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MEMBER CATHOLIC PRESS ASSOCIATION

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"I would make any sacrifice, even to the parting of my wife, my children and my home, in order to support a Catholic newspaper."—Pope Pius X.

"With prudent counsel from men of good judgment and of experience in business affairs, and with the approval of the Diocesan Board of Censors, we have constituted The Catholic Courier & Journal as the official Catholic newspaper for the Diocese of Rochester. We ask God's blessing on the undertaking, that it may serve to bring to our people timely information on religious topics, instruction in the doctrines of the Catholic Faith, messages of an official nature from the authorities of the Diocese, and we would urge all to be numbered among its subscribers."

MOST REV. JOHN FRANCIS O'HERN, D.D., Bishop of Rochester, March 15, 1929.

Editorials

CATHOLIC ACTION TO the serious minded, and there are few otherwise these days, the fact that the Catholic Men's Federation is to hold a series of free public lectures based on Christian socialism in St. Joseph's Hall on designated Friday evenings, beginning January 13, comes as a welcome announcement.

For years, members of the Catholic Men's Federation, affiliated with the Catholic Central Verein of America, have been devoting their meetings to the study of social justice based on the Encyclicals of the Holy Father. About ten years ago they decided to give the general public an insight into their work and started a course of public lectures that had increasing popularity.

Repeated demands from those who remember those lectures of ten years ago and from those who are of an inquiring mind have caused the Total Federation to arrange for a course which will be intensely interesting because of the subjects selected and the speakers secured.

There are many of our Catholic people, whose education has not been neglected along other lines, but whose knowledge of the Church's stand on questions of the day is not developed as well as it should be. The trend of the times is causing intensive study on these questions in the light of Catholic principles. The lecture course will be an excellent aid to those who want their questions answered to the satisfaction of their own consciences. From this course the thought and mind of the Church upon the problems of the day will be forthcoming.

At the 1932 convention of the N. C. C. W. ON National Council of Catholic Women a resolution was adopted urging the members "to be alert in noting and having removed from circulation, sale and obscene literature, which, the resolution declares, "constitutes a real danger to our youth."

Putting this resolution into action, Miss Agnes G. Ryan, executive secretary of the N. C. C. W., has protested the publication in a large Washington daily newspaper of an advertisement of the Haidemann-Julius Publishing Company in which, she points out, obscene and immoral books were listed for sale. Miss Ryan filed her protest with the editor of the newspaper in a letter to which she received a courteous reply in which the editor thanked her for calling his attention to the character of certain books on the advertised list and assured her that nothing of a similar nature would appear in the paper again.

Such vigilance on the part of the National Council of Catholic Women will have its effect in stopping the flow of obscene and immoral literature into homes where its insidious influence might be exerted, especially on the minds of the youth in those homes. The N. C. C. W. is to be commended for the alertness of their executive secretary which should stand forth as a constant example to all Catholic women who desire to maintain the sacredness of the home.

When a body of men attend church service in a body and especially when these men go to the altar call to receive Holy Communion, it is a sight that attracts all onlookers.

During the Masses that will be presented on Friday, January 6, 1933, 14,000 men in the city and surrounding parishes will receive Holy Communion in a body at the Holy Name Masses and then at 4 p. m. will receive Holy Communion for spiritual exercises.

The Masses will be the observance by the Holy Name Union of the 500th anniversary of the founding of the Holy Name Society. It is a day of special significance for our Catholic men of their day.

Remember that you have only one soul; that you can die but once; that you have but one short life; that there is but one glory; and that eternal; and this thought will detach you from many things.—Spirit of St. Teresa.

He who has a good friend like Jesus with him can endure and suffer all things, for He helps us, He strengthens us, and never forsakes us.

The longest day has its evening, the hardest work has its ending, and the sharpest pain its ever-lasting rest.

Current Comment

CAMPAGNERS FOR CHRIST The nation-wide campaign by the Catholic Truth Guild to bring the truths of our Holy Faith to those who have been prejudiced by ignorance and misinformation has been a blessedly successful missionary endeavor.

David Goldstein, tirelessly enthusiastic in his Catholic faith, and Theodore Dorsey, his assistant, left Boston in June, 1931. In the course of an itinerary sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of America they covered a distance of thirty-five thousand miles, and throughout eighteen states gave instruction in misunderstood articles of the Catholic faith. Twenty meetings a month were held. In the course of a little more than sixteen months three hundred and thirty open-air meetings were conducted.

With unwearied good nature these earnest converts strove to remove antipathies based almost entirely on misconceptions. Fearlessly they addressed congregations whose only knowledge of the Catholic Church has been derived from vicious unprincipled sheets which live by fomenting religious hatreds. Under the impact of the simple truth, courteously and in clear language explained, numbers have been inspired to an admiration of the faith they had misunderstood and a desire to know more about it. Through this apostolate the Catholic Church has been permitted its day in court in regions where before the only vehicle of information was a press deliberately created for the purpose of sowing misunderstandings and dissension.

Boston Catholics are justly proud of the fact that it was their beloved Cardinal Archbishop who gave this apostolate its first impetus. Sunday morning, July 1, 1917, His Eminence blessed the autovan of the Catholic Truth Guild and commissioned its personnel to set forth on "its humble, simple, but triumphant way, under the banners of the cross and the flag, for God and Fatherland."

The second series of open air meetings begins January 9, in historic St. Augustine, Florida, a site hallowed by ancient Catholic associations.

In Mr. Goldstein's excellent "Campaigners for Christ Handbook," are embodied the method and much of the material of the Catholic Truth Guild. Recurringly the same difficulties appear and reappear. This handbook of apologetics has been reviewed in The Pilot, Catholics, too, could profit by its reading.—The Pilot (Boston).

"Editor and Publisher," trade journal in the newspaper field, takes a whack at indecent advertising copy. In a current issue it sounds this warning to publishers: "No doubt sensual advertising now running in the press represents the desperation of picture houses to attract box office receipts in a disastrous year. . . . Certainly the American press cannot be used in this high-handed manner, without risking harmful reactions from normal readers. . . . If publishers cannot control the situation, they should not be shocked if the respectable public calls for some form of restraint, even censorship."

WHAT DO YOU OWE? The newspapers recently carried a story of a man who worked thirty years to pay his debts. Some of us have worked longer than thirty years, and still face debts, but the case of this legally responsible for them, and even his moral responsibility was somewhat dubious. But he threw these technicalities aside, and buckled to his work, thereby earning the title of "honest man," which many claim, and few merit.

Some economists tell us that the best way of overcoming the depression is to spend all the money we can. This remedy supposes, of course, first, that we have money on hand, and next, that we spend it for necessities and reasonable comforts. With the supposition verified, the advice is good. Money laid away under the hearth is good neither for king nor country. It ought to be like oil poured out, diffusing its goodness wherever it flows.

We venture to add a point to the economist's advice. Perhaps it is not a new point, but an interpretation of "spend." An excellent way of spending money is to spend it on paying one's debts. The process relieves us of a burden, brings pleasure to the recipient, and, very likely, increases the money in circulation, by permitting our creditor to satisfy his own creditors. We have poured out the oil, and it will be diffused.

Unfortunately, to many a debt paid is not money spent, but money lost. We do not really make a conclusion, but we act as though it were a proposition that would be approved by Sabell-Barrett or Tanqueray. We are not lazy, although we find it impossible to get up early, and we are not actually dishonest, we think, even when, like some foreign nations, we defer payment on our just debts. A good resolution for the New Year would be to pay the butcher and the baker forthwith, not forgetting the doctor, the dentist, the school, and the grocer. The mass of all these dollars might destroy the depression. In any case, it should ease our conscience.—America (New York).

It is more than 700 years since the life of St. Francis of Assisi came to its earthly close. Born into a proud, wealthy and noble family, he became one of the poorest and most humble of God's Servants. Affliction, poverty and sorrow in any of their forms attacked him. He was loved by the people that whenever he approached a village the inhabitants rushed out with glad cries to meet him. "The little poor one," he called himself as the "Joyous Saint." Joyous he was, and through his own joyousness he imparted gladness to others.—The Little Rock Guardian.

"In the present state of human society, however, we deem it advisable that the wage contract should, when possible be modified somewhat by a contract of partnership, as is already being tried in various ways to the no small gain both of the wage-earners and of the employers. In this way wage-earners are made sharers in some sort in the ownership, or the management, or the profits."—Pius XI.

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Diocesan Recordings

Best wishes of all in the diocese are extended to His Excellency, Bishop O'Hern, who on Wednesday completed four years in his high position as Ordinary of the Diocese. Bishop O'Hern was appointed third Bishop of Rochester on January 4, 1929 by His Holiness, Pope Pius XI and was consecrated March 19, 1929. Recording the achievements of Bishop O'Hern as head of the diocese would take many more columns than this. His own flock and many of other faiths wish him many years as Bishop of the diocese of Rochester.

Seven branches of the Nocturnal Adoration Society gathered in their respective churches on New Year's Eve to mark the advent of the New Year in prayer and devotion before the Most Blessed Sacrament. About 1,500 men in various parts of diocese, 600 of whom gathered in St. Patrick's Cathedral at one hour intervals assembled during the night to adore and pray. The example furnished by these devoted Catholic men in foregoing pleasure of the world and restful sleep during a night given over to revelry by others should inspire all to emulate their example during the Holy Year of Pope Pius that is now upon us.

That a growing interest in Catholic lay organizations is apparent was easily gathered from the unusual attendance at the Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus Open House, Monday, More than 500 knights, many of whom had not been in attendance at a K. of C. function in many months, were present and showed an awakening interest in the affairs of the Council. With a program being worked out along the lines of Catholic Action and with careful, wise leadership, the organization will become a strong force in the community. This is true of Catholic lay organizations in other parts of the diocese. Reports of what all organizations are doing should be sent to the CATHOLIC COURIER so that an exchange of ideas will help all.

With the formation of the Foresee Club, organized in the interests of the Columbus Civic Center on Tuesday evening, an active group has been gathered together to promote the many activities possible in the Center. It has been thought for a long time that such an organization would be most helpful in carrying on the program of the Center and in attracting an increasing number. This new club consisting of some of the most active workers in the community, will foster activities of a dramatic, musical, educational, as well as physical and social character. This is a step in the right direction and the operation of everyone interested in the progress of Rochester's great social center should be forthcoming.

In the bulletin issued by the Rochester Health Bureau, we have noticed repeatedly that the Columbus Civic Center swimming pool is given a rating of "0" for the monthly average bacteria per cc.—With average not to exceed 250 it is evident that the Columbus pool is absolutely free from bacteria and hence a healthy place in which to swim.

Quoting from one of our daily contemporaries: "Gleason was born in Camden, when in his teens."

Dramatic Moments in Catholic Life and History

Why St. Francis de Sales Was Named Patron of the Catholic Press

By CLETUS J. KOUBEK



De Sales gave his leaflets to a few devoted friends who distributed them far and wide.

Just fifty years after Luther had inaugurated his great revolt against the historic Church of Christendom the eldest son of the noble De Sales family was born in their chateau in Savoy. The day after his birth he received the name of Francis in baptism at the parish church of Thorens. In the half-century since the introduction of the so-called New Learning Protestantism had made rapid and unfortunate progress throughout Switzerland and at the time of our saint's birth the reformers backed by the Swiss military arm had occupied part of Savoy.

The uncle of Francis was the Bishop of Geneva but for some years had been unable to live in his See because of the machinations of the enemy. In times such as these young de Sales made his early studies and learned at first hand of the persecutory attacks against the Church.

At the age of fourteen Francis went to Paris to attend the famous university of that city. With its fifty-four colleges it was easily the leading seat of learning of the day. Thoroughly disgusted with the worldliness and profligacy of his fellow students he transferred to the smaller school at Clermont which was under the direction of the Jesuits.

During his student days Francis gave evidence of that lofty spirituality which was to characterize his entire career and be the admiration of his contemporaries some of them since, like himself, canonized saints.

He completed his studies in the famed law schools of Padua and at the age of twenty-four returned to his father's house after receiving the master's and doctor's degrees from the Paduan university. Here began the first of the constant clashes between his will and his father's. The latter looked forward to a brilliant military career for his first-born while Francis himself could not entertain notions of serving God in His Church.

A brilliant marriage was arranged by the father; this was put aside by the son for he had long since pledged himself to perpetual chastity. A commission was obtained in the Duke army; Francis would be naught but a soldier in the service of the Lord.

At this juncture the Provost of the Geneva Cathedral Chapter died and this honorary post was obtained directly from the Pope for the heir of the House of de Sales. In this way the opposition of the father was overcome and Francis prepared him-

self for the priesthood, a necessary qualification to obtain the provostship.

The fortunes of war restoring two of Savoy's provinces to their rightful sovereign, it was necessary to provide for the spiritual wants of the restored patrimony. This was no easy task for Calvinism had taken a firm hold upon the people. In Thonon, the capital, there were but twenty Catholics left and these were so intimidated by the enemy that they dared not openly profess their religion. The Bishop of Geneva sent them a priest, learned and holy, but he was fortunate to escape with his life. Thus matters stood in the first year of the provostship of St. Francis.

The Bishop called his Chapter together to consult on the matter and to ask for a volunteer. He did not wish to commission anyone without his consent as it appeared to be issuing a death sentence. Francis was twenty-seven, young and energetic; he announced that he preferred to be a missionary rather than a provost. When this decision was made known to his father, the old Count

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