

Catholic Courier

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MEMBER CATHOLIC PRESS ASSOCIATION MEMBER ROCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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"I would make any sacrifice, even to the point of my life, to see the printing of a Catholic newspaper."—FORUM P. 10.

Editorials

PROPOSITION No. 1

To avoid widespread suffering and privation during the coming winter, the Rev. Walter A. Flory, Ph. D., S. T. L., Director of Rochester Catholic Charities has issued the following statement calling on all citizens to vote "Yes" on Proposition No. 1 which will authorize the creation of a State Debt to the amount of \$40,000,000.00 to provide funds, to relieve the people of New York State from hardships and suffering caused by unemployment. Read Father Flory's report and do your duty on Election Day.

On Tuesday, November 6th, American Citizens will go to the polls to cast their votes for the various Candidates for our Elective Offices. At the same time they will be asked to approve or disapprove various amendments and propositions. From experience it is known that the greater number of voters neglect to express themselves on amendments and propositions. I believe that this is due to the lack of publicity. In preparation for election our newspapers and our radio are the principal means of acquainting the people with the various candidates and the platforms that they represent. It is seldom that we hear a radio address or that a newspaper gives prominent place to the amendments and propositions upon which we are asked to express our minds.

It seems to me that there is danger that PROPOSITION No. 1, which will authorize the creation of a State Debt to the amount of \$40,000,000.00 to provide funds, to relieve the people of the State from the hardships and suffering caused by unemployment, will be ignored. I am certain that if we were to approach our Citizens and to inquire about their attitude on this proposition, that the majority of them would be in favor of it. There has been too little publicity on this very important issue. The opponents to the proposition have marshaled their forces and they may defeat it. If this happens, the reason will be that those who should have been concerned with the publicity of it, neglected their duty. If the proposition is voted down, relief now inadequate, will necessarily be eliminated.

The Bond Issue of \$40,000,000.00 will assist the various Committees to finance their ever increasing relief load. It will give the people of the State an opportunity to spread the payment of the relief bill over a period of years. Without this State Aid, widespread and appalling suffering, and privation will result. The Proposition which covers the Bond Issue is NUMBER ONE. If you vote "YES," you are approving of it, and by your decision enabling the officials of the State to do "AT LEAST SOMETHING FOR THE UNEMPLOYED." I believe that during this coming winter more people will need relief than at any time in our experience. During the two years that I have been following the rising cost of relief expenditures, I have observed that only partial aid has been given in the past to many of our families.

Unemployment has been so prolonged that practically thousands of families have become totally dependent upon relief. It is probable that such conditions will improve, but there will be no lessening of the need for relief this winter. The number who will seek employment in the upturn of business this winter will not equal those who will have reached the end of their resources. Therefore, this Bond Issue is vital for the care of our unemployed.

For many years tax-payers have complained that the owners of real estate have been obliged to pay the entire cost of relief. The Bond Issue shifts the burden of real estate and spreads it over a period of years. Therefore, in voting for this Bond Issue, every home owner is directly contributing to our needy.

This is not a political question. It is concerned with the welfare of our people. It is Non-Partisan. It is a question of justice and Republican Platform is in favor of it. It is a question of the part of every citizen to meet his obligation.

treasury. You will do this if you VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION No. 1.

"VOTE 'YES' FOR PROPOSITION No. 1. YOUR 'VOTE' WILL ASSIST THE NEEDY—RELIEVE REAL ESTATE OF ITS HEAVY TAX BURDEN, AND IT WILL AID BUSINESS RECOVERY."

STATE SCHOOL AGE

One of the happiest and most aggressive school movements of this century is the mounting claim of the directors of religious public schools for a just share in the State's educational funds. There is no disposition to rule the State Department of Education out of the scene, but a contention that our religious public schools, doing a fine piece of civic service and supervised by distinguished Catholic citizens, are real claimants upon the public treasury. Certainly in the struggle of these trying times we have need of these public moneys if we are to carry on, and more so if we are to have our normal annual increase of school buildings.

A short time ago the Catholic Hour had a talk on this matter of vital importance from the Reverend Dr. George Johnson of the Catholic University of America. He has since received many letters expressing support of his position though the usual brood of cranks had their mean part to say. But this address has given national publicity to our school question. We are proceeding in a gentlemanly manner. We shall not have done with the movement until the fair-minded majority in the American electorate has expressed itself in favor of educational justice for our branch of the American free public school system.

To the point we may add the address given last week in Washington at the semi-annual meeting of the Superintendents' Section of the National Catholic Educational Association by the Rev. Dr. John Hagan of Cleveland, Ohio.

Taking an unusual tack, he told how the United States Supreme Court has unfortunately never been called upon to decide the legality of our present compulsory laws. For though that august body has proclaimed in the Oregon School Case the supremacy of parental control, yet States continue to demand the presence of children at secular instruction without offering to the conscience of Jew, Protestant and Catholic the type of public school which they demand and which would place religion as an integral part of the daily curriculum.

Moreover he dispelled the fears of those cautious Catholics, who dread State aid lest it mean throttling of our Catholic philosophy of education, by citing how well the State aid plan works in certain countries of Europe. He added that the Holy Father in his famous Encyclical on Christian Education sets forth his official approval of this arrangement and urges that plan as worthy of extension to all lands. The State is the financier of public education and should pay at least some of the bills of our fine religious public schools.

We of New York State, where Catholics are many and distinguished in civic service, hope that our Empire State will lead the way back to the fair-play standards of American education. We don't want to unload our total costs upon the taxpayers. Our only wish is to have them meet our deficits and to provide us with a chance of extending our elementary and secondary schools so that we shall claim a seat in a Catholic American school for every American Catholic child. This claim may be set back but it cannot be downed.—The Brooklyn Tablet.

MATERIALISM OUR STATE RELIGION?

This question is asked by Mr. D. W. Gilbert in a thought-provoking article in the October number of the Catholic World. By State religion, he explains, is meant a form of belief that is promoted at the State's expense either by direct support or by discriminatory use of government institutions. The taxpayers of all faiths are thus required to help finance the propaganda of this particular belief.

Does materialism enjoy a status of special privilege in our tax-supported institutions that is accorded to no other belief? Several things seem to indicate that it does. By legislation and constitutional provision a great many States have forbidden the teaching of any form of the Christian religion in State supported institutions.

As commonly carried out in practise this is taken to mean that while no Christian faith can be taught, attacks against the faith of Christians can be made freely. Christianity may be rationalized, discredited and repudiated, but it may not be defended. It may not present its own case and give evidence for its position. Thus the professors in tax-supported schools have a free hand to teach materialism.

The textbooks used in the courses illustrate the type of instruction to which the students are subjected. An examination of these books reveals that materialism is taught directly to the students. By actual quotations from such textbooks Mr. Gilbert shows that the taxpayers' money is being spent to undermine the religious beliefs of students and to spread anti-religious propaganda. The entire article should be read to appreciate the force of the demonstration.

Of course there are notable exceptions to the general trend. Fair-minded teachers are found in tax-supported institutions, but those who spread materialism and irreligion seem to be in the majority. When will the taxpayers awaken to the injustice and hypocrisy of the present situation, and demand that the special favoritism shown to materialism be ended.—The Brooklyn Tablet.

By Prayer (if you use it right) you will place a sword in the hand of God, so that He will fight and conquer for you.—Lorenzo Scupoli.

"Rugged individualists"—people who hang around the rear seats in church and could not be dragged up to the front with a derrick.—The Brooklyn Tablet.

This conference does not consist in the sentiment, but in the will. Do you know what is God? This is the question.—The Brooklyn Tablet.

Diocesan Recordings

A charitable act not requiring great effort nor much time—Vote "Yes" on Proposition No. 1 on Election Day. Your vote and those of thousands of others will assure relief for many during the coming winter.

In regard to voting for candidates in the coming election use your own good judgment. When we have urged you to use the prerogative that is yours, our duty is done. We are non-partisan. Election of various candidates is for you, and you, and you to decide.

Much talk of education will be heard during American Education Week. Many articles will be written, many discussions take place. To join in the general discussion we reproduce the resolution on education adopted by the Catholic Central Verein of America at its national convention held in Rochester last August. Catholic priests and laymen, well-qualified to draft such a resolution formulated the following which is presented in full:

"The difficulties experienced by Catholic schools in consequence of the economic catastrophe of the past few years have in many cases compelled proportions which seem to necessitate appeals for State Aid. We take sympathetic cognizance of the deplorable distress of many of our schools and join with those who plead the justice of the Catholic school system participating in public relief provided for the maintenance of educational facilities. At the same time, however, we urge our members not to lose sight of the principles of self-help and solidarity which guided our forefathers, the sturdy self-sacrificing pioneers in the field of Catholic education, and became the source of a sound and efficient educational system as well as the best guarantee of its independence. The same principles, applied to present conditions, would meet with equal success.

"It is the obligation of the school to carry on, in behalf of a number of families banded together by common spiritual and religious interests and by reason of local or geographical expediency, the mission of educating the children of the community or parish thus cooperating in a common cause. While education, in so far as it is restricted to the individual family, is incumbent on the parents, it becomes, in its organized endeavors within the community of families, the parish, under supervision and guidance of ecclesiastical authority, a community project. As such it calls for solidarity of all members of the parish-family and the sharing by all in the burdens and obligations indispensable for the maintenance and the direction of the school.

"Therefore, encouraged by the words spoken at this convention by the Most Rev. Archbishop Edward Mooney, Bishop of Rochester, we urge careful consideration of the advisability of providing the means for the continuation of our schools by equitable contributions of all parish members, and the creating for future emergencies, of school funds, also to be raised by all members of a parish.

"In this connection we wish to call attention to the beneficent achievements of the School Societies flourishing in a large number of parishes in various parts of the country. They have been a blessing not only for the schools and the cause of education but also for parish life in general, and have in a large measure helped to solve school problems caused by the great depression."

What does a study club, study about? That is the first question that arises in the minds of those who have given little thought to this growing phase of Catholic Action. The field is wide and unless a definite program is mapped out, study clubs do not come into existence. An idea of what one lay organization is doing may be gathered from a tentative program just discussed by Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus Committee on Catholic Action. For over a year the knights have been devoting a half-hour of each meeting to a study of the Papal Encyclicals especially those On the Condition of the Working Classes and On the Reconstruction of the Social Order. This year the Committee met and suggestions for study and consideration offered included: The Tax Argument, especially as it pertains to religious property; Moving Pictures, following the course of the Church on that question today; Lending Libraries, offering indecent magazines and books; State Support of Denominational Schools; Boy Scout and Youth Movement; Outstanding Saints of the Church; Moving Picture Illustration of Mass; Lourdes Lecture; Christian Marriage; Fascism; Communism; and Catholic Evidence Guild. With these suggestions a program will be outlined and presented at Council meetings. The Committee will meet as a study club to provide material for the Council's study club half hour. Further informed Catholic laymen are bound to come out of these meetings.

This conference does not consist in the sentiment, but in the will. Do you know what is God? This is the question.—The Brooklyn Tablet.

STRANGE BUT TRUE Catholic Facts But Little Known

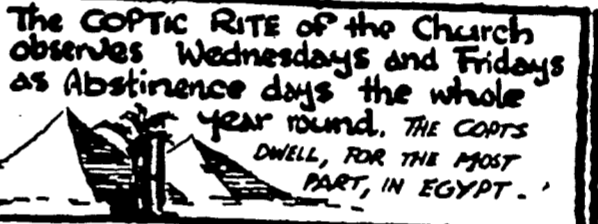
By M. J. MURRAY



This BEAUTIFUL SIGNPOST depicting SAINT CHRISTOPHER carrying the CHRIST CHILD has been erected at Teyford, Sussex. It is carved in wood and painted. Underneath is the prayer: SAINT CHRISTOPHER, SPEED THEE TODAY AND LIFT THE HEART UP ALL THE WAY



The Saint Lawrence river was given its name by JACQUES CARTIER because he sailed up it for the first time on August 10th (1534) the feast of SAINT LAWRENCE, MARTYR.



Spiritual Thoughts

I think the C. E. Library patrons are by now convinced that the Library is not just another collection of books. It is easy enough to fill up bookshelves if you do not care to discriminate; in fact, most books have nice covers and make a good show. But it has never been our idea merely to make a good show, and to pile a lot of third- and fourth-rate books onto the shelves to look impressive. That bluff would have soon been called. But, as one patron has heard saying, "here you can close your eyes and pick out any book and not be disappointed." That's a tribute to few places in town where you be grateful for.

The body of a sensualist is the coffin of a dead soul.—Bovel.

dence Guild of London, England. It was gratifying to see so many young people interested in being told about the possibilities of "The Catholic Girl in the Modern World," for there were easily as many saucily-titled, feather-pointed hats in the audience as there were the more matronly hats of their elders. Many thanks to the Sodality of Mt. Carmel parish who have donated two fine books to the Library. It is fitting that the books should have been pertinent to the Italy of these girls' ancestors. They are Fr. Cuthbert's fine "Life of St. Francis of Assisi," and Francis Marion Crawford's panorama of Rome through the centuries, "Ave Roma Immortalis." These volumes—both of them brand-new—will be ready for circulation within two weeks.

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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.

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THE LIBRARY SIGN POST

This is going to be a week of well-earned congratulations. After all, it is not well that workers in Catholic Evidence, or in any Catholic Action Work, should reflect the joy of those collaborators who are passing a significant milestone in their labors?

And so that Catholic Evidence Library congratulates the Commonwealth which is celebrating its tenth anniversary this week. There is a certain self-satisfaction in being able to say that you have followed a great work from its beginning. Those of us who can say that about the Commonwealth will not find it hard to recall the enthusiasm with which we all but ate up the first issue of this new and courageous magazine. Some of us were then but young students of philosophy in the Seminary and found our enthusiasm put to an acid test by a subscription price that seemed too heavy for meagre pocketbooks. But the price amply justified itself; and now we can look back over a ten years' harvesting in scrapbook and notebook which have been the rich rewards of a faithful reading.

For that is just the kind of magazine the Commonwealth is; it demands to be read with scissors and paste ready to hand. Hundreds of clippings gathered from past years and shepherded into a notebook can now be the delightful companions of a quiet hour. Besides that, like Alice's, we can pass backward into the Wonderland (or not so Wonderland) of the last decade.

The Commonwealth calls itself "a weekly review of literature, the arts and public affairs." We remember well how that label appealed to us in our student days when it was first announced. Its editorial policy and its management have always been controlled by laymen; it has maintained with honor its unique place as the only high-class lay-Catholic weekly in the country. Its purpose has been to serve as a medium for the expression of Catholicism in its varied and highly debatable possibilities of application to contemporary social problems.

The lion's share of credit for the success of the Commonwealth must go to its editor, the brilliant Michael Williams, Catholic convert and author of "The High Romance." He would be the first to admit his indebtedness to his talented associates, George Shuster, Carlton J. H. Hayes, Dr. James J. Walsh, T. Lawrence King, Richard Dana Skinner, Frederic Thompson, and Mary Kolars. . . . And the occurrence of this tenth anniversary in the month of the Four Souls gives special emphasis to the remembrance

of two who have been taken from the editorial ranks in the last decade. They are Henry Logan Stuart and William Walsh. May their souls rest in peace!

And what are the future expectations of the Commonwealth (apart from financial worries which the depression has made acute)? They are well presented by Mr. Williams himself in the Anniversary Number just off the press.

"For such a journal the next ten years offers a field of labor more important by far than the ten years through which we have passed. This is so because the full force of the revolution, the crisis of our age, is merely beginning to manifest itself in America. . . . Men are being forced to confront ultimate questions: to choose whether they shall recognize God and His Christ as the supreme point of orientation for their personal lives and for all their social systems; or to set up and worship and obey only their own individual will (man exalted to the place of God) in some form of collective-state, or national or racial idolatry and tyranny. The Catholic Church stands as the rock center of the forces of human liberty under the law of God. As one of the least and minor, yet nevertheless (we hope) useful instruments of the fight for the liberty of man, THE COMMONWEALTH offers itself to its readers, until, anyhow, something better can be devised."

No intellectual pride there, is there? or undue estimate of efficiency. And yet, when you consider that some fifteen thousand readers, many of them non-Catholic, are now receiving the magazine and that thousands have read the fifteen thousand pages of its last ten years' issues, it would be rash to depreciate its power as an agent for incalculable good.

The Commonwealth celebrates its anniversary with a new format and design which are decidedly attractive. No higher or wider in size, it somehow seems so by the ingenious typographical design of its new cover, prepared by Mr. George F. Trenholm of Boston. We are proud to place this Anniversary Number on the Catholic Evidence Library reading table where we hope the Library patrons will find it to read the stimulating articles which it contains.

Congratulations must also be given this week to the diocesan council of the N.C.W. for the good crowd which they were instrumental in gathering for the lecture of their guest speaker, Mrs. Hilda Sheel, of the Catholic