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MEMBER CATHOLIC PRESS ASSOCIATION

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

Editorials

BROTHERHOOD

Life has often been represented under the figure of a little stream, which slowly winds its quiet way through fields and meadows until, at last, it loses itself in the billows of the mighty ocean. For this it pushes its way over rocky barriers and glides through tangled thickets, never for a moment losing sight of the fact that the main object of its flowing is to reach the river and the sea. So it is with our lives. They are as the even flow of the brook in its channel, gliding ever onward toward the great ocean of eternity; but when, incidentally, by smile or word or deed, we help those with whom we come in contact, that is as when the brook pauses in its eddies to give drink to the thirsty plants on its margin.

The supreme Law, comprising all the rest and making us truly Christians, is the Law of Love. "Let the charity of the brotherhood abide in you!" is the command. Surely the need of emphasizing this precept of charity was never greater than in the present distracted state of the world. Never had the Golden Rule more urgent need of application than in the troubled times in which we live. Alas! we are too much given to leaving our brother to look out for himself. If he falls by the wayside, we pass him by; and if he is crushed by the maddening crowd in the race for wealth or power, we think it is none of our business. "Am I my brother's keeper?" is the age-old plea. You remember, when the first murderer was arraigned by his Creator and asked, "Where is thy brother?" he made answer, "Am I my brother's keeper?" It was a wrong answer then and did not satisfy him who made it; it is a wrong answer now and does not justify him who offers it.

And yet, from Cain's day down to our own, this specious irony has been the ready refuge of all those who would evade responsibility for their conduct toward their fellow-men. It is the refuge of the promoter or trust-maker who takes advantage of his weaker brother; it is the plea of the plutocrat to justify his ill-gotten gains; it is the excuse of the financier who quotes the sanction of "business customs" to condone his Shylock doings; it is the answer of the industrialist who forces his employees to work for less than a living wage and to labor under dangerous or unsanitary conditions; it is the "alibi" of all that class who find their own selfish interests running counter to the rights of others. "Am I my brother's keeper?" Yes, we are, we ought to be—our brother's keeper. That is our duty, next to the love of God—to extend the helping hand to those in need, whether that need be material or spiritual, without reference to race or color or class distinction. This Our Divine Savior demanded of us: "These things I command you, that you love one another," "as I have loved you, so you also love one another."

In the hearts of Christ's followers there is need today, as never before, of the tender sympathy of Christ, a deeper love for those whom He so valued as to give His own life for their salvation. All men are members of God's great household, and we Christians as His stewards are responsible for them. All about us are poor, tried souls that need sympathizing words and helpful deeds. All about us are souls infinitely more precious than any other offering we can bring to God. To bend every energy toward the accomplishment of some apparently great work, while we neglect the needy or turn another from his right, is not a service that will meet with God's approval. No man has a right to compel his fellow-man to live like the bondmen of Egypt. We must remember that every man who walks this earth is a child of God and the brother, not the slave, of his more fortunate fellow-man. Like the Good Samaritan, we should show tender kindness, compassion and love to those in need. Thus and thus only shall we give evidence that we keep the whole law. For the command is: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself." To live selfishly always ends in unhappiness, no matter to what degree of material success a man may have attained. We have to give, we have to make others happy—to be happy ourselves. Any other way of living is sure to end in unhappiness.

Let us become strong, for the great evil of this day is weakness.—Lacordaire.

made in vain, that other hearts rejoiced in our companionship, and that our deeds have become verdure, not thorns, in the path of those who, in their turn, shall follow us. Angels in Heaven will welcome those who on earth have lived "not to be ministered unto, but to minister."

"THE CHAMPION OF CHARITY"

On Wednesday of next week the Church will celebrate the feast of St. Vincent de Paul, called "The Champion of Charity." Born of a peasant family in Gascony, France, in 1580, Vincent turned early to the service of the Church and was ordained a priest when only twenty years of age. Although his ability led his superiors to place him in ecclesiastical positions among the influential people of the country, his heart remained with the poor and lowly.

With the help of Mme. de Gondi, Vincent began his apostolate of Charity by giving missions on the Gondi Estate. The people acclaimed him, and to escape their esteem he left to found his first Conference of Charity. This foundation, built as it was on the humility of a saint, was destined to grow until it came to be identified by the world with the Charity of Christ.

The foundations made by Vincent de Paul were numerous: missions, conferences of Charity, a corps of relief workers for the galley slaves, hospitals, the great religious congregations of men and women that carry on his work to this day, namely, the Congregation of the Priests of the Missions and the Sisters of Charity.

Although many years have passed since the days when St. Vincent made the kindness of life much easier for so many, the spirit of St. Vincent still continues to inspire the priests and sisters of his Congregation and the laypeople of his Societies to labor in the vast fields of charitable enterprise.

The episcopal city of the diocese has for many years been blessed with an institution run by the Daughters of St. Vincent. For seventy-five years at St. Mary's Hospital has served Catholic and non-Catholic alike and today is still doing a great work of relief especially for the sick who have had the privations of depression added to the pain of physical illness.

It is an institution whose splendid record in serving the community can inspire a just pride in the heart of every citizen—Catholic, Jew and Protestant.

The Catholic Courier takes this occasion of the feast of their spiritual father to congratulate the Sisters of St. Mary's Hospital on their great work of charity in the diocese and to extend to them every good wish for the future success of their work.

THE PAROCHIAL BASEBALL LEAGUE

Much to the sorrow of many a school boy and girl, the season is closed for the Parochial Baseball League. The last game was played leaving the championship cup in the custody of the players on the team from Our Lady of Perpetual Help School.

It has been a splendid season and it was real ball playing that won the championship for St. Boniface in the National League, Sacred Heart in the American League and Our Lady of Perpetual Help in the International League and champion of all. The winners are to go to Camp Stella Maris for a week as a reward for their success.

In our opinion it was a happy thought that three years ago inspired a priest greatly interested in Boyology to start the Parochial League in Rochester. Much good has resulted from it and today twenty-one pastors are enthusiastic supporters of the idea.

The League puts into practice some very fine principles of Social Science. It puts the play of children under supervision and makes for a correct use of leisure time. This last factor cannot be underestimated in its value in the formation of a child's character. Many of the priests can notice a much better school spirit among their children as a result of the League and no one can question the fact that it does help to keep our children together.

We hope that next year will bring more schools into the League and that the success that the League has had in Rochester and Elmira will be an encouragement to start a League among the parochial schools in the other cities of the diocese.

Current Comment

VACATION DAYS

During the next two months thousands of Catholics will seek relaxation in the refreshing open spaces, which God has given for man's playground. For a crowded day, for a delightful week-end or some leisurely spent weeks, the young and old, the rich and poor, will hurry from the cities. Vacation time is here.

Who can gaze at the awful glory of a mountain sunset or watch the silvered surface of a restless lake and not think of the God Who made all this! To the thoughtful person the glories of Nature are evidence of the wondrous works of the kind Father who has planned these gardens for His children. A mountain, a lake, a rolling countryside, all remind us of the Creator.

If the country reminds us of the Lord of creation it should recall to our minds that God is everywhere, that He is with us on our vacation as well as in our homes. Our duties to Him never cease. There is no vacation from Christian duty. On vacation as off vacation Catholics have the obligation to give good example, to pray and to attend Mass on Sundays. The physical recreation of a holiday or a vacation is of worth-while value only when the soul enjoys the carefree joy of uninterrupted union with God.—The Evangelist (Albany).

Let us become strong, for the great evil of this day is weakness.—Lacordaire.

To inculcate love of nature and of our fellow-men is all right as far as it goes. But unless its foundation is love of God, it doesn't go very

Diocesan Recordings

Rochester is entertaining this week delegates and visitors to the Ladies Catholic Benevolent Association convention. These energetic, active Catholic women have come from all parts of the country with a common purpose of furthering the interests of their order and of increasing their activities in behalf of Holy Mother the Church. It was an inspiring sight to witness the Cathedral crowded with Catholic women on Tuesday gathered to assist at a preparation for the Mass as a preparation for their deliberations. We hope that their convention here is successful in every way and that they will leave Rochester inspired to do greater things in the organization which has already accomplished much for the Church in the United States and for its individual members.

When an occasion arises as it did in California recently when voters went to the polls to vote on a proposal to exempt non-profit schools from taxation, the necessity for informed Catholics is most apparent. While those who were informed worked zealously to have the measure passed, there were an exceptionally large number apathetic according to a dispatch from San Francisco. This is not the first instance where it has been noted that all of our Catholic people are not as well informed as they should be. We do not desire to be harping constantly upon the need for a Catholic Press, but it does serve a purpose in bringing to Catholic people the information that is needed for constant alertness to those forces which are inimical to our welfare not only as a religious body but as citizens.

People in the news this week the Rev. Charles A. Bruton, pastor of St. Margaret Mary's parish, was named department chaplain of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of New York State at Niagara Falls. John T. Kelly, president of the Holy Name Society of St. Patrick's Church, Elmira, has just been elected to the board of trustees of the Elmira Savings Bank. Michael A. Leahy is treasurer of that bank.

The Most Rev. John A. Duffy, D.D., installed this week as Bishop of Syracuse was diocesan spiritual adviser of the Holy Name Society in Newark and has always manifested a keen interest in the Society. In a recent address to the Holy Name men he expressed himself forcibly on the importance of Eoly Name men becoming informed. The one thing that the Catholic Church must do today, His Excellency is reported as saying, "is to use the phrase of a famous writer is to make the Catholic men articulate. We believe that if the world generally knew the principles that actuate you, we would not have priests enough to receive the inflow of men outside the fold who are looking for a straight road to God. But if we are inarticulate, if the layman who moves in social and political and domestic circles is not able to express the ideals and purposes and principles of the Church, then these ideals, purpose and principles will never become known to that vast majority outside the Catholic Church that are looking for a way to God."

Students of Rochester diocese who are able to attend the eighth annual national convention of the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade to be held in Cincinnati, August 8 to 11, will find an intensely interesting program awaiting them. With His Excellency, the Most Rev. Edward A. Mooney, Apostolic Delegate to Japan, and the Most Rev. James A. Walsh, M.M., Superior of Maryknoll present to discuss foreign missions and the Most Rev. Emmet M. Walsh, Bishop of Charleston, scheduled to talk on home missions, there will be much to inspire youth devoted to the mission cause.

Under the heading "Rene Menard" there is appearing in this newspaper an account of the trials and hardships endured by the early missionaries who came into this diocese, when it was inhabited by Indians, to bring the consolation of the Catholic Faith to the natives. Changing names and places to China, Africa or other foreign countries, the same zealous missionary endeavor is going on today with the same spirit of the Church to "teach all nations." Many of us do not fully realize that it is but a short period ago since this was every bit as much missionary country as the Far East is today. Parents of French youths saw their boys depart for hazardous journeys in the same manner that American parents see their children leave for foreign lands now. The work of the Church goes on. In those days the countries of Europe supplied missionaries and the funds to aid missionaries to this country. We today furnish missionaries and the funds so necessary for them to go to other lands to propagate the Faith. The Church is universal. She seeks to bring all peoples into her fold.

Thank you, Colonel O'Hern

STRANGE BUT TRUE Catholic Facts But Little Known By M. J. MURRAY. Includes illustrations and text about Raphael's transfiguration, the Bank of England, and a Pope's son.

Study of Catholic Publications Urged Upon Secondary Schools

The use of Catholic newspapers and magazines in the English classes of high schools was advocated at the annual convention of the National Catholic Educational Association, just held, by Brother D. Joseph, F. S. C., head of the English department and professor of journalism at St. Thomas College, Scranton, Pa.

"Our high school students," he said, "need training in the reading of newspapers and periodicals. Secular papers and magazines should be considered, but, above all, the diocesan newspaper and Catholic periodicals should be utilized in the English courses of our high schools."

The Rev. Arthur A. Hughes sang his first solemn high Mass at the Immaculate Conception Church, assisted by Fathers Gleeson and Rossiter. The Very Rev. James F. O'Hare preached the sermon.

Officers elected by the Rochester Catholic Reading Circle were: President, Mrs. J. C. O'Brien; First Vice-President, Mrs. D. E. Murphy; Recording Secretary, Miss Rose McIntyre; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Katie Hogan; Treasurer, Miss Ella Wallace.

Catholic Literary, Thomas A. Smyth, James Connolly, John Coffey, Dr. J. H. Finneasy, Miss Nellie Lucas and Miss Cecelia G. Lennon; Columbia Reading Circle, Miss Annie Comerford, Miss Theresa McMahon, Frank Connor, Miss Emily Shean, Miss Jennie O'Kane and Miss Mary Shea; St. Joseph's Reading Circle, Charles L. Gerstner, Miss Elizabeth Otto, Miss Mamie A. Helsingier and Miss Yawman.

A new statue of St. Joseph was blessed at Cygna by the Rev. Dr. Edward J. Hanna of Rochester.

The twenty-first annual commencement exercises of Nazareth Academy were held in Cathedral Hall. Honors were conferred upon the graduates by Bishop McQuaid.

Spiritual Thoughts

Let us throw ourselves into the arms of God, and be sure that if He wishes anything of us, he will make us good for all He desires us to do for Him.

The wounds of Jesus Christ pierce the hardest of hearts, they inflame the coldest.—St. Bonaventura.

When things go seriously wrong with us we cry out to God. When they go well we do not think of Him.

If we would see the stars of His mysteries we must first descend into the deep well of humility.

If thou art wise expect to die every day; thus thou shalt keep thyself always ready and happy to depart on the great journey to thy eternal home.—Blessed Henry Suso.

We must not suffer our will to be the slave, or to be subject to any but the will of Him Who has redeemed it by His Precious Blood.

A very good remedy for effacing the attachment to earthly things which you remark in yourself is not to think of them, but, on the contrary, to raise your mind to God.

God is so faithful to His servants that He will never permit to be deceived by the devil one who desires to please Him and to devote his life to His honor and glory.