

Catholic Courier

VOL. VI MAY 17, 1934 No. 20

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, N. Y., as required under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1917.

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

Subscription \$2.00 per year in advance, postpaid. Single copies 10 cents. Payment in advance. In many instances subscribers prefer not to have their subscription discontinued unless they fail to remit before expiration. Discontinuance is ordered either by letter or by return of the paper.

National Advertising Representative Callahan's 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. Counter Established 1929—Journal Established 1889

"I would make any sacrifice, even to the pouring of my blood, to see the Catholic Church supported."—Pope Pius X.

Editorials

AN ECONOMIC FALLACY

William Wirt Mills was appointed by Mayor LaGuardia of New York to be chairman of a committee that is investigating tax exemption. Possibly he thought he discovered something in the line of taxation when he looked upon the churches, schools, and charitable institutions, which are tax-exempt. Or maybe he felt that now is the time to strike. To Mr. Mills may not be imputed definitely a hostility to religion, probably at least he may be given the benefit of the doubt. But there has been underground agitation against tax exemption for churches a long time and it is not confined to the city of New York, either. Nor is this agitation without some venom. Greedy eyes have ever looked and godless arms have ever reached towards the Temple of God.

There is a warning sounded in this suggestion of Mr. Mills for all religionists to take heed for the protection of their properties. Particularly should the Catholic people take alarm, for they would suffer most. In our cities and small towns, thousands and thousands of children are educated free for the state. This represents a saving of millions of dollars throughout the country every year to the taxation bodies. If persons supporting these schools were tax exempt for other educational purposes, there might be some reason for a howl, for it is well known that their schools are operated at a smaller cost. But they are not exempt from other school taxes, so that virtually they are already far in excess of what the market value demand. But the trouble with their public contributions is that it does not go into the proper pockets and purposes. There are still many people who are not being supported by taxation, and they are unhappy. Do these advocates of church tax ever stop to think that there is a limit to the pocket books of poor people? For it is mainly poor people who support church institutions.

There are churches, schools and other educational institutions, hospitals, settlement houses and various other institutions established by religious organizations. If they are run for a profit, they should be taxed, as should any piece of property that exists solely for the purposes of profit. But certainly we Catholics know that our institutions are a drain upon us instead of a material profit. What Catholic Church or school or hospital ever gave a rebate to its contributors because it had received a superfluous amount? It would be phenomenal, indeed, were our establishments ever to receive as much as they needed, let alone more than they need.

Within the past few years there has been a great howl of complaint on the part of real estate brokers because of the high taxes on real estate. Undoubtedly some of their complaints are justified. The idea of property tax as a source of revenue for all purposes is quite as archaic as many of our multiplications of government. When we were an agricultural nation, and the crops were the main source of income and actually represented profits, the property tax was perfectly all right. But this is no longer so, and the whole system of taxation calls for revision. Thousands of people no longer find it worth while to own their own homes for the simple reason that these homes are a drain on them: according to our antiquated theories, these homes should, by some magic or other, produce excess incomes, which they do not. The same is true of religious property. Much of the complaint of the real estate men is against the churches. But they should remember that they are in the business for the sake of the excess values that may be inherent in property, which is not true of religious institutions.

It may be objected that religion occupies some very valuable sites. In a great many localities, what would the surrounding property be worth if there were no church or school? To tax churches and schools simply because they occupy valuable sites is to close them. No institution dependent on voluntary support, such as our churches and schools, can survive the ordeal of taxation. It is the supporters of religion, and not the religionists, who are the source of very valuable voluntary support. It is the supporters of religion, and not the religionists, who are the source of very valuable voluntary support. It is the supporters of religion, and not the religionists, who are the source of very valuable voluntary support.

It is the supporters of religion, and not the religionists, who are the source of very valuable voluntary support. It is the supporters of religion, and not the religionists, who are the source of very valuable voluntary support. It is the supporters of religion, and not the religionists, who are the source of very valuable voluntary support.

STRAIGHT YET

The NRA was to let the... from the two weeks... to supply... offers re-

pected in such a condition, the wheel of the consumer seems to be bearing the greatest load and can not keep even with the wheel of production. To transfer the figure to national blue bird, her wing of consumption is either injured or clipped, or else has a weight tied onto it. Hence she must either spin or stop after a while. In neither case will she advance very far. This is no reflection on the man who is trying to help her along.

To get down to actualities, recent figures show that production is back to 86 per cent normal whereas consumption is back to only 77 per cent normal. The compilation of codes suggested at least discussion and arbitration for both sides of the question, for that matter all sides, in the various industries. But it would seem that there was not much open to compromise or even mention with some of the big firms and industries. The big industries have been "playing ball" with each other, not with any opponents.

In the meantime fifteen million people are still on relief. How long can they stay on relief without others joining them, if the NRA does not get sailing even pretty soon? If there seems to be any danger of failure for the NRA, it will be principally because of obstructionist tactics of the big industrialists, with whom the traditional nine points of possession seem to be ten points of the right. The principal difficulty is, of course, the price of labor.

AT LAST, A RECOGNITION

The president of Mexico has been forced to dismiss his minister of education. He has recognized, together with his superficial cronies, that there is such a thing as a moral force not produced at the point of a gun. He has discovered that not all laws can be made and enforced by his mere whimsical fancy. Without raising a gun or shaking a fist, the Mexican people have refused to send their children to listen to sex instruction and be taught sex practices in the schools of Mexico. The officials have been forced to recognize the uselessness of trying to execute this portion of the school law, and rather than have one of their virtuous officials disobeyed, he has been forced to withdraw. As was to be expected, the blame for this passive resistance has been imputed to the persecuted clergy. But it would never enter into their atheistic heads, that if the majority of the people wished to follow the clergy, the democratic thing to do, would be to bow to the will of the people.

This is a very hopeful sign for the future of Mexico. There being no other apparent method of resisting and suppressing a military, usurping government, the best way would seem to be to let the usurping persecutors wear themselves out—seeing they have failed to wear out all the people. Now that the wearing out process has begun for the government, may we not hopefully expect that it will soon be all worn out. Let us fervently pray for it!

Current Comments

AIR STRUGGLE GETS TENSE

That the Paulist Fathers radio station WLWL is meeting with strong opposition in its struggle to be granted more time is evidenced from an article in Variety, theatrical weekly published in New York. In a current issue Variety charges that the radio broadcasting systems and the secular press have a tacit agreement not to make public developments in the movements of Station WLWL to obtain improved broadcasting facilities.

Under the heading "Air Enemies Unite Forces," Variety goes on to say: "The inevitable fight has been intensified by injection of the two-pointed freedom of speech issue. Senators Wagner of New York and Hatfield of West Virginia sponsored an amendment resulting from controversy between the Paulist Fathers and CBS which would require allocation of one-quarter of broadcast facilities to educational, religious, agricultural, labor co-operative, and similar non-profit-making associations."

"Frantic efforts to mobilize strength to defeat this amendment occupied industry lobbyists all last week. National Association of Broadcasters were in panic checking off names of Senators and trying to pull wires and get votes. The controversy may involve unprecedented test of power of radio to direct public opinion and nation-wide appeal to listeners to stand by present set-up. Broadcasters last week threatened to call on audience to write Senators as last-resort move to beat back assault on their rights."

"Revised to meet various minor criticisms, but still containing numerous features repulsive to broadcast industry, the measure far exceeds President Roosevelt's ideas for establishing a central communication control body. Fight will involve efforts to restrict Dill proposals to conform with President's pronounced wishes."

"Wagner-Hatfield amendment, most serious threat encountered in years of warfare with educational groups, has strong backing and was believed today to have better than a 50-50 chance of being adopted. Catholic churches, National Grange, assorted radio-education groups, and many lesser but potent organizations are riding the bandwagon and threatening to apply heat to Senators who turn thumbs down on scheme."

"While similar to campaigns of educational groups which never had thrown a scare into industry in recent years, new movement is taken very seriously because of the unified support for the Wagner-Hatfield amendment. Antagonism of Congress toward chains has swelled during past year and Paulist-CBS, Coughlin-network, and other disputes over same issue have developed strong sentiment against alleged trusts."

PRIEST SCIENTIST

Father Philip de Fernant, a priest of the Southwark Diocese in England, is a well-known scientist, having achieved a number of remarkable successes in the field of microscopic photography. In 1927, his photographic detection of an error which had been repeated in the best textbooks for 100 years created a sensation among naturalists and procured for him membership in the famous Queen's Microscopical Club, one of the leading scientific societies of England.—The Brooklyn

Diocesan Recordings

"Do Your Share With Others"

That is the slogan being used in the Community Chest Campaign in Rochester this week and when you think it over it is an apt charge to all of us to do our share not only in charitable work in our communities, but in our parish, in the diocese, and in the Peter's Pence Collection to be taken up Sunday. It's the "everlasting teamwork" that makes for success.

Opposition to undesirable motion pictures is gaining momentum and it is not alone confined to Catholics. A release from the National Conference of Jews and Christians reports that a resolution inviting the Roman Catholic, Protestant and Jewish Church in the United States to engage in a united campaign to cleanse the motion picture industry of its unwholesome elements, has just been introduced at the convention of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of New York. The resolution reads: "That this convention through its Bishop request the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies of the General Convention to invite the co-operation of the Roman Catholic Church, the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America and the leaders of Judaism in an attempt to persuade the motion picture industry to refrain from further filming of portrayals of murder, robbery, gangsters and other lawlessness, and, in case of refusal, to do all in their power to secure either Federal or State Laws to prohibit the same."

Over in England, according to The Universe, Catholic newspaper, Archbishop Mostyn has received a large number of letters from all parts of the country congratulating him, as head of the Cardiff Catholic Board of Action, on his condemnation of unclean films, and his determination to help to avert the evil consequences they arouse. A Nonconformist body, the North Glamorgan Association of Welsh Independents, declared at Downais recently its appreciation and support of the step taken by His Grace and the Cardiff Catholic Board of Action in a "categorical condemnation of the present day adulation of immorality, gangsters, and easy divorce." Here in Rochester the Parents-Teachers Association has given views on the matter of bad films, especially for children. With Catholics leading the way in this struggle to provide wholesome entertainment, it is placed squarely before them that it is their duty to learn which pictures are worth seeing and which are not. If Catholics persist in patronizing the films flaunting decency it cannot be expected that anyone else will be concerned. If non-Catholics in great numbers show their high regard for the better motion pictures and their strong distaste of the unclean, it will place Catholics in a bad light. In this also we can "Do Our Share With Others."

Refreshing news items which do not get the headlines and the large photographs that divorce announcements do are those marking golden wedding anniversaries of couples who have during fifty years lived up faithfully to their marriage vows. Recent observances of golden anniversaries were held by Mr. and Mrs. Mathias Becker of 19 Ernst Street; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rain of 625 Lake Avenue and Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Fetamers of Greece. Deserved congratulations are extended.

Although it has one of the largest circulations of Catholic newspapers, the Universe of London, a leading Catholic newspaper in the whole universe, carries a large amount of social and personal news and information at regular advertising rates. The Universe commenting upon the tendency in the United States to expect Catholic papers to publish all sorts of announcements, even of money-making affairs, free of charge, thereby cutting down space for news and articles, said recently: "Certainly Catholics engaged in raising money for good objects do realize widely that publicity expenses should form part of their reasonable out-goings, while we on our side do our best to reciprocate in the news columns. But not all realize this, and it is necessary to point out that free news-publicity for appeals is discouraging, and not very fair, to those who support their press by advertising their appeals." Catholics in the States perhaps have not thought of it this way before and when they realize that by placing their publicity in paid notices they will be aiding greatly the Catholic press at the same time helping the cause in which they are interested, they will set aside a small amount for publicity expenses to be used in paid notices in their Catholic paper.

As predicted in this column, Marcella Laymen's Retreat House in Detroit recently destroyed by fire is to be rebuilt. The work done at the Retreat House could not be allowed to stop. The laymen's retreat movement is too important.

Faith is necessary for any sort of family life.—J. E. Ross.

God and conscience go together.—J. E. Ross.

Belief in personal immortality is an asset for society.—J. E. Ross.

Merit is right to reward.

STRANGE BUT TRUE Catholic Facts But Little Known

(c) 1932, by N. C. W. C. News Service By M. J. MURRAY

Many of the great Churches of Italy have their Baptistries as separate buildings to typify the doctrine that one cannot enter the church until baptized. The baptistry at Parma was built in the 12th century. THREE POPES HAVE BEEN ASSASSINATED—LEO V AD 903 BENEDICT VI AD 973 AND JOHN XIV AD 985 THE NUNS OF ST. JOSEPH'S CONVENT AND ASYLUM IN URSBERG, NEAR MÜNDELHEIM, BAVARIA HAD THEIR OWN FIRE BRIGADE AND RECENTLY QUelled A FIRE IN THE INSTITUTION. TWO VOLUMES OF THE FIRST DICTIONARY TO BE MADE OF THE ANGLO-SAXON LANGUAGE HAVE BEEN PLACED ON THE TOMB OF BISHOP DORRILLON WHO DIED IN-TADGAI IN 1838. IN ADDITION TO HIS MISSIONARY WORK HE COMPLETED THE DICTIONARY JUST NOW PUBLISHED.

THE LIBRARY SIGN POST

In Cardinal Newman's "Meditations on Christian Doctrine" you may find the following expressive prayer to the Holy Ghost. This Pentecost season makes it opportune to place it on the Signpost. "I adore Thee, my Lord and God, the Eternal Paraclete, co-equal with the Father and Son. I adore Thee as the Life of all that live. Through Thee the whole material Universe hangs together and consists, remains in its place, and moves internally in the order and reciprocity of its several parts. Through Thee the earth order was brought into its present state, and was matured through its six days to be a habitation for man. Through Thee, all trees, herbs, fruits, thrive and are perfected. Through Thee, spring comes after winter and renews all things. That wonderful and beautiful, that irresistible burst into life again, in spite of all obstacles, that awful triumph of nature, is but Thy glorious Presence. Through Thee the many tribes of brute animals live day by day, drawing in their breath from Thee. Thou art the life of the whole creation, O Eternal Paraclete—and if of this animal and material framework, how much more of the world of spirits! Through Thee, Almighty Lord, the angels and saints sing Thee praises in heaven. Through Thee our own dead souls are quickened to serve Thee. From Thee is every good thought and desire, every good purpose, every good effort, every good success. It is by Thee that sinners are turned into saints. It is by Thee the Church is refreshed and strengthened, and champions start forth, and martyrs are carried on to their crown. Through Thee new religious orders, new devotions in the Church come into being; new countries are added to the faith, new manifestations and illustrations are given of the ancient Apostolic creed. I praise and adore Thee, my sovereign Lord God, the Holy Ghost."

Eighty years ago Cardinal Newman stated and proved that False Witness is, as it has ever been, the basis of the general Protestant

view of the Catholic Church. The four-hundred-year-old campaign of villainous lying is a shameful chapter of human history.

At present in the pages of AMERICA, Mr. Hilairo Belloc is tearing the mask off some of the more common myths which many Protestant minds still accept as the truth about the Catholic Church. Some of the Signpost readers will perhaps be glad to have their attention drawn to them. The AMERICA is placed each week, together with several other fine magazines, on the reading table of the C. E. Library. You are welcome to come and browse.

Back Through the Years

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

In the July 27, 1895 issue announcement was made that four out of seven prizes offered by the Rochester Business University to the seven pupils of parochial schools of the city having highest averages in an examination held June 20, 1895, went to pupils of St. Joseph's School. Successful in their examinations were: Lawrence Glasser, 92 percent; Agnes Bieck, 90 percent; Eustace Leinen, 88 percent; and Theresa Verhoeven, 86 percent.

Words cannot capture color; phrases cannot imprison bursting life.—Rev. D. A. Lord, S. J.

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 whatsoever nature should be addressed to the Catholic Courier and Journal, Inc., to the attention of the Manager.

MECHANICAL REQUIREMENTS Width of column: 13 ems (2 1/4 inches). Depth of column: 20 1/2 inches (Full length).

Size of page: 14 3/4 column inches (7 full columns); 15 1/2 inches by 20 1/2 inches. Form—close noon of Wednesday preceding publication date.

CATHOLIC EVIDENCE LIBRARY

PLACE—Lobby of Columbus Civic Centre Building, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester, N. Y.

HOURS—Afternoon—3:30 to 5:30 Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Evening—7 to 9:30 Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

DAILY RENTAL—One cent for each book.