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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 soutane, in order to support a Catholic newspaper."—Pope Pius X.

Editorials

THURSDAY SECOND WEEK IN LENT
Grant us, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the Help of Thy graces that being duly intent on fasts and prayers, we may be delivered from enemies of mind and body. Through our Lord.

WHY A CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER?

(Editor's Note: The following editorial written by Joseph M. Egan of St. Andrew's Seminary won first prize in the editorial writing contest sponsored by the Catholic Courier among the seniors of Catholic high schools of the diocese as one of the features of Catholic Press Month Observance.)

The month of February has been designated by the hierarchy of the United States as "Catholic Press Month." Is the press so vital, so integral a part of our lives? Why do we need a Catholic Press?

Ever since the earliest prototypes of the modern newspaper appeared on the continent of Europe over three centuries ago, men have universally conceded the tremendous influence of the press on the opinions and morals of the newspaper-reading public. Thomas Jefferson once said: "Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate for a moment to prefer the latter."

The function of the newspaper is two-fold. First, it informs; secondly, it instructs. Statistics show that one out of five newspaper readers is a Catholic. Hence, it would be practical for the editor of the secular newspaper to cater to the Catholic minority. Thus, much of Catholic news is necessarily neglected. For a complete knowledge of Catholic news the world over, we need a Catholic newspaper.

As to the second function of the newspaper, we can only say that it would be absurd to expect that a secular newspaper can instruct its Catholic readers. The truly Catholic attitude can only be found in a Catholic newspaper. The gigantic moral problems that face the Catholic today, namely, Communism, international debts, birth control, and Hitlerism can be illumined only by the light that comes from a Catholic newspaper.

It is not from any selfish motives that we urge your support of Catholic Press Month and your local Catholic newspaper. We ask it in the name of Catholicity, in the Name of Him Who is "The Way, the Truth, and the Light." In His Name, do not refuse!

MISUNDERSTANDING?

George A. Hall, secretary of the New York State Child Labor Association, says that opposition to the Federal Child Labor Amendment is due to misunderstanding. To the objection of those who claim that the age limit would be set at 18 years, Mr. Hall answers: "That is entirely untrue. The law does not set up any standards within itself. It leaves everything to Congress and serves as a grant of power. (Italics ours.) Some contend it is a blank check to Congress and that, too, is untrue because it applies only to labor and does not touch education."

Mr. Hall's motives cannot be questioned; every respectable citizen decries the abuses of child labor. But the correction of one mistake by another does not give the proper solution to a problem. The Prohibition amendment entered into regulation of private liberties and proved a failure. And despite the good intentions of the framers and protagonists of the Child Labor amendment, there is no reason why this amendment should not prove likewise simply because "it leaves everything to Congress and serves as a grant of power." This precisely is the big objection to such an amendment. Laws to enforce the amendment would be necessary and law enforcement would be costly. It may not be intended to teach education but how can it possibly avoid it?

The proposition may not have originated in Moscow. But Moscow has no exclusive rights to Socialistic thought. Socialism regards the child as the property of the state; it is hard to see that the protagonists of the Child Labor Amendment consider the child in the same light.

There are many arguments for and against the amendment of those against it, two might be mentioned. One is the claim that it would increase the difficulty of even adults securing labor, let alone children, to support their families. Another takes the form of a charge that child labor as an abuse is being suppressed by the universal legislation to suppress it.

It is interesting, Mr. Hall!

NATIONALISM

One of the current political trends of the world is the development of nationalism. It may be described as that characteristic of a national people whereby they feel they have certain superior racial qualities. These must be developed at all costs, even to the extent of doing so, if necessary, in the world beyond the confines of the homeland when that place no longer contains space for all the members of the race. It is very dangerous.

One of the necessary evils of nationalism seems to be a national religion, or at least a national attitude—usually antagonistic—towards things religious. The Lutheranism of Prussia, the Gallicanism and Albigensianism of France, the established Church of England, the official Godlessness of Soviet Russia, the practical Godlessness of Mexico, the Aryanism and Mythology of Nazi Germany, and, whether or not we like it, the practical materialism of our own country, are supporting examples.

Worthy pride in the homeland is patriotism; carried to excess it is nationalism. When an individual is inordinately proud, he is usually overbearing and aggressive; a whole group of individuals is proportionately so, and nations are no exceptions. Injured pride is murderous, and in nations it leads to wars. Many nations today suffer from injured pride in that they feel their economic stress is due to the greed of other nations. And thus the growth of nationalistic prejudice grows. A discerning reader of the daily news can readily see that nationalistic pride is one of the disturbing elements in the world today.

Nationalism is not in harmony with the universal character of the Church. No matter what his racial ancestry may be, a Catholic must remember that every man is a creature of God and, as such, entitled to the right of existence, the right of cultivating peaceful pursuits, and the right of respect from his fellow creatures so long as he observes the same rights in return. Nationalism is one more reason for every Catholic to work and pray for Church Unity.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES

It will have been seven hundred years next July since St. Dominic was canonized. Anticipating this his children of the Third Order will meet in international congress at Rome from March third to March tenth, in order at the same time to share in the Holy Year exercises. The religious order which has given to us those great doctors and saints of the Church, St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Albert the Great, which has given also several popes, saints and blessed, and innumerable scholars and prelates, is certainly worthy of the admiration of all good Catholics. Outstanding among the great saints of the Church are St. Rose of Lima, the first canonized saint of the New World, and St. Catherine of Siena, one of the very greatest women in the history of the world, both of them members of the Secular Third Order. The Dominicans embrace three branches: the first, officially called the Order of Preachers, consisting of priests and brothers under solemn vows; the second order, consisting of nuns under solemn vows; and the third, consisting of many religious communities of brothers and sisters, and of laymen and laywomen living in the world. All work for the same purposes according to their state of life by prayer and penance and zeal.

Third orders are the highest associations in the Church for lay people. These orders allow the laity to share and promote the spirit and purposes of the great orders of the Church in an actual way by requiring their members to live according to a rule in keeping with their state of life.

In the United States there are thousands of teaching sisters of the Third Order of St. Dominic; and there are thousands of lay persons, men and women, belonging to the Third Order of Penance of St. Dominic, otherwise known as the Militia of Jesus Christ. No greater tribute can be given to these sons and daughters of St. Dominic than the wish that the work of prayer and zeal, which they have done so well, may be vastly increased both in membership and influence. To its tertiary readers the Catholic Courier joins in the happiness that is theirs on this joyful occasion, and expresses the wish that it may have many more of its readers among the sons and daughters of St. Dominic!

TRAINING BOYS

Boy Scout work may well be adopted as one of the major activities of the Catholic Youth Movement, the Most Rev. Louis B. Kucera, Bishop of Lincoln, Nebraska, said in a recent sermon at a Mass attended by Boy Scouts of his diocese at St. Mary's Cathedral.

"The officials of the American Boy Scout movement," said Bishop Kucera, "offer us the privileges of establishing Boy Scout troops in our own parishes under the immediate supervision of our priests so that scouting may well be adopted as one of the major activities of the Catholic Youth organization."

After lauding the Knights of Columbus who are sponsoring the drive in behalf of a Catholic community center, the Bishop added:

"Since we are observing the twenty-fourth anniversary of the American Boy Scouts, I desire to give my approval to the Boy Scout program, which so well takes into account the boy's nature and adapts itself to his home, church and school training. The Boy Scout organization supplements the work of these three fundamental institutions in human life and teaches the boy to do his duty to God and country."

Getting into the middle of Lent, is our fervor as strong for Lenten practices started as it was during the first week?

Faith is the foundation within us of the things we suffer for Jesus Christ, it is not so much if we do not.—St. Augustine.

You are deceived, if you think that a Christian can live without persecution.—St. Jerome.

We must have a great veneration for the truth which frees us from our passions and leads us to God.

Diocesan Recordings

"I didn't know that," an expression that is current especially among the children who listen to one of the better known air comedians who is beginning to become tiresome, was the thought, however, expressed by all who visited the Catholic Press Exhibit sponsored by this newspaper in Columbus ballroom last week.

It was intensely interesting and gratifying to note the surprise and appreciation of Catholic Press progress viewed by all who would not let blizzards and zero weather stand in their way of seeing what the Press Exhibit had to show.

The first evening of the Exhibit at the Academy of the Sacred Heart booth, a sign appeared on the children's books, "For the Little Ones." Some of the children visitors took the sign literally and were about to help themselves to these rather costly books when it was explained to them what the sign really meant.

There will be many in the vicinity of Columbus Civic Center Building who upon hearing a description of the Catholic Press Exhibit and who failed to see it, will regret not taking this opportunity offered.

Catholics were not the only visitors to the Exhibit, many interested non-Catholics finding in the display a cultural opportunity to "browse around" that repaid them for their visit.

How the Catholic Press may aid other works of the Church was emphasized by the Exhibit. Home and foreign mission endeavor was given prominence in connection with the Exhibit. Our Catholic schools and their development of youth was clearly brought out in the Exhibits of our Colleges and high schools. The Catholic Action program of our various alert and active Catholic lay societies of men and women was brought to light in a manner that has never before been known in the diocese. The central Act in our religion, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass had a prominent place in the Altar Exhibit.

That it is not alone in this Exhibit that the diocesan newspaper aids the works of the Church, is clearly brought out in the Archbishop's letter on page one of this issue. Fifty-two times a year and every year, this newspaper is devoted to emphasizing in an interesting manner, the manifold activities of the Church, here at home and in lands throughout the world.

The Catholic Press Exhibit, now a matter of history, will we believe, raise greatly the standard of the Catholic Press in the minds of diocesan and will enable the Catholic Courier to receive a welcome in every home in the diocese in the near future.

Psychologists are urging as an antidote for frayed nerves due to over work and strain the acquiring of a hobby. In this issue we are showing a photograph of one man's hobby from which he not only received solace and satisfaction but which he dedicated to the Immaculate Conception. There is no reason why a hobby cannot be made to tie up with our spiritual life and doing so thus increases the value of what is done during leisure time.

In thanking for a great favor received last summer through the intercession of St. Therese, a police captain in Denver, who has been a convert for twenty years, has just made a ring with a setting containing a second class relic of the Little Flower, and featuring a number of ancient ecclesiastical designs, symbolic of the faith. The ring is worn always on the left hand of Captain R. M. Campbell of the Denver police force and is one of the most extraordinary means ever recorded in Denver of paying public tribute to a saint of the Church.

Supreme Secretary William J. Meiny of the Knights of Columbus visited Rochester Friday and Saturday of last week to lend inspiration and confidence to the Rochester Knights at the beginning of a drive for members. It was unfortunate that Knights of Columbus, throughout the diocese could not have heard his message. In his position as Supreme Secretary, Mr. Meiny can feel the pulse beats of the entire nation and he stated in a positive manner that economic conditions are becoming better throughout the nation. The time for Knights of Columbus to increase their numbers is now. He believes that Catholic laymen in the rush of things do not fully understand what their membership in this order of Catholic laymen means in the educational and boy guidance fields especially. Present members should thoroughly familiarize themselves with what is being done by their local, state and national councils and bring home to the Catholic layman outside a full understanding of what his membership will mean to him and his fellow members who are joining the ranks of C.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Catholic Facts But Little Known

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By M. J. MURRAY

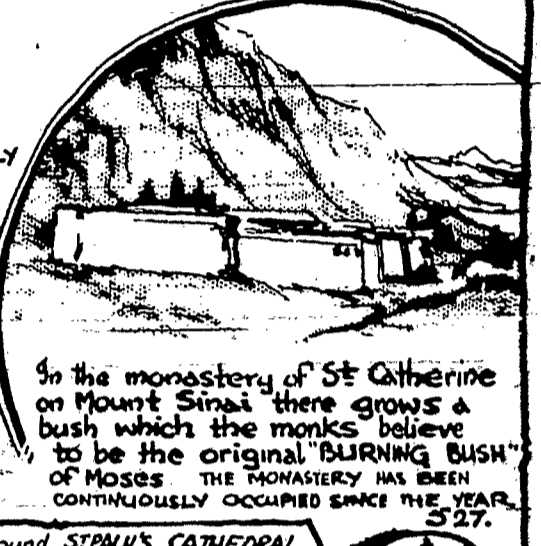


MOTOR CARS and LINERS were predicted by **ROGER BACON**, the great scientist-monk of the twelfth century when he wrote:
ART CAN CONSTRUCT INSTRUMENTS OF NAVIGATION, SUCH THAT THE LARGEST VESSELS, GOVERNED BY A SINGLE MAN, WILL TRAVERSE RIVERS AND SEAS MORE RAPIDLY THAN IF THEY WERE FILLED WITH OARSMEN. ONE MAY MAKE CARRIAGES WHICH WITHOUT THE AID OF ANY ANIMAL, WILL RUN WITH REMARKABLE SWIFTNES.

IT IS THE PRACTICE FOR PILGRIMS TO ASCEND ON THEIR KNEES THE HOLY STAIRS IN ROME. THE HOLY STAIRS ARE TRADITIONALLY BELIEVED TO HAVE BELONGED TO PILATES PALACE, AND WOULD THIS HAVE BEEN ASCENDED AND DESCENDED BY OUR LORD.



Brother Gyprien of the Holy Ghost Missionaries in West Africa has succeeded in the course of thirty years in acclimating roses and carnations to the soil & climate. HE HAS BEEN DECORATED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.



In the monastery of St Catherine on Mount Sinai there grows a bush which the monks believe to be the original "BURNING BUSH" OF MOSES. THE MONASTERY HAS BEEN CONTINUOUSLY OCCUPIED SINCE THE YEAR 527.

Around ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, LONDON, the ancient faith of the City is attested by these names of thoroughfares: CROCKY LANE, CREED LANE, AVE MARIA LANE, PATERNOSTER ROW AND AMEN CORNER.

THE LIBRARY SIGN POST

Rochester's centenary ought to be linked up with Maryland's tercentenary this year, because it was one of the Carrolls of Maryland who assisted Colonel Rochester in his initial settlement on the Genesee.

Do you remember "If Winter Comes?" The "hit" of several years back, undeniably head and shoulders above the ordinary file of the fiction magazines, it still has its readers. Its author, at latest is called "The Soft Spot," and has received enthusiastic praise. Mr. Hutchinson's theme is the hidden Achilles' heel, through which an otherwise invulnerable modern man's soul is struck down and brought to shame. Discriminating readers will be interested in this sensitive soul-study.

One of these stories which End Dinis would begin with "Once upon eternity" comes to us out of the teeny-tweeny world of Amos Anderson's Horizon. Fr. Timothy Shanley of the negro parish of St. Benedict the Moor has thought it worth a public telling. . . . The evening after—newspaper conversation of Mr. and Mrs. James Butler had turned to the subject of God's goodness which often sends a swift summons of death to those who watch and pray." He said to her: "I feel that I have been so close to God; if I die suddenly, just have faith in His goodness and He will take care of you."

Next morning on the way to work, he collapsed with a heart attack. When the ambulance from the Knickerbocker Hospital arrived, he asked to be taken to the nearest Catholic rectory for the last Sacraments. In front of Annunciation Church, the ambulance was halted to serve as an extempore sanctuary, while one of the parish priests gave absolution, fed him with the divine Companion of the way, and sealed his failing senses with the holy oil. . . . A minute later Mr. Butler was dead. . . . Comfort to his mourning widow surely comes from that consoling Providence to whom he had so prophetically recommended her the night before.

By all odds the most popular books in the Catholic Evidence Library are Fr. Owen Dudley's novels, "The Masterful Monk" and "The Shadow on the Earth", with his "Pageant of Life" running a close third. To meet the demand, three copies of each of the first two have been placed on the shelves. Donations of additional copies will help us satisfy many waiting and (thanks be!) patient patrons.

A man's life's no more than to say "One!"—Hamlet.

The March-number of Maryknoll's "The Field Afar" bears on its cover a strangely beautiful illustration of the Annunciation scene. The Virgin and the Angel have Chinese features, are garbed in Chinese costume, and are placed against a Chinese background of exotic shrubs and blossoms. . . . When China shall at last kneel before the King of Kings and lay at His feet the golden gift of its age-old art and tradition, God alone knows what new depths of artistic beauty those coming ages of Oriental adoration shall reveal in the ancient "tidings of great joy." Even now perhaps some Eastern Fra Angelico or Botticelli or Dante is stirring in the womb of time, like John Baptist in the womb of Elizabeth, at the nearness of Christ's approach.

When St. Paul says of our present knowledge of God and our future vision of Him in eternity, "We see now through a glass in a dark manner but then face to face", we must think, not of an astrologer's clairvoyant crystal, nor of our accurately tell-tale mirrors of today, but of the polished metallic discs which served—imperfectly enough—in ancient days to flatter (or quench?) the vanity of the Roman praetorian and his lady.

"You call him a Dumb Ox; I tell you that the Dumb Ox will bellow so loud that his bellowing will fill the world!" . . . Thus did Albert the Great speak to the classmates of his pupil, Thomas Aquinas.

The Catholic Evidence Library is located directly opposite Elm St. in the Columbus Civic Centre lobby, 50 Chestnut St. It is open in the afternoon from 3:30 to 5:30 on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; and in the evening from 7 to 9:30 on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The daily rental for each book is a penny. Catholics and non-Catholics are welcome.

It is a queer twist in human nature that prompts anyone to write an anonymous letter. A newspaper receives many and naturally ignores them for if the writer has not the courage of his or her convictions, then the letters should not be considered. The majority of such letters show a gross ignorance or else a complete misunderstanding of the subject on which written.

Newman's Ideal of a Catholic Layman

"I want a laity, not arrogant, not rash in speech, not disputatious, but men who know their religion, who enter into it, who know what they hold and what they do not; who know their creed so well that they can give an account of it, who know so much of history that they can defend it," said Cardinal Newman in one of his lectures. "I want an intelligent, well-instructed laity—I wish you to enlarge your knowledge, to cultivate your reason, to get an insight into the relation of truth to truth, to learn to view things as they are, to understand how Faith and Reason stand to each other, what are the bases and principles of Catholicism. Ignorance is the root of littleness."

MENACE OF RACE SUICIDE

Birth control, critics point out, may do away with marriage altogether; certainly its frequency and fruitfulness are suffering sorely from the propaganda of the followers of Margaret Sanger. Unquestionably birth control is hurting markets and business by lessening the number of consumers; while our economists are tearing their hair over the well nigh insoluble problem of over-production and under-consumption.—The Evangelist (Albany).

Forgetfulness of God has been in all ages the grand evil of the world.—Father Faber.

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