

"The Church and Miracles"

(Continued from Page Two)

stead of stooping to hold our hands, to rise up before us into His glory, God takes us at our word; He rises unto His own invisible and inconceivable majesty. He goes forth upon the ways that are not our ways, and retires unto the thoughts that are not our thoughts; and we are left alone. Then presently we say in our vain hearts, there is no God. That is what has happened to the Rationalists and modernists of our own day.

Do you remember that touching scene narrated in the Holy Gospel where the father asks Jesus to heal his dying son? Christ looks at the man with a deep and long gaze, and asks him, "Canst thou believe?" And the father answers with breaking heart, "Yes, Lord, I believe, help thou mine unbelief." So too our modern world needs to fall upon its knees, and say to Christ, "Yes, Lord, I believe, help thou mine unbelief."

To preserve our cheerfulness amid sicknesses and troubles is a sign of a right and good spirit.

Renunciation remains sorrow, though a sorrow borne willingly.

George Eliot.

St. Francis X. M. A. Society Officers Have Long Service Record

The 64th annual meeting of the St. Francis Xavier Mutual Aid Society of St. Peter and Paul's Church was held Monday evening at the Society's session rooms in St. Peter and Paul's School on Brown Street.

The above officers have served faithfully for many years. A service record of the officers was announced as follows: President, George A. Barker, 10 years; Recording Secretary, Frank C. Klueber, 32 years; Financial Secretary, Albert F. Nagel, 27 years; Treasurer, John Strasser, 25 years; Guard, Frank Shied, 15 years, and Chief Marshal, Nicholas Werner, 16 years.

This society is one of the oldest and best societies in the diocese and has paid out thousands of dollars in sick and death benefits. It is in a flourishing condition, has a good membership and a sound treasury.

SPORT-O-GRAPHS

By Insider

Reverend Albert J. Geiger, whose interest in young boys and men, and who is solely treated in the Catholic work being done at Holy Redeemer Church to sponsor clean athletics and other programs for neighborhood young men, regardless of race or creed, is again first to champion those young men. His letter, criticizing this writer, is reproduced in full below.

"As a Catholic Priest, and as a member of the Senior Advisory Board of the Rochester District Basketball Association, I feel that the objections gratuitously raised by 'Insider' in last week's 'Sport-O-Graphs' should be answered. I sincerely believe that anyone other than the writer is worrying about 'the unfair tactics of the OPPOSING Basketball Association but we want even him to know that the Catholic Basketball League has our very best wishes and affords us the very least of our own worries."

"As 'Insider' correctly states the D. B. A. was formed at the same time as the Catholic League, and is entirely independent of it. The avowed purpose of the Association is to promote clean sportsmanship, even competition and to make basketball attractive enough that youngsters would organize teams and become members of the association in years to come. The league hopes to raise sufficient money by promoting public parties to defray the costs of renting courts and supplying suitable officials for the promotion of basketball. The constitution forbids any League player for various reasons to play on any two teams, and it also restricts teams in the League playing ANY teams outside the League during the split season. In the formation of the rules for the welfare of the Association there was no discrimination against the Catholic League as 'Insider' contends. The subject of Religion certainly has no place in the discussion of Basketball rules. 'Insider' makes the idiotic statement that the 'Catholic League was staging splendid programs FOR THE FAITHFUL.' He would seem to convey that Non-Catholic spectators are no more welcome at Catholic League games than Non-Catholic players are welcome to membership.

When the Catholic League was formed I was one of the first to submit the name of my Aljo team as a participant. Much to our disappointment, our team and several others which teams were disbanded because they were Non-Catholic players in the lineup. We subsequently joined the R. D. B. where no race, no creed or no COLOR was barred. Permit me to say that I take a great deal of satisfaction in being the Director of an absolutely non-sectarian Club and in following the example of our beloved Bishop O'Hern in the conduct of his Civic Center and of our Holy Father, who like Christ, discriminated neither against race nor color. No member of our team is being paid for his services nor are any of the league officials."

"Personally, I expect to resign the fortune that our team will probably make playing Basketball in buying new basketballs for other boys who might be anxious to join this or a similar association in years to come and you can't hate me for that. 'Money talks' however these days and if anyone is in a position to pay an athlete for his services, the athlete should decide whether he chooses to accept the offer, nor is anyone justified in concluding that the one who is making the offer is inimical to the team or organization with which the athlete may be playing. 'Insider' should have more confidence in the loyalty of the members of the Catholic League than to think that they might be bought by the Association."

"I repeat that we are all watching with interest, the doings of the Catholic League and we are wishing its promoters and its members the full measure of success that their efforts deserve. We do feel however that the Association has a right to expect less intolerance from any good sportsman than was displayed by 'Insider' in his childish lament against imaginary persecution."

—Rev. Albert J. Geiger.

Heart parish. This, to the writer, was inconsistent. Players Hart, of St. Mary's, and Murray, of St. Boniface, the latter one of the Catholic League's leading scorers at the time he quit were taken by Rochester District League clubs. St. Boniface players state that Murray was to be a regular player on the team to which he jumped.

The chief criticism the Catholic League has against some of the managers of the District League is that the Catholic League, with its rule to play members of its own faith only, is necessarily confined to a limited number of young men. The District League managers, with men of every race and creed to choose from, aren't satisfied with this unlimited choice of players but seek to take from the Catholic League its best men.

These facts, we earnestly hope, will impress Father Geiger. Furthermore, we assure him that there will be no further criticism of the Rochester District League or any of its teams in the future. The Catholic League's one wish, however, is that the District League adopt a hands-off policy with Catholic League players for the balance of the season.

Father Wilber Batavia Pastor 28 Years, Dies

Batavia.—Funeral services for the Rev. William T. Wilber, M.R., aged 75 years, pastor of St. Joseph's Church here since 1904, were conducted Friday last week at the church. The services were attended by nearly 90 priests from all parts of Western New York. Father Wilber died Tuesday night after a long illness.

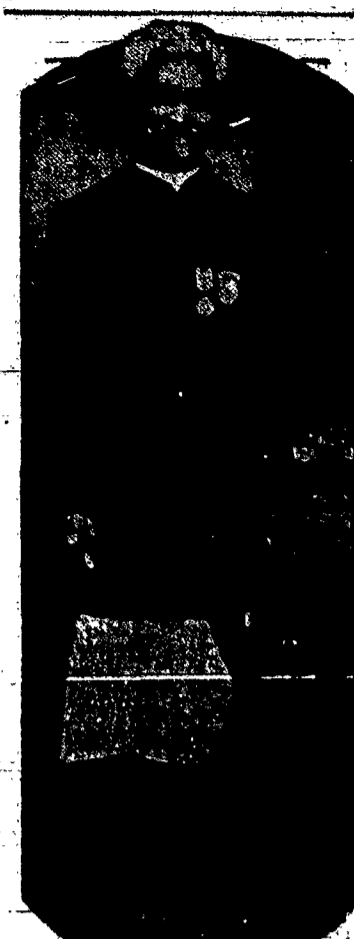
The Rev. T. Bernard Kelly, administrator of Albion was the celebrant of the solemn high Mass of requiem. The Rev. Bernard Kelly, administrator of St. Joseph's Church, Batavia, was assisted by the Rev. William Burchardt of Varysburg was sub-deacon and the Rev. Leo Reddy of St. Joseph's Church was master of ceremonies.

The priests choir of the Buffalo diocese, under direction of the Rev. William Schreck of Buffalo, sang during the Mass following the services the casket was opened and many of the priests who arrived just before the Mass was begun viewed the body. Burial was in the priests' plot in St. Joseph's Cemetery where the final blessing was given by Monsignor Sullivan, assisted by several priests.

Father Wilber was born in Lockport, N. Y., February 7, 1857. Having received his primary education in Lockport, he entered Niagara University, and, upon receiving his A. B. degree, he entered the Seminary of Our Lady of Angels at Niagara, and was ordained to the holy priesthood by Rt. Rev. Stephen Vincent Ryan, C.M., D.D., then Bishop of Buffalo, on May 30, 1885.

Father Wilber's first appointment was as assistant to Father Baker at Limestone Hill; then he was made assistant at St. Joseph's Church, Batavia; then a year later he was sent to East Pembroke, but after a few months returned to Batavia. Father Wilber's first pastorate was St. Paul of the Cross Church, Dayton, N. Y., with a mission at Gowanda. He remained there three years, when he was made pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Perry. On May 23, 1904, Father Wilber was made irremovable rector of St. Joseph's Church, Batavia. Because of Father Wilber's failing health, Father T. Bernard

Fiji Island Brother



This native Fiji Island Brother, Pio by name, recently received the medal "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice" sent by His Holiness, Pope Pius XI, for long and faithful services rendered to the VICAR APOSTOLIC. For almost a half century Pio has been the devoted companion of the Bishop, accompanying him on his journeys to the missions of the Fiji Islands, which are served by the Marist Fathers. In 1894, he joined the Congregation of Little Marist Brothers. (Fides photo.)

Joins Drug Firm In Chemical Dept.

William A. Ryan, for many years connected with the City of Rochester as a chemist, is now associated with the McKesson-Rochester Drug Co., Inc. of 330-236 St. Paul Street, in charge of a new chemical department for the wholesale trade. Mr. Ryan is a graduate of the University of Buffalo. He is active in Knights of Columbus circles.

Kelly was made administrator of the parish in January, 1930, and has acted in this capacity for the past 12 years. Father Wilber has a number of nephews and nieces residing in Rochester who survive him. Requiescat in pace.

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A. T. McArdle Of Seneca Falls, Dies

Seneca Falls.—Andrew T. McArdle died suddenly Saturday at his home at 18 Maynard following a short illness of heart disease. Mr. McArdle was a World War veteran, having served with the Headquarters Company, 30th Field Artillery. He was a member of Kirk-Casey Post, American Legion, and a past grand knight of Seneca Falls Council, Knights of Columbus. For many years he has been a member of St. Patrick's Church choir. For several years he conducted a jewelry store here and during recent years had been employed as a salesman for the Empire Gas & Electric Company.

He leaves three sisters, Mrs. P. J. McCarthy of Geneva, the Misses Alice and Anna McArdle of Seneca Falls, and two brothers, Edward A. McArdle and Walter P. McArdle at this place.

Mrs. Dunn, Largest Chest Contributor

Elmira.—Mrs. Edward J. Dunn with a gift of \$4,000 was the largest contributor to the Community Chest campaign just closed here. Her gift was realized over \$130,000.

Parish Sodality Plans Card Party For Parish Needs

The Sacred Heart Sodality of St. Redeemer Church will entertain a card party Friday evening December 15 in the parish hall for the benefit of the needs of the parish. Tickets are \$1.00. Refreshments, prizes and dominos will be placed about 8:30. Prizes will be awarded. President Mrs. Mary Warner and all members are cordially invited.

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TESTIMONIALS FROM LETTERS AS WE RECEIVED THEM: (1901) We think the world of those little pills; people saw how much my husband had to suffer from Rheumatism last Winter, he even had to go to Hot Lake, Oregon, to find relief. But since he is using those little pills he is again able to work. Thanking you ever so much for the help you have brought us through those pills, we remain with our best wishes, faithfully yours, MRS. JOHN SCHNEIDER, Cottonwood, Idaho.

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