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

Editorials

SERVING THE LORD

Catholics of the Rochester diocese again feel that indefinable sense of security which comes to every diocese when the vacant interval after the death of its bishop is closed by the installation of his successor. The poignant grief which so many hundred have felt since the death of Bishop O'Hern on May 22nd will find its only true restorative in that Beatitude in which our Savior promises: "Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted." And now that comfort is ours—comfort in the realization that another Shepherd has been given to us and has at last come to take us as his own. Surely joy is ours to hear his voice.

It used to be a custom in the times of kings and Conquerors to hew down forests and fill up valleys and make broad pathways for their triumphant progress. We have prepared a path for the coming of Archbishop Mooney. Already have we prayed for him, offered up Masses and Communions and works of devotion for him, recommended his yet untried responsibilities to the protecting Providence of God.

For a bishop's burden is a fearful thing for an intelligent and sincere man to contemplate. His title is no empty phrase, and his office no mere figure-head. His name "bishop" means an overseer, and his office is charged with all the vitality and depth of responsibility which Jesus Christ Himself placed in that commission to His first bishops to preach the Gospel throughout the whole world. A bishop stands at the head of his diocese as the official interpreter of Jesus Christ and His undivided truth to the souls under his care. It is a bishop's responsibility in his diocese to preserve the purity of Christian doctrine, to insure the proper administration of the sacraments, to provide for the interests of the parishes, to forward the task of Christian education and enlightenment, to safeguard marriage and moral life, to be a father to his priests and to his people.

Beside this must always be reckoned the fact that the material items and circumstances which must attend the spiritual works of any diocese also devolve upon the bishop. The building of necessary churches and schools and institutions, the lifting of the burden of indebtedness, the inevitable entanglements in business procedure for the good management of the diocese—all of these do not make lighter the bishop's burden.

And so we have lifted up our minds and hearts in prayer that God may grace the work of our new Shepherd. We are confident that God has already gone far ahead in preparing our new Bishop's soul for his imminent tasks. God builds a man through long years unto that stature ordained from eternity. Years as an educator in Cleveland, as a spiritual director of young men in Rome, as Apostolic Delegate to the interesting mission fields of India and Japan, may all be looked upon as so many graces to extend Archbishop Mooney's vision and deepen his heart for the fulfillment of his episcopal duties in our diocese.

Is it the merest coincidence that the first word of his motto should bear the same promise of service as was fulfilled in the first word of Bishop O'Hern's coat of arms? "Serving the Lord"—which includes serving us in the Lord—will bring Archbishop Mooney in God's good time to that reigning glory for service fulfilled which is now Bishop O'Hern's in Heaven.

"Ad multos annos!"

A CATHOLIC LIBRARY

Last week's Catholic Courier announced the early opening of a public Catholic library in the Columbus Civic Center for the service of all Rochesterians. Although the Courier has not fathered the idea of such a library, it wishes to be placed on record as an enthusiastic sponsor for the "christening" early in November.

A public library has been called the people's university. It is not the lot of the average man or woman to be able to take advantage of the opportunities which college—university afford: Breadwinning and home-building leave little room for such amenities. But man is made to "hunger and thirst after justice" and truth: he can feed his hunger and slake his thirst at the public library. Some of the well-springs which the library furnishes have been polluted; but fairness demands full recognition of the incalculable good they have brought to the modern world.

In many cities, especially where Catholic Action is alert and effective, the public libraries take recognition of, and include in their service, representative Catholic books and periodicals; they recognize that Catholic literature stands large in the world of books; they know that to neglect G. K. Chesterton and H. Belloc and Christopher Dawson and Sigrid Undset and J. Martindale would be as fatal to their reputation as to neglect the works of DeQuincey, of Joseph Conrad.

Rochester's libraries have, for one reason or another, been far behind in giving Rochesterians any adequate entrance to the wide and cultured field of Catholic letters. The Catholic seminaries and high schools and colleges have fine Catholic collections; but the layman and outsider does not find himself disposed to ask for the privilege of access to them. There was only one solution; scores of people have thought of it, wished for it, pleaded for it. At last it has come.

And now we know where to go for these fine Catholic novels and histories and explanations of doctrine and philosophy which have been marching out of the press with banners flying during the last ten years. Belloc, Chesterton, Father Knox, Father Martindale, Christopher Dawson, Christopher Hollis, J. Karl Adam, Francois Mauriac, Sigrid Undset, Fulton J. Sheen, Dr. Walsh, will find a public introduction to Rochester. And, if we understand rightly those in charge, non-Catholic novels and books which lend some confirmation and understanding to the Catholic truth and view of life will also find a warm welcome in the library.

It is a fine and generous venture: may it radiate good to our community.

THE CHARITIES CHARTER

As a result of the gathering of delegates and representatives of the Catholic Charities organizations from one hundred dioceses, last week in New York, the National Conference of Catholic Charities now have a charter which calls for vigorous Catholic Action.

The new charter champions the right of labor to a decent living and protection against the hazards of unemployment, accident, sickness and old age. It embodies the principles of the great encyclical of the Pope that the government must assume responsibility towards its people and seek to prevent human suffering and unemployment.

The old laissez-faire doctrine has been repudiated. The new charter calls for the co-ordination of Catholic philanthropic efforts with the present day scientific method. It insists that people must be taught to help themselves. This, after all, is the object of present day social service. Self-help through individual effort to obtain things necessary for their well-being must be the doctrine taught the clients of Catholic Charities Organizations in the future. No longer is the policy of mere alleviation of wants to be the sum of Catholic philanthropy.

Catholic Charities realize what a tremendous power it wields in its own field. It has recognized that because it is Catholic it has principles that carry the seal of Divine truth. Because of this recognition its charter now calls for leadership in aiding the working out of a new industrial order which will forever protect the working man and his rights.

We see no reason why this leadership cannot be assumed by our Catholic Charities Organizations. We hope to see them grow and become perfected so that in times of prosperity as well as in times of depression they will be ideal organs not alone to dispel want and suffering, but to carry the lesson of self-help to those who are handicapped by misfortune or ignorance.

Current Comment

LEADERS AND FOLLOWERS

It is a universal complaint that the Catholic body in America lacks lay leaders. "How fortunate Catholic England is!" we hear, "they have Chesterton and Belloc as outstanding leaders, and numbers of others whom the Catholics of England are glad to follow. If we had American Catholics of that type, how much they could do to unite us, to clarify our position, to put us in the proper light! How much we could accomplish for the improvement of conditions, not only as they affect us, but as they offset the whole country, if we only had our policies directed by those in whom we had confidence!"

It is undoubtedly true that Catholic Lay Action is essential if there is to be any general acceptance of Catholic principles, and Catholic Lay Action presupposes lay leadership. Outstanding and acceptable national figures will not be found, though, until there are outstanding local figures, and if one were to seek a general explanation of the lack of local leaders it could well be this: failure to study and act upon the Papal Encyclicals.

Few Catholics seem to realize the tremendous import of these documents or the thoroughness with which all features of life today have been dealt with in these letters of the present Pontiff, Pius XI. Education, Marriage, Economics, Spiritual Exercises, are only some of the important topics that have been treated, with explicit instructions as to the correct Catholic position on each one of them. How many Catholics have made a conscientious study of all of these letters? How many have even read all of them? How many have studied and tried to apply even one?

The fact that these encyclicals, which form so perfect a guide for the Catholic body, today, are lying almost unavailed of, can easily explain why we seem to lack leadership. We have genuine leadership in the person of the Holy Father—leadership more inspiring, more capable, perhaps, than the Church has enjoyed in many years. And any subordinate leaders must certainly follow his directions; they must, in short, be followers before they can be leaders. Until we have a more widespread knowledge and understanding of the encyclicals we can neither develop nor recognize real lay leadership.—*The Pittsburgh Catholic.*

IN BEHALF OF YOUTH

Many schools other than those under Catholic auspices, are employing teachers who, in the name of higher education and freedom of thought, are destroying faith in God and scoffing at all morality. These teachers are usually self-styled scientists, whose entire philosophy of life is materialistic. The great universities of the land are filled with professors of this sort, who set forth the wildest theories as facts, but who are unable to prove the hypotheses they advance. Such teachers are likewise to be found in the public high schools and even in the grammar grades. We Catholics can never overestimate the value of our own educational system in which religion is given first place and which is conducive not only to temporal, but to spiritual development. —*The Indiana Catholic and Record.*

Diocesan Recordings

All the "Kellys" honestly entitled to the name should arise in a body and protest against the misuse of that name by such notorious characters as George E. Barnes, Jr., who parades under the dramatic title of "Machine Gun Kelly."

* * *

Forty-five years ago a recent date, a local secular paper stated "The Knights of St. George attended St. Michael's Catholic Church in a body at 9 a. m. to participate in pontifical Mass in honor of the 15th anniversary of the organization of the society. The Rev. Father Pascalar, assisted by the Rev. Father Hargather, celebrated the Mass." The secular press of today seldom makes an error of this kind, but just recently one of the dailies said that "Archbishop Mooney was to be ordained Thursday." Accuracy in Catholic terminology requires a specialized knowledge. Accuracy in the presentation of Catholic principles also require a special concentration which the Catholic press offers and makes its usefulness stand out above the secular press to the Catholic.

Events move along rapidly and in recording them we are apt to overlook worthwhile works that are being carried on quietly but effectively. Monday evening we had occasion to visit Father Joseph Gefell's modern Community Center in Holy Family parish. When the Center was opened it, of course, received due announcements in the paper. Now we want to record the splendid activities that are being carried on under the personal guidance of Father Gefell. Equipped with an auditorium seating 1,200 persons, smaller meeting rooms, special committee rooms, bowling alleys and billiard rooms, the Center is proving a great intermingling place for the people of that section. There is a circulating library of 3,000 volumes. There are ample opportunities for wholesome pleasure. No charge is made for admission and each night there is a large gathering of young and old to participate in real parish activity. It is hoped to organize debating societies and literary societies among the young people. Dramatics get their share of attention during the year. Motion pictures are shown and there are 4,000 slides of Catholic interest available. The Holy Family Community Center is a center of Catholic Action.

* * *

Marking the fourth year of the existence of the Catholic Indoor Baseball League a banquet was held Monday evening in Holy Family Community Center attended by a representative group of young Catholic men interested in a wholesome sport. Glancing over these young fellows it made us proud to think that they do represent the faith to which we belong. Clean cut, alive, and filled with boyish enthusiasm they had gathered to be rewarded for clean, sportsmanlike play during the season. And all of this work of getting these young men together from nine parishes was directed by the president of the League, William A. Lang. Four years ago, Bill Lang with Ed. Hanna and Paul Brescia formed the league. August Maier served one year as president. They have all sacrificed time and effort to produce an organization which has had four successful years. Lang especially has given freely of his time and talents to make the league successful. As we see it, this is a form of Catholic Action that is commendable. Bringing together Catholic young men in a sport of this kind develops parish enthusiasm. Not only the players come in contact with their priests and a wholesome influence, but other parishioners become interested in the parish through the games of the parish representatives. We hope the league continues to grow and prosper and to do the excellent work that it is doing among our Catholic young men.

* * *

From the Knights of Columbus headquarters we receive word that there is a moving picture current under the title "The Double Crossing of Columbus." It is distributed through the Radio Corporation. Following a recent exhibition at Hamilton, Ohio, Grand Knight Edward J. Gardner, of Father Butler Council, No. 968, K. of C., wrote the manager of the theater thus:

"Our attention has been called to the picture which you showed at your theater last Friday and Saturday entitled 'The Double Crossing of Columbus.' While we appreciate the fact that this was intended to be a comedy, it is necessary for us to remind you that when comedies are built upon a character such as Columbus, they must of necessity be correct or they cannot fail to be obnoxious to our organization.

"We feel that we must call your attention to the fact that Columbus in all his dealings with the crown of Spain and Portugal was a Christian gentleman and at no time will you find justification for the portrayal of Columbus as disclosed by this picture. We hope you will make an effort to assist in righting the wrong which you have perhaps unconsciously perpetrated, by showing some picture which will portray Columbus in his true light sometime close to October 12."

Such action is Catholic and all Catholic laymen should be alert to protest against anything that is against common decency coming under the head of motion picture entertainment.

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Catholics in the Rochester area will visit Holy Sepulchre Cemetery Sunday afternoon to pray for the souls of the faithful departed.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Catholic Facts But Little Known

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By M. J. MURRAY

Guardian Angels

October 2nd was the Feast of the Guardian Angels, and, by many devout persons, the whole month is dedicated to their honor. Nothing is more clearly deduced from Sacred Scripture than the existence of Angels and that they are the instruments of God's Providence in our regard. It is Catholic belief, also drawn from inspired writings that at the moment of birth, each soul coming from the hand of God is entrusted to the care of one of God's angels, whose duty it becomes to watch over, protect and guide his charge until death ushers it into the presence of God to be judged.

How precious in the eyes of the Maker must be each human soul, since to it, for a life companion, He gives a celestial spirit, one of those who see Him face to face, and bids this purely spiritual being to watch over his lesser brother lest perhaps he dash his foot against a stone or fall into some snare, set for him by cunning and sleepless enemies! And our Guardian Angels obey the will of God and love us with a wise, strong, unfaltering love. They pray for us unceasingly, and present our poor petitions before the Throne of God. They foresee the dangers that are not apparent to us, and warn us of them. They inspire us with pious thoughts and good resolutions. When we are tempted to evil and our conscience troubles us, it is the voice of our Guardian Angel remonstrating with us and endeavoring to prevent us from offending God. When we have been so weak as to fall into sin, Our Guardian Angel is sorrowful, but he does not desert us. He inspires us with thoughts of repentance, and fills our souls with such rumors that to escape from it we are glad to confess our faults and become reconciled with God.

He is closer to us than a brother and more true than any human friend can be. For such devotion does he not deserve the warmest affection of our grateful hearts? Ought we not desire in some way to show appreciation of this unstinting devotion, this lifelong fidelity?

To please our Guardian Angels, it is only necessary to lead good lives. His task is a pleasing one when we are following his guidance Heavenward. We should cultivate a tender and respectful familiarity with our dear Guardian Angel, so near to us and so true, consulting him in our doubts and asking his protection always. After death we shall know how great a gift of God was our Guardian Angel and how attentive he always was to our eternal interests.

To My Guardian Angel

O Radiant Spirit! unseen though beside me,
My constant companion each day since my birth,
Thou minister blessed appointed to guide me
Secure through the darkness and dangers of earth

Still guard thou my steps 'mid the pitfalls around me,
Still whisper thy counsels of warning or cheer,
And, docile beyond what thus far thou hast found me
I'll yield to thy promptings a fond, heedful ear.

N.B. "Devotion to the Guardian Angels" is the intention assigned to the League of the Sacred Heart for the month of October.

THE TABERNACLE

In every need of life we can have recourse to the Tabernacle in our churches, and find how true is His loving invitation spoken long ago on the hills of Galilee, and now spoken daily from the Altar Throne: "Come to Me all you that labor and are burdened, and I will refresh you." Men and women often go elsewhere for comfort in their sorrows and the tears flow faster; they go elsewhere for strength, only to become weaker and die. In the Tabernacle is He who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Upon our Altars is He Who in the Temple gave sight to the darkened eyes of the man born blind. Yea, the Tabernacle contains Him Whom Heaven and earth cannot contain and Whose sanctity dazzles even the strong vision of angels and archangels. This is what makes our churches objects of reverence and love in our lives. It is the Guest dwelling within the Tabernacle that makes our gorgeous Cathedrals as well as the simple log-cabin chapel in the jungles of India or on the banks of the Yukon unspeakably holy to the Catholic mind and the Catholic heart.

THE MISSION OF SORROW

If there were no suffering in the world, there would be no sympathy; if there were no need, there would be no helpfulness; if there were no loss, there would be no sacrifice. To the eyes that look deeper into life than its mere appearances, humanity's toll of sorrow and need and loss seems a cheap price to pay for the nobleness and sweetness they discover and the virtues they develop in the hearts of men. All that is best in character is so largely the fruit of what seems the worst in life that it is strange we blindly continue to regard good fortune as a blessing and ill fortune as a curse.

Back Through the Years

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

January 5, 1895

Members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians of Dansville elected the following officers: President John W. Connor, Vice President, Nicholas J. Welch; Recording Secretary, William A. Rowan, Financial Secretary Patrick F. Morgan, Sergeant-at-arms, John Mahaney Sentinel John A. Murphy, Finance Committee, John Scanlon, James Reilly and John M. Burke.

* * *

St. Herman's Benevolent Society elected the following officers: President, George J. Welder, Vice President, George Schuster; Recording Secretary, Peter M. Beyer, Financial Secretary, Frank J. Ritz; Treasurer, John F. Klee; First Marshal, Frank Klueh; Second Marshal, Charles J. Webber; Janitor, Joseph Stupp. The treasurer reported $2,212.45 on hand. The society was in its seventh year.

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An editorial revealing the difficulties of newspaper publishers in 1895 appeared in the January 5 issue of that year as follows:

"The Rochester Herald says 'Mistakes will happen in the best of offices' but when the Syracuse Standard publishes a cut of Father McGlynn and calls it Bishop McQuaid, it is time to protest.'

"Correct! And when the Syracuse Catholic Sun publishes a cut of John J. Hynes, the ex-president of the C.M.B.A. and labels it John T. Doyle, president of Division 10, A.O.H., it is time to get up and howl. Even this might be finally forgiven; but when the Sun, utterly regardless of consequences, rakes the cut of that solid German Citizen of Buffalo, A. E. Schweigart, and palms it off as a portrait of Samuel Dempsey, president of Division 7, Ancient Order of Hibernians, the case calls for desperate remedies. A. E. Schweigert, as Hibernian, Oh! Oh! Oh! This is terrible. Have they Teutonic Hibernians in Syracuse?"

* * *

A reception was held at St. Mary's Hospital, on New Year's day and many donations in cash and supplies were received at the hospital headed by a gift of $50 from Bishop McQuaid.

Live in the world, as if God and your soul only were in it; so shall your heart be never made captive by any earthly thing.—St. John of the Cross.

Strive, like Mary, to fulfill faithfully, and for God, the ordinary duties of your state, especially those which are repugnant to you.