

Catholic Courier

VOL. VI FEBRUARY 15, 1934 No. 7

Official Newspaper of the Diocese of Rochester With the Approbation of the Most Reverend Archbishop Edward Mooney, Bishop of Rochester.

MEMBER CATHOLIC PRESS ASSOCIATION

Entered as second-class matter in the Postoffice at Rochester, New York, as required under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

SUBSCRIBER TO N.C.W.C. NEWS SERVICE

Subscription, \$2.50 per year in advance, postage paid. Single copies, five cents. Foreign, \$3.00 per year. In many instances, subscribers prefer not to have their subscriptions interrupted in case they fail to remit before expiration. It is therefore assumed that continuance is desired unless discontinuance is ordered either by letter or personal call.

National Advertising Representative Catholic List of Catholic Newspapers (George J. Callahan) 51 Chambers Street, New York City

Published by CATHOLIC COURIER and JOURNAL, Inc. 50 Chestnut St. Stone 1492. Rochester, N. Y. Courier Established 1920 - Journal Established 1849

"I would make any sacrifice, even to the pausing of my sleep, to read a Catholic newspaper." - Pope Pius X.

Editorials

A WORD OF PRAISE

A common sight on Rochester street cars is a man or woman reading a book. A very pleasing sight to an educator or cultured person is the quiet, crowded room of any of the Rochester Public Libraries. Still more encouraging is the difficulty of procuring the more serious books of the day because of popular demand. All this speaks very well for the Rochester Public Library.

The Catholic Courier noted with pleasure the statement of John Adams Lowe, director of the Rochester Public Libraries, that Rochester, the twenty-third city in the country in point of population, is eighth in circulation of books, and the foremost of the State in library organization.

The Catholic Courier wishes to commend Mr. Lowe for maintaining such wonderful service to the public, and to add a word of deserved praise for all workers in the Rochester Public Libraries. Certainly there are no places in the city, or anywhere else for that matter, where one may find a more cordial or encouraging welcome, or a more informal friendly atmosphere. The patience and courtesy are a matter of remark to the visitor. No wonder there is a large patronage of the libraries! The same can be said of the Reynolds and the University of Rochester libraries.

While still on this subject, attention might be called to the facility with which very valuable books may be borrowed from these libraries in Rochester. The encouragement given to use them. A great number of our readers reside in Rochester; no letter recommendation can be made to them than that they use the library facilities of the city, both public and private, in their leisure time. They will always be treated with friendly courtesy. Rochester is very fortunate to have these library facilities.

CREMATION

Whether cremation is becoming more common in these days is hard to tell. But it seems that we hear more of it anyway, particularly among the wealthy and more well-to-do. The only practical excuse offered for it is economy. Among all religions believing in the immortality of the soul, burial has always been the custom, and among Christians it has been the law. The remains of Catholics must be interred in consecrated grounds; anyone who knowingly gives orders for the cremation of his body is thereby denied the rites of Christian obsequies. Burial is one of the customs of the Church which have no express authority in Divine Revelation.

The first reason for burial among all peoples is undoubtedly that of natural affection for those we love and respect. We are loath to depart from those we love, and when loved ones die, it is only natural that we try to preserve their memory as long as possible, and to make that memory as concrete as possible. Hence the natural tendency to bury the bodies of the dead. Before burial, corpses are arranged as if they were only sleeping bodies. And in the canon of the Mass Holy Mother Church speaks of the dead as those who slumber in the sleep of peace. Certainly there is no such idea conveyed in cremation.

The whole human race loves to preserve relics of its heroes and leaders. Witness the care with which patriots gather the relics of Lincoln or Washington or Napoleon because of their associations. Catholics must never forget that their bodies are the temples of the Holy Ghost, and as such worthy of all reverence both in life and in death, for they have been associated with the grace of God, and sanctified often by the Sacraments.

Among other very strong and pious reasons for burial is the example of the Master. We believe in the Resurrection of Our Lord as the strongest proof of our religion, and we believe in the resurrection of our own bodies on the Last Day. What more fitting than that we bury the bodies of our own dead ones in imitation of the burial and Resurrection of Christ?

It would seem that God approves this custom of the Church. Occasionally there are miraculous evidences to the sanctity of the saints manifested on the occasion of the disinterment of the remains. The body of St. Francis Xavier, for example, is still intact today in Goa, India. Upon disinterment the remains of the Little Flower a string of violets was given forth by her body after thirteen years of burial! Other cases of preservation more or less are given by the lives of the saints and their causes.

Argument against cremation with Paganism. Among

the Greeks and Romans, those who did not believe in the immortality of the soul ordered their bodies to be burned. The same thing is true today in general. Because of its pagan associations therefore, Catholics have a strong reason to be opposed to cremation.

That it will become necessary because of lack of space in or near large cities seems a very far fetched argument. That it is cheaper, at present anyway, is not evident when we consider that it is common mostly among the wealthier of our citizens.

Cremation today is still a pagan custom and as such the Church forbids it.

BOSHI

In these days when there is so much agitation among our separated brethren for church unity, it is astonishing to find such variation of opinion as that brought out by Northwestern University. Questionnaires sent to all the Protestant ministers of Chicago and answered by nearly all of them, elicited an unexpressed answer for Catholicism, viz., "that a house divided against itself cannot stand."

The questionnaire proposed to find out what children of the junior high school age should be taught in matters of religion. Evidently it did not find out, for there was no unanimity of opinion.

Among other things brought out was the fact that 74 per cent of the ministers do not believe that God keeps a record of one's bad deeds in a "great big book." Probably the modern conception of God's record keeping is an electric book-keeping machine. Or maybe they think God ignores sin altogether. If so, then what do they think of the words of Christ, "for the son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then will he render to every man according to his works." (Matt. XVI, 27).

On such an involved question of science as the age of the world, 67 per cent were agreed that God spent millions of years in making this world. If the majority rules, then this great problem is solved. But it does seem that this question is a little too involved for the minds of even adolescent children. After all, does it really make any difference in our relations to God if He took millions of years or only an instant? The matter is not as important as it really seems to these men of God, or to the Northwestern University.

However, 98 per cent really believe that God rules the world. Congratulations to Almighty God that this power has not been taken away from Him by vote. In their surroundings, it is not to be wondered at that the other two per cent feel that God no longer rules the world.

And congratulations to those men who feel themselves the equals of Jesus Christ, 42 per cent of them! They feel themselves "as much the sons of God as Jesus." Such pitiful conceit and ignorance!

To a Catholic, What Bosh!

SOMETHING TO STUDY

A pamphlet well worth reading is that prepared by Rev. George Johnson, Ph. D., for the N. C. W. C., entitled, Federal Aid to Education in the Emergency. Without going into any discussion of the arguments proposed for one side or the other, the author gives a very clear, succinct and precise statement of some of the many problems facing the educators of the nation today. It makes very interesting reading.

It is hardly necessary to point out that in the solution of the economic problems of today, there are many points of Catholic morality touched upon, and that Catholics should be very watchful of their interests. Dr. Johnson has prepared a document that should be very helpful to both Catholic and non-Catholic. Catholics should be especially grateful to have such a specialist in education watching their interests in Washington. But he is worthy of more than mere words of praise;—he should have wholehearted support from every intelligent Catholic, which means an intelligent study of this recent publication.

Current Comments

NEED FOR MASS AND COMMUNION

It would work for civic betterment, as well as personal religious advancement, if Catholic parents would fully realize that there are spiritual as well as physical tragedies and that the former far outweigh the latter in their consequences.

It is the duty of parents to know the companions of their children, to know their places of recreation, and to exercise the greatest care lest their boys and girls meet with spiritual disaster. It is unfortunate that there are people so unsophisticated, or so indifferent, that they refuse to believe that young children have a capacity for material sin and vice. All too often the seed of evil habits is sown in tender years unknown to, and unrecognized by, parents who persist in looking upon their children as angelic rather than human beings.

The greatest safeguard, supplementing the vigilance of sensible elders, is the faithful attendance at Sunday Mass and frequent reception of the Sacraments. Monthly confession and receiving of Holy Communion should be a minimum, and the child should be encouraged, by word and example, to begin and keep up the habit of weekly reception of his God in Holy Communion. — Catholic Standard and Times (Philadelphia).

GOOD EXAMPLE

A Catholic man was aroused from his slumber by the early ringings of the church bell, for Sunday Mass. He felt quite sleepy and intended to prolong the enjoyment of his comfortable position in bed. But looking accidentally through the window he saw his friend, a past Mason, walking to the Catholic church. At once he left his bed, unable to stand the challenge. He dressed and went to church. He wouldn't be outdone by a past Mason. Example often takes effect, unknown to the one who sets it. If you feel sleepy on Sunday morning, look through the window and watch others go to church. Converts frequently give a very good example, because they deeply appreciate their faith, while others at times treat it as a matter of routine. — Rev. Emil Depraters.

Diocesan Recordings

Whether the President or Colonel Lindbergh is right in the present controversy over air-mail contracts cannot be decided by the man in the street who cannot possibly have all the facts. Judgment in any national controversy should be withheld to prevent regret or embarrassment later on as happened in the case of Father Coughlin and Al Smith. Many a time, one little fact learned, changes the entire picture in such differences of opinion.

Catholic Press Month and the forthcoming Catholic Press Exhibit are serving to revive the early history of the Catholic Press movement in the diocese. To our attention has been called the following facts regarding early days of the Catholic Press in the Rochester diocese:

The first Catholic newspaper in the Rochester diocese, according to John J. E. Kennedy of Kennedy Brothers of 8 Marietta Street, Rochester, was edited and published by the late Rev. Louis A. Lambert, L.L.D., pastor of St. Mary's Church, Waterloo, N. Y., and carried the heading "Catholic Times." One of the first copies in the possession of the Kennedy Brothers is dated, November 7, 1866.

Mr. Kennedy relates that after fifteen years of publication by Father Lambert in Waterloo, the "Catholic Times" was sold to the publishers of the "Catholic Union" of Buffalo and consolidated with that publication under the name of the "Catholic Union and Press," which was edited and published by Father Cronin. It was said to have been recognized as the leading Catholic newspaper in this section of the country.

On September 5, 1903, the Rev. Thomas Daniel Kennedy, Louis A. Kennedy and John E. Kennedy established in Rochester, "The Catholic Citizen," mentioned in this column, two weeks ago. "The Catholic Citizen" was published for a period of ten years or until some time after the death of the late Bishop McQuaid, whom Mr. Kennedy reports gave him his greatest encouragement in the form of a \$10 check for a subscription.

"The Catholic Citizen" edited and published by the three Kennedy brothers appeared in tabloid form with 16 pages and was the official newspaper of the Diocesan Federation of Catholic Societies. It was said to be the first "all lineotype" Catholic paper in the diocese of Rochester.

Circulation was good in Rochester and Peoria, Illinois diocese. Father Kennedy at that time was rector of St. Mary's Cathedral and chancellor in the Peoria diocese.

In April 1908, Father Kennedy, accompanied by his brothers and two sisters, visited Rome and was presented in private audience to His Holiness Pope Pius X by his cousin, the Most Rev. Thomas F. Kennedy, D.D., who was then rector of the North American College in Rome.

The Holy Father on that occasion bestowed his Apostolic Blessing on the publishers and all subscribers to "The Catholic Citizen." Mr. Kennedy recalls. His Holiness was an ardent advocate of the Catholic Press and urged all the faithful to subscribe to and read Catholic periodicals, and especially Catholic newspapers.

Mr. Kennedy in reminiscing about those days said that it never occurred to him that one day one of the last year students at the American College in Rome on that Sunday morning in April, 1908, when the publishers of "The Catholic Citizen" assisted at the High Mass in the College Chapel would be today "the eminent Archbishop Edward Mooney, now Archbishop-Bishop of the Rochester Diocese."

We have recounted the above to bring to light efforts made to furnish the Catholics of the Rochester Diocese with Catholic newspapers during the years of the diocese's existence. Any of our readers who have other such facts would be doing the Catholic Press movement in the diocese a service if they would call them to our attention.

During the past few weeks, the Catholic Courier has been enabled to furnish to its readers the Church's position on birth control, sterilization and church unity, to cite three outstanding considerations of the day. If we serve no other purpose than the giving of our readers the correct attitude of the Church on current problems we think the newspaper is not being published in vain. However, we are not content to rest but are ever anxious to give our readers far more than they are paying for each week or so year. During the coming Catholic Press Exhibit in Columbus Civic Center on February 22 to 26 we hope to meet with our readers, learn their desires and thus produce for them in the diocesan newspaper all ideas that are possible with the facilities afforded us.

Reports reaching us of varied

STRANGE BUT TRUE Catholic Facts But Little Known

By M. J. MURRAY



The names by which many stars are known to science were determined in OLD TESTAMENT days. THE BOOK OF JOB (IX-9) reads:

"WHO MAKETH ARCTURUS, AND ORION AND HYADES, AND THE INNER PARTS OF THE SOUTH."

The Basilica of ST. PAUL-OUTSIDE-THE-WALLS, one of the Holy Year Basilicas, is so named because it is situated outside the ancient walls of Rome.



Eating meat on Fridays! EXCEPT IN LENT, THERE IS NO FRICTION IN SPAIN! A DISPENSAZIONE WAS GIVEN TO THE SPANISH PEOPLE SEVERAL CENTURIES AGO FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE IN THE CRUSADES.



Miss Lavinia Tarbell of Chicago, born in May 1833, was converted to Catholicism in her HUNDRETH YEAR, 1933!

The Mother Prioress of Notting Hill Carmelite Convent, London, founded her 32nd convent in Great Britain during December last, a record only equaled by that of St. Teresa of Avila who founded 32 Carmels in the 16th Century.

Where Is Film Filth Leading Nation?

"So great is the problem suggested by the wrong kind of talking picture that drastic effort must be launched at once if we are to stave off national disaster," the Most Rev. John J. Cantwell, Bishop of Los Angeles and San Diego, declares in an article entitled "Priests and the Motion Picture Industry" appearing in the February issue of The Ecclesiastical Review.

Bishop Cantwell is a member of the committee appointed by the General Meeting of the Bishops of the United States, held in Washington last November, to deal with the problem of motion pictures. Other members of the committee are the Most Rev. John T. Mc Nicholas, O.P., Archbishop of Cincinnati; the Most Rev. Hugh O. Boyle, Bishop of Pittsburgh, and the Most Rev. John F. Noll, Bishop of Fort Wayne.

"Certain it is," says Bishop Cantwell, "that some action of heroic proportions must be taken if we are to save the youth of America from a pollution and debauchery the like of which America has never known heretofore. In vain do we struggle to rear great educational institutions, if the invidious character of the cinema is permitted to prostitute the character of our adolescent youth. So great is the power of the motion picture to impress the youth of the land that one hour spent in the darkness of a cinema palace, intent on the unfolding of a wrong kind of story, can and frequently does nullify years of careful training on the part of the Church, the school, the home."

Beginning with a brief sketch of the composition of the motion picture industry and the financial investment it represents, Bishop Cantwell points out that "previous to the coming of the talking pictures, the American-made motion picture smacked chiefly because of its vulgarity," but that "with the coming of the talking picture has come greater and more far-reaching influence." "The difficulties with the talking pictures as we now have them," he said, "is that they have taken to preaching a philosophy of life which, in most instances is definitely the wrong philosophy sinister and invidious. The most competent authority in Hollywood today is responsible for the statement that many of the talking pictures made out there 'teach the philosophy that marriage, the pur-

ity of women and the sanctity of the home are outmoded sentimentalities, unworthy of serious consideration at the hands of 'intelligent' Americans."

"An examination of a number of the motion pictures recently released for public exhibition suggests that the entire motion picture industry has set itself to the task of seeing which company can produce the most vicious films," Bishop Cantwell says, stating further that "for all practical purposes it may be well sustained that twenty-five per cent of all pictures made in Hollywood in the course of a year are definitely bad and offensive."

With the coming of the talkies there went to Hollywood, Bishop Cantwell says, hundreds of playwrights from the Broadway stage, authors of vaudeville skits and acts and playlets. Along with these went authors of current literary successes, the writers of the pornographic school whose books have had a great sale in recent years. It is from these men—and women that the stories now current on the screen are selected. Seventy-five per cent of these authors are pagans. They are men and women who care nothing for decency, good taste or refinement. Most of them are living lives of infidelity and worse, wherein there is to be found not a suggestion of respect for religion or for spiritual values."

Attacking the argument of those who "point to the box-office success of pictures which, to many patrons, are definitely offensive," Bishop Cantwell says that "as a matter of fact, the records indicate that few pictures that are vile, suggestive or unclean attain to any outstanding success" and that "the most outstandingly successful offering of the current season is a cartoon comedy in color" which has "not a shadow of suggestiveness about it." He also cites other thoroughly clean productions which are enjoying "exceptionally good business" in all quarters.

"The chief difficulty with the production end of the motion picture industry," Bishop Cantwell continues, "is that there are too many of the wrong kind of people engaged in it. The production of motion pictures, after all, is a definite form of art, and the films reflect unerringly the moral character of those who create the picture. One cannot expect a man who has no appreciation of decency or cleanliness, himself, to be very much concerned with the importance of making his picture clean and decent and wholesome. One whose moral antennae are attuned to the mouthings of the gutter, is not likely to react favorably to the wholesome atmosphere of the higher strata. And just so long as those wrong kinds of people are in a position to control the moral content of the motion picture, just so long will the filth of the screen continue."

Back Through the Years

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

June 15, 1895

Bishop McQuaid ordained to the Holy Priesthood the Reverends Patrick J. Neville, John P. Brophy and Cornelius Cronin.

Francis J. O'Brien, son of J. C. O'Brien was graduated from the University of Toronto with the degree of A.B.

June 22, 1895

The Lyceum Dramatic Club of St. Mary's Church, Auburn, made its first appearance in Bernard F. Moore's Irish drama, "Captain Jack."

The Rev. William C. Reilly, son of William A. Reilly celebrated his first Solemn High Mass in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Rochester. Father Reilly was ordained in Brooklyn, after completing courses at Niagara University and St. John's College, Brooklyn.

If the labor terrifies, the reward invites — St. Bernard.

Keep the choicest of thy love for God Dante.

He who would be rich in virtues must neglect no opportunity of exercising them.

Fear to offend God above all things, and then you need fear nothing else.

Catholic Courier

Published every Thursday in the Year by the CATHOLIC COURIER and JOURNAL, Inc. 50 Chestnut St. Rochester, N. Y. Telephone, Stone 1492

Communications regarding the conduct of this newspaper, articles and illustrations for publication, should be addressed to the Editor, Catholic Courier.

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 Width of column: 11 1/2 inches (2 3/4 inches).

Depth of column: 3 1/4 inches (full length).

Size of page: 12 1/2 column inches (7 full columns); 18 1/2 inches by 20 1/2 inches.

DEADLINE Forms close box of Wednesday preceding publication date.