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MEMBER CATHOLIC PRESS ASSOCIATION

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"I would make any sacrifice, even to the pausing of my ring, pectoral cross and soutane, in order to support a Catholic newspaper."—Pope Pius X.

Editorials

MAY—OUR LADY'S MONTH

How thoughtful is the Church in dedicating the months of the year to a saint or to emphasize some particular devotion to be practised in a special way during the month. With an unflinching wisdom the Church had dedicated the beautiful Spring month of May to Our Lady.

The springtime of the year comes with May. Nature once more puts forth the glories that is hers to give. What a springtime of spiritual glories came to the poor mortals of this earth when Mary the Virgin of Nazareth gave her consent to become the Mother of God. She was the chosen instrument of God who would give to the world, darkened and dead with lack of Faith, loss of virtue and with no feeling of Charity, a Saviour Who would be the Way, the Truth and the Light for all men.

The three letters of the month of May which is dedicated to her is symbolic of her threefold relations with Almighty God: she is the Daughter of the Father, Mother of His Son and Spouse of the Holy Spirit. All the dignified loveliness of May, with the delicate perfume of its flowers, the rare fragrance of its fruit tree blossoms, the Madonna Blue of its skies, all are dedicated to Mary and to the dignity and the loveliness which is hers, because of her unique privilege of being God's own Mother.

With what childlike trust do the Children of the Church in the springtime of their lives turn to May the Morning Star to guide them safely over the turbulent waters of life. It is to her the Mystical Rose of Love that they turn to have her illumine their hearts with the love of her Son. To her, who is "like the Lily" and the "Virgin Most Pure" do they dedicate the purity of their lives and of their souls.

And with what a generous heart does Our Lady of Grace respond to all requests. Never has she been known to fail her children. She who is the Help of Christians, Queen of Virgins and Refuge of Sinners is solicitous for sinner and sinner alike.

During the month of May, her Rosary will slip through the hands of her devoted children. Her praises will echo and re-echo throughout the Catholic World when those who love her chant her Litany. The springtime air will be filled with the songs of her glory. And it is well, for as Christ Our Saviour came to us through Mary, so do we seek to go to Him through her who is His Mother and Our Mother.

SOCIALIZED MEDICINE

Now and then the press carries reports on Group or Socialized Medicine. Gradually such reports are becoming fewer and fewer. We note with satisfaction that the idea of making the grand profession of medicine the plaything of wealthy lay individuals and an utterly state controlled science (which means politically controlled) is gradually dying a natural death.

Despite the fact that such an idea—the recommendation of some of Dr. Wilbur's investigating committee—received strong support from medical men and lay persons, the members of America's Medical Association and leading medical men everywhere have strongly disapproved the Group Medical Plan. They follow the minority or the dissenting group of the Committee of Investigation.

It seems to us that all the arguments wielded against Socialism can be effectively used against Socialized Medicine. Moreover there can be added many arguments against this particular problem.

One of the most important factors in the case of disease, namely, the happy personal contact and confidence between doctor and patient would be to a large extent destroyed. The family physician, with his personal knowledge of the history of the family and individual would be replaced by a group of doctors, located at a designated place, with no more history of the temperament and characteristics of the patient than could be gleaned from a written record or history given by the patient himself.

The Vasco Case exemplifies what a psychological reaction fear of unknown doctors can do. It is well to remember that man is not body alone, not reason alone but has in his system a set of emotions and feelings that play an important part in his makeup, actions and reactions.

The selection of a doctor to treat one's ills should, as far as possible, be left to the discretion of the individual. Even today we know that the patient who seeks clinical help takes the doctor on ser. We do know too that for ills that demand surgery patients will wait for treatment until a certain doctor that they prefer is on that service in the hospital clinic. Hence their right to selection is safeguarded. The Committee recommends this right be left in the hands of those who care to use it. How long such a right would be allowed to remain is questionable once Medicine became socialized or controlled by the State.

Then too, under the Group Plan, Medical Science will suffer because it will to a large measure destroy initiative in the doctor himself. Competition, keen today in medical service as in business, keeps the doctor at the best. Not disregarding the love of the doctor, realizes that his profession

brings his livelihood. Hence there exists the double urge to keep him progressing in his science. How long, we wonder, would initiative last if a doctor knew just how much he was going to earn by treating a specified member of patients. We fear the profession would turn to business lines in which all competition would be outlawed. Obviously, the profession would suffer.

It is stated that under existing conditions, preventive medicine is far inferior to what it should be. But would Group Medicine improve conditions? As a matter of record preventive medicine has not been fostered either in Germany or England by Group Medicine. In these countries the morbidity rate has increased under this Group Plan. Such a result speaks for itself.

Now can it be asserted that the Medical Profession has failed to care for patients who cannot pay for service. It is to the everlasting glory of our medical men, that authentic records show that last year the doctors treated patients free of charge to an amount that exceeds 365,000,000 dollars! In a Rochester Hospital, a survey of free service last year, showed that the sixty doctors on the staff, gave free service averaging \$3,000 per doctor. Could have the Group Plan adequately reimbursed these men? We doubt it, since our people are over tax-burdened enough now, and it is hard to see from what source those necessary funds, could have come. In fact, the insurance premium and tax that would supply the support of Social Medicine is one of the big factors in assuring its defeat.

Principles of Social Service Science likewise are in conflict with the plan of the Committee. People at large would be educated to depend on others instead of on themselves if Group Medicine Plans were inaugurated. It is the end of Social Science to help the individual to help himself, to educate him to rely upon his own capacity and it seems clear that were Group Medicine to take the place of the family doctor the work of our Social Workers would be to a large measure undone.

The idea of Social Medicine is dying. We say "Let it die."

WELCOME TO BISHOP DUFFY

The Catholic Courier extends a hearty welcome to the new Bishop of Syracuse, the Most Reverend John A. Duffy. It is a joy to all of us to know that our neighboring Diocese of Syracuse is to have as its spiritual shepherd such a distinguished man as Bishop Duffy.

The new Bishop is a worthy successor to the late Bishop Curley who passed to his eternal reward on August 3rd of last year. He is considered one of the best organizers that his home Diocese of Newark has had. Most outstanding was Bishop Duffy's efforts to organize the Holy Name Societies. When he was finished the names of 125,000 men were on the parish registers! That alone was a splendid and magnificent work and is only one instance that tells the zeal and ability of Bishop Duffy.

We will participate with prayerful interest all the good that he will do in his new diocese. Basing our opinion on his past record as a zealous worker in the Vineyard of Christ we feel that the Diocese of Syracuse will progress well under his direction.

We congratulate the clergy and people to whom Our Holy Father has sent this new Bishop in having such a man to be their spiritual leader. And to Bishop Duffy, we extend that old ecclesiastical greeting, sincerely and generally "Ad Multos Annos."

Current Comment

IS SOUTH AFRICA DRYING UP?

That part of the African country referred to in the title is at present suffering from one of the worst droughts on record, which is affecting both Native and European farmers. Reports from all parts of the country tell the same sad story, and the records of the Union Observatory substantiate the impression, inasmuch as they prove the present season to be the driest experienced during the past twenty nine years. The last great dry season on record is that of 1912-1913.

To make matters worse, to low rainfall have been added very high temperatures. Consequently the greater part of the country has become parched, with disastrous results to the young crops in the fields and to the sheep which died by the thousands. "It is not astonishing, therefore," writes that distinguished Afrikaner, Rev. B. Huss, R. M. M., from Mariatzell in South Africa, "that the question so frequently propounded and discussed in the past, 'Is South Africa drying up?'—and if so, Why? has again come to the front.

The late Professor Schwartz, of Grahamstown, long ago conceived a scheme of irrigating the Kalahari desert. He suggested there should be diverted into the beds of ancient lakes, long dried up, the waters of the Kunene, Linyante and Zambesi rivers. The evaporation from the impounded waters, he believed, would render the atmosphere more humid and thus help to bring rain to a wide area of land.

In 1925 the Union Government instructed a commission to investigate these claims; their report was unfavorable to the scheme as a whole. However, Professor Schwartz always claimed that his proposition had never received the consideration it merited, and that those appointed to examine it were prejudiced against it from the beginning. Moreover, the rejection of the plan by the Government has never quite convinced the public of its futility, and today demands for a new inquiry are becoming insistent, because the drought question is a matter of life or death to South Africa.

While the Governments of most of the states of Europe, and not a few countries of the New World, would not think of instituting a day of prayer and penance in the face of a visitation such as that reported from South Africa, the Government of the Union has done this very thing. Because of the continued drought and depression, the people were told, Sunday, February 26, should be devoted to the purpose referred to.—C. V. Service.

ETERNITY ALONE COUNTS

Over the triple doorways of the Cathedral of Milan there are three inscriptions spanning the splendid arches. Over one is carved a beautiful wreath of roses and underneath is the legend, "All that which pleases is but for a moment." Over another is sculptured a cross, and there are the words, "All that which pleases is but a moment." But underneath the great central entrance to the main aisle is the inscription, "That only is important which is eternal."

Labor is the cause of charity, and so you will be doing the will of God.

Diocesan Recordings

From His Excellency, Bishop-elect James A. Walsh, M. M., M. A. P., Co-founder and Superior General of the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America, in Maryknoll, N. Y., we have just learned that his consecration will take place in Vatican City on June 29, and the 22nd anniversary of the foundation of "Maryknoll" and with His Eminence, Pietro Cardinal Fumasoni Bondi, formerly Apostolic Delegate to the United States and now Prefect of Sacred Propaganda, officiating. While Bishop Walsh regrets that few if any friends from the homeland will assist, he nevertheless prizes highly the many evidences of goodwill received since the announcement of his appointment by the Holy Father. His Excellency in his characteristic manner asks for a "breath of prayer," and we join with others in praying for him continued health and long service as the head of the great community of missionary Fathers, Brothers and Sisters over whom he presides.

Mahatma Gandhi in announcing his "unconditional fast" for 21 days states that he finds it difficult not to fast. Many who have had little or no employment in the past months find themselves in the same position.

Reading of Charity Campaigns in other dioceses throughout the country, in which the entire burden is upon the Catholic Charities organizations, it would seem to us that the Community Chest system in Rochester is far superior, not only for our own people, but for all the people of the Community. With the pleasant relationships that exist among all in this Community, with all striving for the common goal of filling the chest, the individual's efforts and sacrifices in contributing to the Chest are less in demand than if each agency supported through a separate campaign. We should all, therefore, exert every effort possible to make the Chest campaign from May 15 to 22, a success to assure all agencies operating within their budgets during the coming year. The glow of satisfaction that comes with a successful campaign is felt by everyone in the Community, even he who is able and aids the least.

A cigaret was blamed for a blaze that caused \$1,300 damage here this week. The smoker could hardly have been nonchalant lighting the next cigaret after that, no matter what brand he smoked.

This is the time for young women to enter the religious orders of the Diocese and impressive ceremonies have been held recently in the various communities in which the young women in local areas walked bravely to the altar to be received into a life of self-sacrifice and denial, but also filled with complete satisfaction to those who have been called. To the families of these young women, it is a particularly joyous occasion. Many of us not closely related or acquainted are prone to take these significant ceremonies for granted. Stop and think what it would mean if these young women not heed the call. Would our children be receiving the training and care that fits them well for temporal success and greater than all spiritual advancement. This is a time for prayer that these communities of Sisterhoods and that the excellent work they are doing may be increasingly extended.

In sorrow there is no better refuge to which one may have recourse than to the Immaculate Mother whose only Son died on a Cross.

Professor, sternly—I told you yesterday I'd give you one day to yander in your theme. Erring student—Yes, sir, but I thought I could pick any day.

September 8, 1893
The large bronze statue of St. Bernard presented by the Rosary, Scapular and altar Societies of St. Mary's Church to St. Bernard's Seminary was placed in position in the niche over the entrance to the Seminary. The statue's weight is 1,200 pounds.

St. Michael's Branch, 104, Ladies Catholic Benevolent Association, gave its first ball at Germania Hall. On the committee were: Mrs. Frances Sander, Mrs. Julia Kolb, Mrs. Frances Schneider, Mrs. Anna Weismiller, Mrs. Theresa Bach, Mrs. Regina Staub, Mrs. Frances Hellman, Mrs. Mary Magin, Miss Louise G. Wahl, Mrs. Elizabeth Koerner and Mrs. Louise B. Kiefer.

Bishop Messenger of Green Bay, Wis., celebrated Pontifical Vespers at Holy Redeemer Church, and delivered a short sermon commending Bishop McQuaid for his great energy and zeal in the work of God.

Winners of prizes at St. Boniface Church fair were: Anna Schreiner, Frank Kreckel, Kate Mason, Mr. Hall, Augusta McAlister, Kate Miller, Mrs.

STRANGE BUT TRUE
Catholic Facts But Little Known

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By M. J. MURRAY

The OLDEST EXISTING REPRESENTATION OF OUR LADY AND CHILD IS THIS MOSAIC DESIGN IN THE CATHACOMB OF SAINT PRISCILLA, ROME. IT DATES FROM THE SECOND CENTURY.

The PLANTIN MUSEUM at ANTWERP contains a large room which served as a chapel for the famous Printer and his staff. (THIS IS PLANTIN TYPE)

The Maltese belong to the only extant Apostolic See with the single exception of Rome.

The Church of St. Mary Woolnorth, London, has no foundations but rests on girders supported by the LINDERGROUND RAILWAY which has a station immediately beneath the edifice.

EAST ANGLIA (10) POSSESSES ALMOST ALL THE EXTANT POINTS WHICH HAVE SEVEN SIDES WITH A SCULPTURED REPRESENTATION OF ONE OF THE SACRAMENTS ON EACH. THEY ARE UNIQUE IN ENGLISH CATHOLIC HISTORY.

Back Through the Years

(A Glimpse through the files of the Catholic Courier and Journal)

M. Warner, Mrs. M. J. Eberline, Mary Straub, A. J. Wegman, Mary Gurney, Anna Snell, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Peters, Kate Richter, Anna Nolan, Mr. Bainbridge, B. Miller and Mary Shale.

Spiritual Thoughts

PRAYER TO ST. THERESA TO HALP WIDESPREAD IRRIGIOUS CAMPAIGN

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Additions to the faculty of St. Andrew's Seminary were announced as follows: Professor O'Connor to be Prefect of Studies; Prof. Wilby of Baltimore to teach Latin and part of the Greek, and the Rev. Coleman O'Loughlin to have the department of English Literature.

The priests retreat at St. Bernard's Seminary was conducted by the Rev. Father Doonan, a Jesuit of Boston.

Following is the text of a special prayer to St. Theresa of Lisieux, which the hierarchy of Scotland has directed shall be said at Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament in the crusade against the spread of communist propaganda against religion: "Loving and merciful Saint, deign to succor our Russian brethren, victims of a long and cruel anti-Christian persecution, and obtain for them perseverance in the Faith, progress in the love of God and of their neighbor, and increase of confidence in the Most-Holy Mother of God. Send them fervent priests to offer reparation for blasphemies and sacrileges committed against the Most Holy Eucharist. May angelical purity and all the Christian virtues blossom forth again, especially amongst the young, and may that noble people, freed from all servitude, spontaneously return to the fold which the loving Heart of the Risen Christ entrusted in its entirety to Saint Peter and his successors, and thus at last may they enjoy the happiness of glorifying in the Communion of the Holy Catholic Church, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Amen."

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Banks and their Depositors have Mutual Interests

"The opening of an account in any bank is the beginning of a partnership... a partnership based on the mutual interests of bank and depositor. By placing money in the bank, the depositors enable the bank to make funds available to the commerce and industry of the community. Conversely, the advantages of complete banking facilities are available to the depositor. Both bank and depositor have in the end, the same interest—safe and profitable employment of their funds."