

Rene Menard

By ALEXANDER M. STEWART.

July, 1654, Selkirk Beach State Park. Five weeks of struggle against the tides of the St. Lawrence River, near Quebec, and against the rapids of the Upper River and against the storm of Lake Ontario, in canoes laden with all the heavy baggage for settlement—more baggage than food—had brought the expedition of the Onondaga pioneers to Famine Bay near Selkirk Beach Park. Lack of food and head winds on Lake Ontario had kept the pioneers in this one place for more than a week.

Rene Menard slept in his robes, protected by a piece of smoke-tanned deerhide. Slowly his senses returned out of the land of sleep, half awake he rolled over to adjust his body to a new position to fit the hollows and ridges in his hard bed on the ground.

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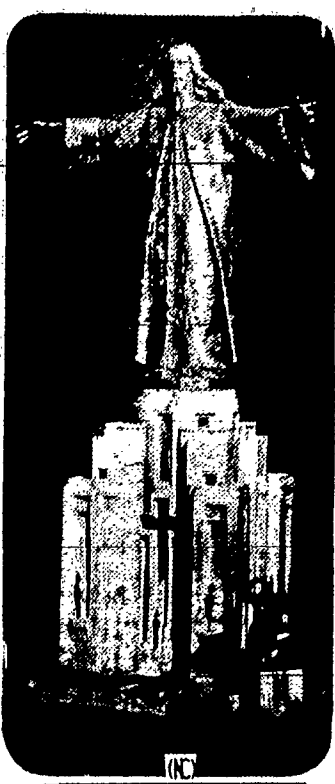
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Heroic Statue



Model of the National Statue of Christ of North America which will be the first statue of its kind in the United States, according to Rev. John J. Preston, pastor of St. Cecilia's Church, Kearny, N. J., who is urging its erection. The proposed statue, which will be of gigantic size, is to be erected by popular subscription.

INVITE LAYMEN TO RETREATS AT NIAGARA U.

(Continued from Page 1)

with God. Lack of appropriate accommodations has delayed his spiritual sons from undertaking this work here.

"Now, the time has arrived, and His Excellency, the Most Rev. Bishop Turner of Buffalo, writes: 'It is with real pleasure that I learned the Vincentian Fathers were about to take up the work of Retreats for Laymen at Niagara University.' The Most Reverend Bishop's pleasure is in accord with the conviction of Our Holy Father Pius XI—'that an annual retreat of a few days is the best means of keeping alive faith and devotion in our hearts and the best safeguard against the evils that now beset the world.'"

"Read the words of Robert Regout, Minister of Holland, who, a layman, has experienced the fruits of a retreat: 'Retreats are wonderfully adaptable to men and their circumstances. Although a true Christian life is essentially the same at all times, there are, none the less, changing elements that are of a great importance in practical life. Wherefore, the form of piety must possess a certain adaptability, according to the needs and problems of each particular age.'"

Offers Spiritual Treasury "Surely the conviction of Our Holy Father, the pleasure of the Most Reverend Bishop, and the belief of an eminent Catholic layman should be sufficient motives to incite the Catholic laymen to take up this salutary work."

"The Vincentian Fathers of Niagara University, therefore, invite the laymen of the Diocese of Rochester to consider thoughtfully and to accept joyfully, where possible, the offer of the Spiritual Treasury of these retreats."

More detailed information may be had from Rev. Thomas W. McFadden, C.M., Niagara University P.O., N. Y., under whose direction these retreats will be given.

Onondaga (Ga-nen-Ta) at which the expedition entered firing gun salutes to the Indians along the banks. The date was July 11th, 1654. The start from Quebec had been on May 17th of the same year.

Central New York's Plymouth Rock. The western end of the city of Syracuse, N. Y., touches the eastern end of Onondaga Lake. A site which slopes gently to the lake on the northeast side was chosen by the pioneers for the head house of the colony. The residence of Mrs. Ward occupies the position in which the colony house was built. (Site verified by Rev. William Beauchamp, S.T.D.)

The Fable of the Female Pope

Editor, Catholic Courier, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester, N. Y.

Dear Sir: Recently I overheard a conversation regarding a matter which puzzled me greatly. The subject of Roman Catholic Popes was brought up, and one of those present asked if we had ever heard of Pope Joan, the woman Pope.

Of course none of us had, and I would like to know what there is in back of that story. Would you kindly give me any information which you may have on this subject?

E. R. L.

Editor's Note. The Catholic Almanac and Year Book of The Catholic Telegraph, Cincinnati, Ohio, in the 1931 edition presented the following explanation on Page 107 which sets forth the facts in regard to the often recurring fable of a female Pope.

The article states:

"The fable of the female pope states that Joan was English by birth, but of German origin; that, when still a young girl, she was taken in male attire to Athens by her lover; that she became so proficient in learning that she had no equal; that, when she afterwards lectured at Rome, she had great professors among her disciples; that, because of her great reputation for science and integrity, she was made pope, in succession to Leo IV, and occupied the Chair of Peter for two years, five months and six days without her sex being discovered; that, during a solemn procession from the Vatican to the Lateran, she died on the street in giving birth to a child, and was buried on the spot; that, ever after, the pontiff went from the Vatican to the Lateran by another street because of this disgraceful occurrence; and that Joan's name was omitted from the 'Catalogue of Popes' on account of her sex and her disreputable end."

Sources of the Story

Sources of the story are: Alleged testimony of Anastasius, the Librarian, and officer of the papal court and resident of the Pope's palace, who was a contemporary of the fictitious pope; an interpolation in the manuscript of the Irish chronicler, Marianus Scotus (d. 1086); an interpolation in the writings of Martin the Pole, penitentiary to Pope Nicholas III, who died in 1280; Sigebert of Gemblours, the Benedictine historian (1035-1112), is said to have asserted in his 'Chronicle' that 'it is reported that this John was a woman, etc.'; the alleged existence of a monument, representing a woman and an infant, erected in memory of the fatal childbirth, and afterwards thrown into the Tiber by some pope or other, who wished to destroy the evidence of papist depravity!

Sifting the Testimony

The alleged testimony of Anastasius the Librarian bears its own contradiction on its very face. Its proponents quote it as saying: 'It is said, etc.' Is it at all likely that a man, right on the ground and competent to make a direct statement regarding what he himself had seen and heard, would take such an indirect, impersonal and unimpressive way of narrating such an extraordinary event? Moreover, the writings of Anastasius give us, clearly and distinctly, the information that Leo IV died July 17, 855; and that Benedict III was installed September 29 following. 'We must conclude, therefore,' says Bayle, the distinguished Protestant critic, 'that another hand than his (Anastasius) added the passages concerning this woman.'"

"As regards Marianus Scotus, the best codices of his work do not contain any mention of Joan; and the fact that all historians of the two centuries after Marianus record Benedict as the immediate successor of Leo IV, proves that they were unacquainted with any such passage in his writings. The erudite Benedict XIV presents very strong arguments in support of his contention that the tale of the popes is an interpolation in the work of the Irish annalist."

"Martin the Pole wrote four centuries after the alleged event; and his 'Chronicle,' which simply recites the story as a rumor, is generally conceded to have been freely interpolated; and, as far as the popes are concerned, in a manner, which displays ridiculous ignorance: There were no famous schools to elevate to the Papacy only a priest or deacon of the Roman Catholic Church, who had had special training with a view qualifying himself for important ecclesiastical positions. A solemn procession from the Vatican to the Lateran could hardly have taken place in the ninth century, since the popes did not begin to reside at the Vatican until near the close of the fourteenth century."

"Several of the codices of Sigebert's 'Chronicle' make no mention whatever of a female pope; and his distinct statement that 'Benedict III was the 102nd pontiff of the Roman Church' proves that he did not include the mythical Joan in his list of popes."

"Now about the monument of the woman and infant. Is it not absurd to imagine that any pope would permit the erection of a memorial which would reflect upon the papal line, and tend to diminish the influence of the Papacy?"

"The chronology of the fable breaks down completely, when examined in the light of contemporary and closely following history, for, while Pope Leo IV died in July, 855, there is a series of papal documents from the next pope, Benedict III, dating from October, 855, to March, 858. The contemporary 'Book of the

Popes' is clear on the immediate succession of Benedict; Roman coins of the period, the diploma of the Monastery of Corvey, the letters of Hincmar, contemporary Archbishop of Reims, as well as the letters of Pope Nicholas I, who followed Benedict III—all show the absurdity of the fable of the female pope.

"No modern historian of repute gives the least credence to the tale. 'The Encyclopedia Britannica,' by no means partial to the Papacy, says the female pope is 'now regarded as a fictitious personage.'"

"Finally, is it at all possible that a woman could conceal her sex for two years, five months, and six days, while performing the many various, arduous and public functions of the Supreme Pontiff of the Church?"

Bartholomay Ice Cream Company Brings Out Two New Delicacies

The Bartholomay Quality Ice Cream Co. has this year put out, in their endeavor to satisfy every desire of their many customers, two new delicacies.

The Dixie Cups are filled with that same delicious ice cream that is in all Bartholomay ice cream products; but in addition, they contain either pineapple, strawberry, or chocolate syrup. They are ideal for picnics, parties, or as a final touch to a summer's meal. Sold at all dealers where the Blue Signs of the Bartholomay Ice Cream Co. are displayed. They are 5c.

The On-I-las are also 5c, and appeal especially to the children. They are made of ice cream, molded into a cone shape, with a stack inside and covered with chocolate, the top of which is sprinkled with peanuts. They are an answer to a mother's prayer for something to appease that warm weather craving of children. Mothers know too, that they are rich in food value and that they will be beneficial instead of harmful to the young constitution.

Due to the instant freezing process which the Bartholomay Ice Cream Co. employs, their ice cream is free of graininess and ice particles or lumps which are so often in ordinary ice creams. The instant freezing process breaks down the minute ice crystals that form the natural part of the ice cream, mixes and produces a smooth and creamy product, different in flavor because the fresh fruit taste is not destroyed but rather enhanced through the rapid process of freezing.

Dealers everywhere displaying the Bartholomay Blue Sign welcome customers to try Bartholomay Ice Creams.

Will Hays has been appointed head of a committee to solve financial problems in the motion-picture industry. We assume he has completed his first assignment which comprehended cleaning up the pictures and imparting the high moral tone—Knickerbocker Press.

PRIZE WINNERS

in the "DO YOU KNOW?" CONTEST

for week ending July 12

1ST PRIZE:

Dorothy Schubert
105-Avery St.
Rochester, N. Y.

2ND PRIZE:

Loretta Royal
1222 Genesee Pk. Blvd.
Rochester, N. Y.

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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.

Business communications of whatever nature should be addressed to the Catholic Courier and Journal, Inc., to the attention of the Manager.

MECHANICAL REQUIREMENTS
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Depth of column: 20 1/2 inches (full length).
Size of page: 14 1/2 column inches (7 full columns); 15 1/2 inches by 20 1/2 inches.

DEADLINE
Forms close noon of Wednesday preceding publication date.

DO YOU KNOW?

WHO SELLS "us folks" the THINGS that "we folks" BUY ? ? ?

Here's a brand new contest—real fun and as different as can be. It's one that's EXTRA worth while to enter—because you have a chance to profit TWICE! First, by winning a prize. Second, by really getting to know your merchant and the fine values he is offering in quality goods.

HERE are the DETAILS!

In each space below we're printing a phrase from one of the ads in this issue of the CATHOLIC COURIER. The ads from which these phrases are taken are scattered through this issue—you'll have to look to find 'em—and each phrase here printed is taken from a different ad. All you have to do is to write, print or draw the names of the firms in whose ads the phrases appear—writing each firm's name in the correct space. Then send or bring this column to the office of this newspaper. The best entry will be awarded first prize, a year's subscription to the CATHOLIC COURIER; the second best, a 6-month subscription. Entries will be judged by the most complete set of answers, neatness and originality. Be sure to write your own name and address in the space provided. Anyone may compete except employees of this paper or their families. There will be a contest each week. Entries for this week must be in by 9:00 A. M. Wednesday, July 19, 1933. Winners will be announced in the CATHOLIC COURIER of July 20.

1st PRIZE 1-Year Subscription

2nd PRIZE 6-Month Subscription

IN CASE OF A TIE, DUPLICATE AWARDS WILL BE MADE

WHOSE ADVERTISEMENT SAYS:

"No waiting for the cubes to harden" ?

Insert the Name
of Firm Here

WHOSE ADVERTISEMENT SAYS:

"A vacation for the family" ?

Insert the Name
of Firm Here

WHOSE ADVERTISEMENT SAYS:

"We operate our own plant" ?

Insert the Name
of Firm Here

WHOSE ADVERTISEMENT SAYS:

"Make a trial and be convinced" ?

Insert the Name
of Firm Here

WHOSE ADVERTISEMENT SAYS:

"There is no substitute" ?

Insert the Name
of Firm Here

Your Name and Address

NAME

ADDRESS