

Catholic Courier and Journal

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"I would my sacrifice, even to the parting of my ring, be for and to sustain, in order to support a Catholic paper."—Pope Pius X.

"With prudent counsel from men of good judgment... the approval of the Diocesan Board of Censors, we have constituted Catholic Courier & Journal as the official newspaper for the Diocese of Rochester. We ask God's blessing on this undertaking, that it may serve to bring our people timely information on religious topics, instruction in the doctrine of the Catholic Faith, messages of official nature from the authorities of the Diocese, and would encourage all to subscribe among its subscribers." MOST REV. J. FRANCIS O'HEARN, D.D., Bishop of Rochester. March 15, 1922.

CATHOLIC ADVANCES

Members of the Catholic Press Association of America in convention assembled in Buffalo recently were told by Most Rev. William Tierney, D.D., bishop of Buffalo, that Catholic newspaper and magazine editors are in the most untrammelled body of editors in the world. After welcoming the newspaper people to his Diocese and hoping that the Catholic Union and Times, Buffalo diocesan organ, had to the convention had satisfied the Association in every matter of accommodation, entertainment and welcome, the Bishop said:

"Personally, I greet you as one who, in days gone by had somewhat disheartening experiences in the line of Catholic editorial work. These times are gone. By getting together harmoniously as you do in these days, you have entrenched Catholic journalism in a position of great strength, and increased its usefulness beyond any measure that could be hoped for twenty or thirty years ago. The late lamented Mr. Desmond once defined the program of the Catholic diocesan paper as "Punching Protestants and puffing prelates." You have advanced far beyond that. Indeed, I may go so far as to say that you are the freest, the most untrammelled body of editors in the country. No prelate that I know of exacts from you more than a news-value account of his activities in the Diocese. No bishop blames you if you set aside the sledge-hammer in controversy, content with a good-natured, well reasoned, defense of the Church when attacked.

"You are free and untrammelled in that you have given no pledges to political party or to local magnates. You enjoy the freedom which the Church enjoys because of her abstention from politics. 'Trois; 'Trousque mih!' they are all equal to you, Democrat or Republican, Dry or Wet, Laborist or Capitalist, the submerged producer or wealth or the flaunting profiteer who prospers on the sweat of the producer. The farmer, the shopkeeper, the small merchant or the wholesale dealer, the alderman, the brick-layer, the carpenter, the digger of sewers or the nocturnal scurbers of the millionaire's office—all these, so far as they are human, and have human rights, find in you their champions and so far as they are wronged, they find in you their valiant defenders. So long as you keep within the sphere of loyalty to your Church in matters of faith and morals, as you invariably do, you are not controlled—you have no political chief, no party boss, no party platform to defend or attack, no financial patron whose interests you dare not touch.

"I personally, should like to see you use this grand freedom more than you do. On Prohibition you may, without ecclesiastical censure, show up its evils as you see them, or its benefits, if there are any. On government extravagance, the most atrocious crime of this era of depression, you may speak fearlessly, since you are not beholden to any political patron nor to the guilty spendthrifts whom he has sent to the Senate or the Congress.

"The vast sums that our government has squandered in these days of distress, on politicians in Washington alone, are a scandal that the daily press dares not attack, not being so free as you. And the waste of public money on expensive committees of enquiry, that end in futility, and leave the matter of enquiry where it was. And the salaries of Senators and Congressmen, enhanced by secretary salaries within the family allowance for special and special cases, every kind of expense within the Capital, except the most absolutely necessary, consumed in these nepotistic and lucrative... that brings before my

mind republican and imperial Rome sinking down into the Fall of the Empire. Who can flagellate these recreant representatives more freely than you? Who can castigate them more effectively than you, since you rely not on expedience, but on the eternal principles of right and wrong, as taught by our Church. You alone can dare; you alone can be sure of your ground. You have no friends in Congress to serve, no foes to fear. You serve truth, and you do not or need not fear the enemies of truth. By your courage you can command attention; by your sureness of the underlying principles you can convince. And so, serving your country as well as your Church, you will be as you are, a patriotic as well as a Catholic Press."

Those who have been responsible for the foundation and growth of the Holy Redeemer Athletic Association, an organization for young men, now sixteen years in existence, must have felt pride in the men who returned last Wednesday for the annual reunion of the Association. The type of men noted among those present were representative of fine, strong, Catholic manhood.

A NEW ENCYCLICAL

Eight days penance and of prayer, beginning on the beautiful feast of the Sacred Heart, on Friday, June third, are asked of the world by Pope Pius XI in a new encyclical just issued. The growing perils of atheism, of Communism, of nationalistic imperialism, with the consequent increase of anarchy and of terrorism, influenced the Holy Father to make this appeal to the world. Not only are Catholics asked to unite in this great octave of prayer, but all "who glory in the name of Christians should be the first in their union of mind and strength."

All who do not want anarchy and terrorism to dominate the world are urged by the Pontiff "to bestir themselves with a will." The danger is real. It is absolute. It is close at hand. It is augmented by the economic distress and the moral disorder of the world. The antinational banners of war against God and against religion are brazenly unfurled in the midst of all peoples on the earth, the Holy Father says, and appeals are made to suffering humanity to join these diabolical movements. The insane hatred they produce will bring neither happiness nor peace to any class of society, "but will certainly bring all nations to disaster."

And so the entire world, Protestant, Catholic and Jew—all who believe in God and in the mercy and providence of God—are asked and urged to abstain for eight days from all recreations, entertainments and amusements, and to give to the poor "the proceeds of these retrenchments." They are asked, too, to unite in prayer to God for help, strength and guidance in the face of these overpowering evils that threaten the world and humanity.

Generous and hearty should be the response to this encyclical. For there is great need of a turning of the world to God; great need of penance and of prayer; great need of an understanding that not in anarchy nor in terrorism will peace come, but through justice, righteousness and a recognition of the natural and divine laws that should dominate human hearts and the acts of peoples and of nations. Last week's issue of The Catholic Courier & Journal carried a generous resume of this important encyclical. It should be read and read again by all people, and read with thought and care. For it brings us face to face with problems and with perils that call for united action and for loyal service and generous sacrifice in the cause of humanity and of Christ.

ADMIRAL WILLIAM S. BENSON

An outstanding American and an outstanding Catholic layman, Admiral William Shepherd Benson, retired, was laid at rest in Arlington National Cemetery last week. The Right Reverend Monsignor Fumasoni Biondi, Papal Legate to the Catholic Church in the United States, gave the final absolution. Naval attaches of all foreign embassies were present, as well as naval officials of the United States and many persons prominent in the life and government of the Nation.

During the World War Admiral Benson was in chief command of the Naval forces of the United States. Before the United States entered the war he was an uncompromising champion of American rights. One of the most startling incidents of the early days of the war was a cablegram he sent to Admiral Sims, in command of American battleships that were protecting American shipping in the war zone, warning him to maintain strict neutrality and do his duty by America. "Remember, that if we have to fight for American rights, we are not concerned about what nation we shall fight," his message said in effect. Admiral Sims, at this time had evidenced notorious pro-British sympathies, and time and again permitted British ships to seize unlawfully American ships bound for German ports. Admiral Benson's cablegram to Sims electrified the entire world and gave emphasis to the fact that the American Navy had a man at the head of it who

A Thought

Hearts that are great, beat never loud; They muffle their music, when they come; They hurry away from the thronging crowd; With bended brows and lips half dumb, And the world looks on and mutters—"Proud." But when great hearts have passed away, Men gather in awe and kiss their shroud, And in love they kneel around their clay. Hearts that are great are always lone, They never will manifest their best, Their greatest greatness is unknown, Earth knows a little—God, the rest. —Father Abram J. Ryan.

was concerned, first of all, with America's rights and America's duty to her people. After the war was over, when Admiral Benson was chairman of the U. S. Shipping Board, he was accused by British officials of having definite animus against the British Merchant Marine. "I am directing America's shipping interest, not Great Britain's," he said in effect, and his reply satisfied the American people.

Admiral Benson's record was a splendid one, rich in patriotism, replete with capable work, efficient always, and American always. "He stood like a rock at a time when the Navy needed such men, and his name will go down to posterity as one of the finest characters that has ever worn the Navy cloth," Admiral William V. Pratt, Chief of U. S. Naval Operations, said of him on the day of his death.

For his services in the World War Admiral Benson received many honors, including medals from his own country, from France, Great Britain, Japan, and the medal, military class, first order, of the Order of St. Gregory the Great from Pope Benedict XV.

A native of Georgia, Admiral Benson was greatly beloved in the South, as indeed he was everywhere in America. He was married early in life to a Catholic young woman beautiful in character and devoted in wifely fidelity. The sincerity and stability of her faith appealed to him, and he became a convert; not only a convert, but an active, zealous and intelligent worker for the Church in every possible way. He served as President of the National Council of Catholic Men, and his services were in demand the country over. Rochester remembers with affection, and with pride, how he came here something over a decade ago to speak at a great mass meeting of the Knights of Columbus. His talks were persuasive; kindly, helpful, and never did he leave an unkind or bitter statement behind him. His voice, always raised for his country and his God, was the voice of a true patriot and a sincere Christian.

Now he sleeps in death. Honored by the Nation, well remembered and well beloved by the American people, he is a splendid example of Catholic manhood and Catholic zeal and apostolicity. His name and his works will not be forgotten.

Readers of the CATHOLIC COURIER AND JOURNAL who are interested in timely subjects of interest to other readers, are invited to write letters to this newspaper for publication.

THE MISSION FIELD

There are 1,849,000,000 human beings in the world. Of these, 682,000,000 are Christians, and 1,167,000,000 are non-Christians. Of the Christians, 331,000,000 are Catholics, 206,000,000 are Protestants, and 144,000,000 are Schismatics. Of the non-Christians, 15,000,000 are Jews, 209,000,000 are Mohammedans, and 942,000,000 are pagans.

These statistics show that 1,167,000,000 human beings either have no knowledge of God, or have a false idea of God, His Church and His teachings; and that 350,000,000 have erroneous ideas about Christ and His Church. The total number of human beings, therefore, outside of the Catholic Church is 1,517,000,000 more than five times the number in the Church.

In the Catholic mission field to-day there is a total of 122,500 workers, made up of 13,000 missionary priests, 4,500 missionary brothers, 31,000 missionary sisters, and 74,000 lay helpers. Approximately 800 of these mission workers are from the United States, less than one for every 25,000 Catholics in the country.

WAYSIDE WHEAT

Catholic members of the House of Lords and the House of Commons recently gave a dinner in honor of Cardinal Bourne of London. It was a notable affair, and it attracted a great deal of attention.

A Federal judge in Boston rules that dry agents have no right to search patrons o' speakeasies. They don't need to search them—the bootleggers get everything they have.

We notice that in spite of the depression the motion picture actresses keep reeling off old husbands and getting new ones.

Quite a few politicians are worried about whether Al. Smith will keep his shirt on after he takes his coat off.

Some people, spurred to action by the depression, are returning to the Church to fob the poor boxes.

CURRENT COMMENT

EUROPE'S DEBT TO IRELAND

The historian knows that continental Europe is greatly indebted to the Irish monks who crossed the channel to evangelize the lands that were separated from them by that body of water. But all people are not historians and the story of their deeds, all gleam with the romanticism that is inseparable from the Celt, should be better known.

The Church has ever been the forerunner of culture and civilization and the missionary forays of the Irish were no exception to the rule. Where the faith burned brightest the torch of learning fed abundantly upon its oil. Schools matched the churches in their building and the monks were the only teachers of the age. Christians and gentlemen were made, if not by the same ceremony, at least by the same agent who performed the sacramental rite.

The French section of the coming Eucharistic Congress at Dublin with charming Gallic courtesy have set for themselves the pleasing task of making known the evangelizing efforts of the Irish monks in Roman and Merovingian Gaul. Jean Guirad, equally prominent as historian and as editor of the distinguished La Croix, is in charge of the work. His name guarantees a brilliant success. He has sought the co-operation of leading French scholars in tracing Irish influence in France and their findings will be published in book form as a souvenir of the Congress.

Similar research on the part of other countries would not only be a gracious gesture to Catholic Ireland, but also a distinct contribution to the historical analyses of these nations in their formative years as a civilized force in European statecraft and politics. For our part we hope the French find many imitators. The lives of the Irish missionaries make too good a story not to be told and re-told many times.—Catholic Universe-Bulletin (Cleveland).

NO PLACE IN POLITICS

Will the fact ever be established that it is an insult to our Church to, in any way, align it with politics? The Catholic Church has a primary interest in good government. It has absolutely no interest in partisan politics of the members of political parties as such. If one of its children succeeds, in public service, it is proud of him, if he is an upright citizen; but mere prominence in politics does not give him its imprimatur.

Frequently petty politicians, for the sake of their own selfish interests, inject religion into their political squabbles. In every instance the type of Catholic who would do this is very likely to be lukewarm in the practice of his religion.

Every good member of the Church wishes to give service to his country; but does not wish to have his sacred religion mingled with the every day disputes of politicians. We hope the day will eventually arrive when the high stand of the Catholic religion on such actions will be respected by all its own members and thoroughly understood by all who are not of the faith. That day cannot come too soon. Until it does arrive we must ever keep reiterating the statement that Catholicism and politics are as far apart as the poles. There never can be any method by which they can be united.—The Catholic Light (Scranton).

BETWEEN THE LINES

There may have been a time when the daily papers in their news columns carried nothing but the whole truth about the happenings of the day. However, that is not their present practice. Furthermore the big news gathering agencies that supply the items from the outer world are not as disinterested as they claim to be.

These lapses from the whole truth are quite evident in the dispatches about Spain and Ireland. Recently a local paper was prompted in heading an item about Spain, to declare the generosity of the government there in its treatment of the Church when such was decidedly not the case. The tenor of the news items about Ireland and its oath to the crown and its payments to England have played up the English point of view almost exclusively. They have not mentioned the fact that all the parts of the Commonwealth, Canada, Australia, South Africa and Ireland are on an equality with England itself. Nor has it been as much as mentioned that Ireland is now being asked to pay for lands that were stolen from her people during the centuries of persecution and conquest.

Fortunately for America the majority of her people have not been consuming all that the papers have been laying before them without first seasoning it with a dash of common sense. Well informed Catholics have long since learned to get their information about the Church from Catholic sources.—The Evangelist (Albany).

Knowledge is the open door to finer living. The knowledge of the world we live in opens our eyes to the beauties of creation, and to the wonder and glory of God's magnificent plan. Knowledge gives us the power to choose. The choices we make determine the success of our life on earth and the certainty of a glorious life to come.

Back Through the Years

A Glimpse Through the Files of The Catholic Courier and Journal

May 3, 1890

About sixty young ladies, pupils at Nazareth Academy, assembled in the academy hall, for the first entertainment given there since the completion of the new academy.

May 10, 1890

Arbor Day was celebrated at Nazareth Hall on Lake Avenue. Rev. E. J. Hanna presided. Rev. J. J. Hartley read a humorous original poem and Master J. C. O'Brien delivered the principal address. The pupils planted a tree in honor of Bishop McQuaid.

May 17, 1890

A three days' Triduum in honor of Venerable Jean Gabriel Perboyre opened in St. Mary's Hospital. Bishop McQuaid pontificated at High Mass.

At the recent examinations of the various classes of Holy Redeemer School, School Commissioner August Kimmel of the Fourteenth ward was present and complimented Father Oberholzer very highly upon the proficiency of the pupils and expressed his surprise at the excellent standing of a school in which two languages were taught.

May 24, 1890

Rev. Mother Mary Camillus, superior of the Convent of Mercy, South Street, was succeeded by Sister Mary Teresa, the term of Mother Camillus having expired as superior.

May 31, 1890

Rev. Fathers: A. M. O'Neil of Geneseo, James O'Connor of Rochester, George J. Eisler of Caledonia, Cadyre of Fairport, Hughes of Bloomfield, Casey of Palmyra, Hendricks of Avon, Day of Dansville and FitzSimons of Lima assisted Father Lambert in the Forty Hours Devotion in Scottsville.

June 7, 1890

Rt. Rev. Msgr. D. J. O'Connell, rector of the North American College in Rome, visited Rochester.

Plans announced for the fifteenth Catholic Church in Rochester, St. Stanislaus Church, corner of Hudson and Norton streets. The Polish Catholics then were attached to St. Michael's Church and its pastor, Rev. Fridolin Pascalar, had general supervision over the new church project.

A flag was presented to St. Mary's orphan boys by O'Rourke Post No. 1, Grand Army of the Republic. The presentation address was read by F. M. Thrasher of G. H. Thomas Post.

St. Peter's Benevolent Society of SS. Peter and Paul's Church held their thirty-eighth annual meeting and election of officers. Those elected were: President Joseph Young; Vice President, Val Haitz; Treasurer, Joseph Gradi; Recording and Corresponding Secretary, George Gugel; Financial Secretary, Clement Blattner; Financial Committee, Frank Zwaak, Frank Weiss and Joseph Kraft.

June 14, 1890

Most Rev. N. Donnelly, bishop of Canea and Coadjutor Archbishop of Dublin, Ireland, visited Bishop McQuaid. Bishop Donnelly was a great leader in the movement for the use of Caecilian music in all Catholic churches.

Division No. 1, Ancient Order of Hibernians elected the following officers: County Delegate J. J. O'Neill, Chairman Edward Cagney, Vice-President J. J. Higgins, Treasurer M. O. Corawell, Financial Secretary M. Terrick, Recording Secretary J. McKeon.

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If the return of manuscripts or pictures is desired, they must be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but the Editor does not hold himself responsible for such communications.

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