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With the Approbation of the
Most Reverend John Francis O'Hern, D.D.,
Bishop of Rochester

MEMBER CATHOLIC PRESS ASSOCIATION

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

Editorials

READ OFFICIAL PRONOUNCEMENTS

One of the subjects discussed at the recent Catholic Press Convention held in Chicago, was the necessity of putting before the reading public the great Papal Encyclicals for their thoughtful consideration. These great documents are the masterpieces that have come from the pens of the wise and learned Popes who have analyzed and studied the subjects of the encyclicals.

More especially at this time, when the President's Recovery Plan is being hailed by Catholic Economists as the first practical application of the principles embodied in the Encyclicals of Leo and Pius on Labor and Capital, it is highly important that our Catholic people should acquaint themselves with these pronouncements. A knowledge of these principles will convince the reader that the Catholic Church has more than a negative policy in the field of economics. It is more than a denunciation of socialism or communism. It has a very positive program based on and guided by principles of Justice and Charity. These pronouncements demonstrate quite clearly that these two virtues cannot be divorced from business, but must be the force that binds laborer and employer to the common end of mutual help and understanding.

Our Catholic people would do well also to read and study the Statement on the Present Crisis by the Bishops of the N. C. W. C. Administrative Committee. So complete a study of the crisis in this document, that the Papal Delegate himself was pleased to send a copy to the Holy Father. He has urged that a wide distribution be made of copies of the statement and that its contents be well studied and discussed by all Catholic groups.

These documents give the mind of the Church on the many problems facing us today. All Catholics should strive to think with the Church on these problems and try to co-operate with the suggested plans for the solution of the difficulties. Too often do we fail to know how the Church would settle the difficulty. A reading of these Papal and Episcopal documents would soon give us a different attitude and most surely a greater appreciation of the wisdom of Mother Church in the solution of the ills of her children.

THE CHURCH IS APOSTOLIC

How often is the mind of man confused in the search for the true Church of Christ. The difference in the teachings of the various denominations serve only to cause a doubt about the validity of their teaching authority. Since all claim Christ as their founder and call upon His name to witness the truth of their dogmas, the interested inquirer may be led into a skepticism regarding all churches and as a result disregard all revelation as worthy of credence.

How unfortunate this would be when the cold, unbiased facts of history can settle, once and for all, the claims of the Catholic Church to the divine mission of teaching the revealed Word of God to all men and to the divine commission to sanctify their souls through the Sacraments entrusted to her by Christ.

History can prove and does prove to those who take the time to turn back its pages, that the Catholic Church is the only church in existence that can trace its line of popes and bishops and its religious dogmas back to the Apostles on whom Christ founded His Church.

The Apostolicity of the dogmas of the Church is clearly demonstrated when, as a proof of a dogma, the Church offers the words of the New Testament to show that the dogma in question was taught by the Apostles as they had received it from Christ. History of the different dogmas taught today in the Church reveals the fact that they have come down through the years sealed with Apostolic authority.

There is no question that Christ wished His Church to live through the years and attain the end He had in founding it. Hence He could not have failed in insuring that the authority He had given to the Apostles would be transmitted by them to their lawful successors. It was for this reason that He assured His Apostles "Behold, I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world." He had told them "the gates of hell would not prevail against that Church." In other words, that the authority which kept that society intact would never perish for every society can exist only as long as its authority exists.

History proves that the Apostles transmitted their authority to others whom they appointed to carry on their work. Thus we read that St.

ing them to guard the deposit of Faith and to perpetuate their ministry by appointing other pastors.

Pope Pius, who today sits upon the chair of Peter, can trace his line in unbroken succession back to the Apostle Peter. He does this, not by the process of revelation, not by the teaching of religion, but by the science of history. It is thus that history so well serves the claims of the Catholic Church to the mark of Apostolicity and will likewise serve well those who seek to know the True Church of Christ.

AN UNJUST MEANS

On July twenty-sixth, the German Government promulgated a far reaching law that it has long considered as being a great means to improve the German race. We refer to the law that forces sterilization upon those people whose descendants are held likely to inherit physical or mental defects. The mental defects that render a subject liable to sterilization cover the entire field of mental ills from melancholia to insanity, while those who are blind or deaf or suffer bodily deformity that can be transmitted to their children are subject to the same fate.

The new law makes no distinction between the sexes. Physicians are required to name patients liable to sterilization. The law provides that a subject may ask for the operation or, if he be a minor, his legal guardian may do so in his behalf. Police physicians or directors of hospitals or asylums may file the necessary request and all such applications will be supported by a "hereditary court" that has power to use force if the subject be unwilling to submit or consent to the operation.

Such a law is at variance with the very fundamentals of Christian Ethics. It is not moral and we are far from pleased to hear that the German people must suffer such an abuse of their innate rights. The end that the Nazi Government is seeking, namely, the elimination of physical and mental disease, is worthy of our admiration, but to arrive at such an end by the evil means of sterilization of the unfit reaps our stern condemnation.

The principle violated by this new Nazi law is that sterility must never be used either for its own sake or as a means to an end no matter how good that end may be. The operation causing sterility implies a grave mutilation of the human body and Christian Ethics, founded on the basis of right reason, will allow it only on the assumption that the operation is necessary to save human life which is endangered by a present and actual diseased condition of the organ involved.

The German Government has violated Divine dominion over human beings. It has usurped the Divine right of ownership over the human body, which is a right so sacred that not even the individual himself can violate it without sin. It is holding as naught, the universal feeling of repugnance of mankind for this base practice. It is closing its eyes to the abominable practices that may come as the result of this immoral infringement upon human rights and looks only to an ideal condition of health for the German people that is akin to Utopia. We trust that the German people will rise to outlaw such an unjust attempt to violate their rights as subjects of a Divine Ruler Who has engraved His Fifth Commandment on the hearts of all men.

Current Comment

FAMOUS INVENTORS.

A writer in the Baltimore Review has drawn up a partial list of famous Catholic inventors. Among the names mentioned are these: Berthold Schwartz, an Augustinian monk, invented gunpowder in the Twelfth Century. Alexander von Spina, a Dominican monk, was the inventor of spectacles in the Thirteenth Century. Blasius Valentini, a Benedictine monk, was the inventor of curative chemistry. Bishop Charles von Schoenborn erected the first school for Anatomy in the Eighteenth Century. Father Celestin Apitz, a religious, was the first to introduce an anesthetic, thereby saving mankind unspeakable sufferings under operations. Angelo Secchi, a Jesuit, was the first to teach the blind to read. Both Volta and Amper, who have left their names indelibly upon electricity, were Catholics. Signor Marconi is the inventor of wireless telegraphy.

EVIL COMPANIONS

There will be a silver thread in every life web when finished, woven into the fabric by the pure friendship of many days. How important that only the true, the worthy, those with clean hands and good lives, be taken as friends, for an evil companionship will put stained and soiled threads into the web.

FREE WHEELING

The old-fashioned girl who had one by on her brain now has a daughter with several on the running board. Western Watchman, St. Louis.

It is the man of action who gets things done. And it is sometimes the man of action who undoes things. Action is essential to progress, but it must be action in the right direction. Action in the wrong direction is worse than no action at all. In other words, unless you know what you are about, the more action you put into your endeavor, you are the more likely to do harm than good. Therefore, before you start anything be sure you are right. This implies that you should know your job in all its details. Know what you should do and then lose no time in doing it.

Catholic action consists not merely of the pursuit of personal Christian perfection, which is, however, before all others its first and greatest end, but it also consists of a true apostolate in which Catholics of every social class participate, coming thus to be united in thought and action around those centers of sound doctrine and multiple social activity, legitimately constituted and, as a result, aided and sustained by the authority of the bishops. Pope Pius XI.

The end and purpose of life and time is nothing less than the service of God. All else is but

Diocesan Recordings

The response to the Catholic Courier's effort to increase its friends and readers has been beyond the hopes and expectations of those in charge of the diocesan newspaper. It is gratifying and encouraging to note the cooperation being given by clergy and laity especially during a hot spell that has sent the thermometer mercury hovering around the century mark. Suggestions for improving the paper have been received and have been given due consideration. The suggestions are of the constructive type and most helpful. We welcome the interest being manifested in your diocesan newspaper. Knowing that the Catholic people of the Rochester Diocese appreciate the work being done to give them a newspaper of high standard, the staff will exert added effort to continue producing such a newspaper.

Where is the man who said: "We never seem to have any sunshine in the Rochester area?"

Back from Camp Stella Maris, as brown as a Filipino and proudly displaying his Red Cross swimmer's button denoting progress made as a beginner came our eldest son, this week. His two week's stay at the diocesan boys' camp on Conesus Lake improved him greatly. We have nothing but words of praise for those in charge of the camp for the manner in which it is conducted and for the example set by the counselors. Parents of daughters at Camp Madonna report the same. The diocese is blessed with these two summertime recreation spots for our children and we pray for them continued success.

A bathing beauty contest manager has been quoted as saying recently that character is an essential quality in a beauty contest entrant. Is not modesty an essential of character?

Rochester diocese friends of the Rev. Albert Regensberger, S.T.D., O.M.C., of Syracuse extended congratulations recently to him on the occasion of his completion of fifty years in the Franciscan order. Father Albert has been in Rochester on several occasions at meetings of the Central Verdon of America, New York State Branch, and the recent L. C. B. A. convention. At the ceremonies held in Syracuse a lay delegation present included Mrs. Mary Folger Lohr of New York City, New York State president of the Catholic Women's Union, admitted with the Central Verdon of America.

That the Catholic people of Oklahoma realize the unique opportunity afforded the Catholic press now to put across Catholic principles to help solve problems facing the world is evidenced from the success, the Southwest Courier, official paper of the Diocese of Oklahoma City and Tulsa is having in gaining subscriptions. Recently Oklahoma City reached the 100 per subscription mark and now the Rev. James A. Garvey, Diocesan Superintendent of Charities and pastor of Holy Angels' Church, Oklahoma City has successfully signed up every Catholic home in Oklahoma City and is setting out to get every Catholic home in the state to take the Catholic paper. Back of this effort of Father Garvey's is the encouragement and support of the Most Rev. Francis C. Kelley, D.D., Bishop of Oklahoma City-Tulsa diocese. The Catholic Courier in its campaign is receiving the same support and encouragement from the Rt. Rev. Msgr. William M. Hart, Vicar Capitular of this diocese. Our Catholic families are responding in a like manner. Which parish of Rochester diocese will be the first to be 100 per cent?

Readers interested in the accounts of early Jesuit missionaries in New York State as recorded by Alexander M. Stewart writing on Rene Menard in this newspaper will also be interested in the announcement that on August 16, the Jesuit Well in the new Lake Parkway, Syracuse, will be dedicated with appropriate ceremonies at which Bishop Duffy of Syracuse will be a speaker. Knights of Columbus of Syracuse will present a historical pageant as a part of the program. The day will mark the coming of Father Simon LeMayne, the first Jesuit missionary to Onondaga who discovered the salt springs on August 16, 1654. The pageant will depict the coming of the French colony of 50 soldiers, four Jesuit missionaries and two lay brothers. A similar event is being planned by Mass Caravan, Order of the Alhambra of Rochester to commemorate the coming of the Jesuit missionaries to this section. All efforts being made to recall the heroic Jesuit pioneers in this section of the State are commendable.

People in the news: Edward F. Burke of the police identification bureau spoke in Chicago Tuesday at the joint convention of the International Association for Identification and the International Association of Chiefs of Police at the Sherman Hotel on "Photography in the Field of Identification." He is scheduled to be present at the

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Catholic Facts But Little Known

By M. J. MURRAY



New Books

Regis College Review Service
Denver, Colorado

REVOLT AGAINST HEAVEN. By Daniel A. Lord, S.J. Queen's Work, \$1.0. A magnificent historical outline of evil. The rising in Heaven, the atonement on the cross and the continuation of evil in our day.

EXPLORING THE TIMES. A series of five booklets by eminent economists. The American Library Association. \$2.5 each. set of five \$1.00. Good guides to the study of present day economic questions. Similar in treatment to the "Reading with a purpose Series."

ETERNAL TESTAMENT. By Rev. John A. Elbert. Bruce \$1.00. Excellent doctrinal devotional conferences on the Holy Eucharist.

WHISTLES OF SILVER AND OTHER STORIES. By Helen Parry Eden. Science and Culture Series. Bruce, \$2.00. De. Lightful short stories, depicting unfulfilling humor, the whimsicalities of life.

BERNADETTE. A Child of Mary. By Rev. L. L. McReavy. Herder, 1933. \$1.25.

The present Holy Year, the seventy-fifth anniversary of the great apparitions of Mary Immaculate at Lourdes, seems a most propitious time for the canonization of the humble, lovable Bernadette, so human in her heroic virtues, so safe and acceptable a model for our young people to imitate.

The present little biography by the pious author of the charming life story of Guy de Fortgalland has the unique merit of uniting a complete and authentic history of the apparitions at Lourdes and an interesting study of the spirit of Bernadette, her virtues and her trials, her hidden life of retirement as a religious, her practices of the deepest humility and admirable patience under afflictions and misunderstandings.

May she be known and loved more by religious as well as by our lay people.

—E. T. S.

former association and Police Chief Andrew J. Kavanaugh will be elected third vice-president of the latter association. John A. Doyle is also in Chicago attending the convention of the International Secret Service Association of which he is a member of the Board of Directors. Two Catholic attorneys have opened new offices: Christopher H. D'Amato at 823 Exchange Street and Leo T. Min-ton, noted amateur actor, at 843 Powers Building. Francis S. Toomey, active Knight of Columbus, is chairman of the Monroe County Forty and Eight, American Legion field day at Doud Post Farm, August 18.

THE HOLY BIBLE

It is officially estimated that more copies of the Bible are sold in the world today than of any other book, nor does any book deserve to be so widely known. It is God's own book. Yet God did not send it down from Heaven. It was not written by the hand of an angel, but by human writers for human needs, and hence in a human fashion. Nevertheless, God so inspired, moved and assisted the sacred writers, that they understood those things, and those only, which He ordered them to write and they willed faithfully to set them down in apt words and with infallible truth.

Since many divinely guided hands contributed to the composition of this Book of books, we cannot expect to find in it the fluent coherence of form and ideas that should distinguish the work of one author. History and prophecy, prayer and song, legal enactments and moral instruction, are so many distinct elements of this spiritual drama, all having a direct bearing on the central theme, God's plan for the world's redemption through Jesus Christ. God is the beginning and end of its story and the Son of God, Jesus Christ, is its central figure. The 45 books of the Old Testament tell of the need of His coming because of man's moral offense against God's inviolable majesty; the 27 books of the New Testament describe Him as the "Word made flesh," and record for all ages the glories of His heavenly teaching.

The supernatural character of the Bible has made it the object of universal and careful observation to each and every generation—thereby insuring its safe transmission. That its authorship is divine is forced upon every serious reader. It influences the mind as no other book, however sublime, is able to do. Great authors by their wisdom, have assuredly won the admiration of the world; but the works of Plato, Seneca, Aristotle, Shakespeare, Dante, Milton, and of all such, reveal their human origin by the imperfections which are inseparable from all human endeavors. With the true and the sublime, they mix the false and the low. Not so with the Book of books. Here are truth, wisdom and sublimity pure and without alloy.

To be sure their arise, from time to time, shallow—even if brilliant and blatant—imbeciles, who attack the Sacred Volume with the cheap weapon of ridicule. But ridicule is not argument—it does not appeal to reason. Men of really deep learning venerate and uphold the Bible. It has withstood the "siege" of learned criticism through all the past; and the high tide of new science and of twentieth century knowledge, instead of submerging it, as the enemies of religion hoped and expected, has

Back Through the Years

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

July 14, 1894.
County Delegate P. H. Murphy was reelected by the county board of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. The title of the office was changed to "county president."

Division No. 7, Ancient Order of Hibernians elected the following officers: President, Frank C. Ward; First Vice President, Daniel Driscoll; Recording Secretary, W. J. Quinn; Financial Secretary, Edward Ward; Treasurer, L. G. McGreal.

Officers of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in Ithaca were elected as follows: President, Martin Cleary; Vice-President, Patrick J. Cavaney; Marshal, Patrick Kane; Financial Secretary, David Powers; Recording Secretary, Patrick Leary; Treasurer, Michael McAlister.

The Rev. Father Gleason celebrated solemn high Mass in St. John's Church, Clyde, in commemoration of his twelfth anniversary of ordination.

The Rev. J. P. Kiernan reported to Police Chief Hayden that the tabernacle at the Cathedral was broken open and two silver chalices stolen.

Fire broke out in St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum and caused damage amounting to \$2,000 which was covered by insurance.

July 21, 1904.
The Knights of St. Mauritus celebrated their 21st anniversary by attendance at Mass at St. Joseph's Church.

The Rev. F. W. Wayrich, C. S. R., rector of St. Joseph's Church, was announced as one of the lecturers at the Catholic Summer School at Plattsburgh. Among those leaving Rochester for the Summer School were: Misses Gaffney, Rigney, Joyce, Redmond, Goodyear, Burke, Mahon, Connell, Mr. Charles Hoff, Louise and Julia O'Connor; Mrs. A. J. Murphy, Mary and Anna Hahn, Miss Theresa McMahon and Dr. N. K. Kiefer.

The Holy Redeemer Church choir of Rochester furnished the music for the Mass at the corner stone laying ceremonies of the new \$80,000 hospices of the Carmelite Fathers of Niagara Falls, Ontario.

but lifted it on its bosom into greater light and prominence. Through all the centuries the Bible has held its exalted place, and its power and influence today is as great as at any time in the ages past.