disgraceful record as the champion murder nation of the world

TELEPHONE MAIN 1567

John Ford, long a crusader against salacious literature, was nominated for chairman of the committee, but refused to accept. "Years ago I accepted the chairmanship of such a committee as this," he said, "and just as soon as the newspapers began attacking the bills we advocated the other members of the committee ran away like scared rabbits."

We doubt if the present committee will, run away like scared/rabbits. America is/ polluted with a flood of so-called "snappy"/ and "spicy" publications that are nothing more nor less than cess-pools of filth. There are plenty of laws forbidding sale of such magazines, but Americans are not concerned greatly about these laws in thissophisticated age. A few determined men and women in any community, however, will soon put these laws back on the man, and help purify our national reading.

WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor.

We were shocked to read the other day hat South Africa defeated Ireland In an international rugby match before a crowd of thirty-five thousand spectators in the city of Dublin. One of the Irish players had water on his knee, which is hard to harmonize with the fact that Guinnesses' Stout is manufactured in Dublin.

Two thousand men, representing Holy Name societies from 452 parishes in the Archdiocese of New York, attended the annual Mass for the Holy. Name Society in st. Patrick's Cathedral the other day. A delegation like that represents strong and clean citizenship, loyalty to America, charity, kindliness towards humanity, religion that is ennobling and uplifting, and the finest ideals that can be held by men, No wonder the Rt. Rev. Msgr. M.-J. Lavelle, rector of the Cathedral, called the men "a shining light to the Church, thiscity and to the whole country."

John F. "Chick" Meehan, widely known in Rochester, will be the coach at Manhattan College next year, succeeding John Law, former Notre Dame star. Meehan, coach at New York University for seven years past, raised football at that institution from a commonplace position to high pinnacies of success, only to be confronted by an impossible barrier of reform. So he quit. Now Manhattan, heretofore never conspicuous in the football world, takes him to its undeveloped athletic heart. He will give only part-time service to the game, but even at that we look for Manhattan to blossom in a finer and better way in the football garden.

What happens when fanatics try to enforce laws is illustrated impressively in Palatka, Fla., where a minister is in fail on the charge of first degree murder. The clerical gentleman, playing the role of an amateur Sherlock Holmes, had ferreted. out a liquor still and had accompanied the officers to whom he had complained when they raided the place. The proprietor of the still was shot and killed, and a coroner's jury accused the minister of doing the shooting and ordered his arrest on a charge of first degree murder. The accused said his foot slipped as the raiding party neared the still, and that his gun was accidentally discharged. Why a minister not an officer of the law was permitted to carry a gun on a raid is beyond understanding. Self-appointed law enforcers are as great a menace to the peaceand liberties of America as any gangsters, and are very much more of a public nuisance. as a rule. They should be suppressed promptly in any law-abiding community, whether they are clergymen.or not. When fanatics start carrying guns to enforce laws it is time for other citizens to start. shooting first. Mary Shannon, seven years old, of Brooklyn, was looking hungrily into a store window on Christmas eve when a big policeman laid a hand on her head, and said: "Well, my girl, what are you going to have for dinner to-morrow?" "Nothing," she said, bursting into tears. Mary's father, the policeman learned, had lost one of his legs, Mary's mother was sick, there were two younger children at home, nothing to est in the house, and no fire. The policeman put his arm around Mary, and the two went shopping. He bought two fine chickens, oranges, candy, vegetables, bread and a lot of trimmings. Then he took Mary and the Christmas dinner home, ordered the janitor to turn on the heat, and wished the Shannon family a merry Christmas. But he refused to give his name. "Credit it to Santa Claus," he said, giving Mary a farewell hug- But the crippled father wrote down his number, and wrote a letter to Commissioner Mulrooney. A few days after Christmas Policeman "Chris" Mitchell was summoned to headquarters for a personal interview with the Commissioner. "Now, what have been doing?" Chris murmured, dejectedly. But the Commissioner met him with a glad hand and a broad smile, and thanked him in a proud way for what he had done for the Shannon family. All of which embarrassed the policeman and made him wonder how news gets around the world + so fast. But the Commissioner was thinking, with moist eyes, of the last line in Mr. Shannon's letter: "May God bless him, and all of the cops, and yourself."

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Without-the 1 participation, the letter asserts, the Catholic religion cannot be practiced, because the Catholic Churchis "a hierarchical society and cannot even be imagined without the hierarchy established by Jesus Christ."

On New Year's Day, and on Sunday, all Catholic churches in the city were without Masses. Many thousands of Catholics went to churches outside of the Federal District where the restrictive laws are not in force, and attended Masses. The imposing cathedral at Cuernavaca was filled to overflowing, many of the worshipers being Catholics from Mexico City. Archbishop Pascual Diaz motored to Cuernavaca to celebrate Mass, and also officiated at Los Remedios Church, a historic place of worship just outside the Federal Dis-

Los Remedios Church, which was built by Cortes, is usually sparsely attended, although it attracts tourists, but Sunday the crowd overflowed the church doors. Mexico City churchgoers also went to Toluca. Puebla; Pachucha and other near-by points.

The resurrection of bigotry in the capitol city of Mexico may be laid directly to the great rage caused among professional bigots by the recent four-hundredth anni-versary celebration of the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. More than one million pilgrims visited this shrine during the celebration. The legislative bigots did not dare open their months while this mammoth pilgrimage overflowed Mexico City and suburbs, bringing not only warm Faith but welcome, business, to all communities. But immediately after the close of the celebration there was a flood of bigoted measures. Several numbers of the Mexican Senate were criticized indirectly, in the celebration. One resolution called for a grand jury investigation of Governor Almasan of Puebla on charges that he had decorated the Executive mansion with Papal colors and religious symbols, and permitted Catholics to carry religious images through the streets in violation of Merican law. Laws were passed changing the name of the Guadalupe Shrine, and of highways heretofore bearing the names of aninus. President Oritz Rubio issued an order that credits issued to students in Catholic schools are not to be recognized by the Government, and many other measures indicate the bitterness aroused by the shrine jubiles. The bloody hand of Calls in seen back of much of this. He is Security of War now, and virtually dom-instancts the Maxican Government. Peaceful combined with the pressure of culture, and the loss of Catholic in North and South America, discussed changes. Prayer and cutture will help much

RENO GRINDS THEM OUT

befouled, in many places, the Fourth Es-

tate of America.

We are told, with flourish of rhetoric and flaunting of headlines in daily newspapers, that Reno "ground out" a total of 4,248 divorces last year. During the previous year the total amounted to only 2,149. The natural conclusion, jubilantly. expressed, is that the new six-weeks divorce law is a success. It appeals to the hearts of the love weary. It touches the soul with the brush of opportunity. It fires the imagination with flames of action It lures discontented and unhappy spouses to Reno's magic mating mangler, successful disentangler of two hearts that beat as one. The fee is not excessive, and there are gambling joints and gin joints to soothe and mollify aching souls. For thus has civilization progressed. And it is much better than shooting clinging husbands, or feeding them arsenic or ground glass.

It would be rash judgment to expect that Reno will remain alone, or even supreme. Every-successful peanut roaster is father and mother to rival roasters. Every toilet soap that restores the bloom of youth to skin is an incubator for envious rivals. Every circus clown has his imitators, and frequently imitators excel their models. Every barking dog is rewarded by answering barks from throats of many kin and kindred. So will it be with Reno. Success breeds success, and there will be other-Renos, with other records, and other manglers of mated hearts. One divorce, fluttering-like a circus balloon, is blown now by winds of fate and hate out of every six and a fraction newly-founded homes in America. Many Renos will improve that

And if this we do, we will find at last, When our final alcht shades fall, That the mages of our life's ledger

Will be balanced after all.

AMERICA'S MURDER RECORD

"Thou shalt not kill" is one of the Commandments of God: One of the first things taught in our parish schools is obedience to these Commandments, and love and respect for them. The laws of the land provide death penalties for murders. The civil law against murder is just as emphatic as the divine law. Yet America has led the world in murders for many vears.

"Foreigners commit most of them," is the average excuse of the average citizen. The same excuse is frequently offered by Prohibition fanatics in explanation of the widespread opposition to the Volstead Law. Yet the Wickersham Commission, after widespread investigation, reported he foreign element as the ma ing of all elements in America. Our native-born Americans lead, in proportion

Members of all churches should be glad to unite in work of this kind.

OBSCENE MAGAZINES

New-York City has organized a committee to get rid of obscene magazines. Charles H. Tuttle, former–United States District Attorney, has accepted chairmanship of this committee. All churches are represented, with the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John L. Bedford, D.D., a distinguished pastor, and Michael Williams, editor of The Comnionweal, representing the Catholics. Thomas C. T. Crain, District Attorney of New York, has notified the committee that it will receive his full co-operation. The work of the committee will begin with a friendly conference with proprietors of all newsstands. At this conference names of objectionable magazines will be given, and newsdealers will be asked - to eliminate them from their stands. Dealers who de-clime to co-operate will be dealt with in the courts.----

The committee says the newstands of New York City are "flooded with lewd, lascivious and obscene printed matter and indecent pictures and photographs," and that "certain public officials seem hesifant to bring about the suppression of such vile and indecent publications." The committee says such "offensive magazines can best be suppressed by quick and spirited action on the part of the constituted State, county and city authorities, supported by an aroused public opinion."

The difficulty of arousing the public against sale of obscene literature was emphasized when Supreme Court Justice

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. 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 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 nighly editying to reason or more such bequests.