First Prize Crusade Essays

Boy Winner **Girl Winner**

LEO MANNING

ANNE MARIE BORGMANN

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Are you a Catholic? Does your religion mean something to you? Then listen! February is Catholic Press Month. During this month Catholics are urged to subscribe to Catholic literature. Saint Francis De Sales has been chosen by the Pope as patron of the Catholic Press because he first used Catholic literature as a means of converting Protestants. He was the Bishop of Geneva in Switzerland.

Francis was born about the time when numerous Protestant religions were flourishing. He was sent to convert as many Calvinists as possible. The Calvinists were a powerful group of Protestants. He could not persuade them to come to Church and hear him preach, so he had pamphlets printed. By this means he published the truths of the Catholic Faith. Thus he converted seventy thousand Calvinists to the Catholic Church. If one man could convert seventy thousand Protestants, surely the combined forces of the Catholic Press should have a powerful influence. There is a proverb that says, "The pen is mightier than the sword." This is true because you cannot change a man's mind by killing him, but it can be changed by the kind of literature he reads.

Never has there been a time in the history of the Catholic Church when Catholic literature was more sorely needed than now. There are many Catholic people who have immoral books and newspapers in their homes, demoralizing rather than uplifting themselves and their children. The money so spent should indeed be used to buy Catholic literature that would instruct the ignorant and the doubtful and bring refinement and virtue to the Catholic homes.

My mother has often told me that every book I read, whether good or bad, leaves an impression upon my brain. If this is true, the refining and ennobling influence of good reading is tremendous.

These are fine words and true, but talk is not enough. Our duty as Catholic children is to see that every home in the diocese has a Catholic newspaper every week. Let us spread the word of God! Let us be followers of St. Francis! Let us work for God and our Church! We need action!

ANNE MARIE BORGMANN

The revival of Paganism in social manners, as well as in literature is the most flagrant characteristic of the great century to the latter half of which St. Francis de Sales belonged.

He was born on August 21, 1567 in the city of Thorens, Savoy. His parents prepared him for a political career but he became a priest and later the Bishop of Geneva.

The scene of St. Francis de Sales' ministry, as Priest and Bishop, was in the center of the proudest, coldest heresy human conceit has ever fabricated, predestination. Frightened by the overbearing certitudes of the preachers of this heresy, people feared to risk their anger by joining the congregation of St. Francis.

Seeing that the people would not listen to what he had to say, he determined to try and make them read what he wrote. Every day he drew up little papers on the chief points in debate between the Catholics and the Protestants. These were the harbinger of the Catholic Press.

Finally St. Francis succeeded in arousing the interest of the people. Slowly they were drawn back into the Church.

St. Francis died a happy death at Lyons in 1622.

The condition of the world today, infested as it is with the evil effects of a licentious press, needs correction badly.

Therefore, we recur, to one who in his day combatted a heretical press with a Catholic literature which, appealed by its beauty, convinced by its strength and persuaded by its gentleness. To these qualities the Catholic Press of our day earnestly aspires. But, as St Francis relied for support on his Catholic people, so does our modern Catholic Press. For the honor and glory of God, under the patronage of St. Francis de Sales, let us advance to new victories in this vital apostolate.

BENEFIT IN WILL

Chicago—(NC)—Relatives of Joseph A. Klein will receive his $100,000 estate. The special bequests will include $10,000 to a daughter, Sister Mary Nicholas, a member of the Sisters of Notre Dame, and $1,000 to the Very Rev. Msgr. M. Klasen, pastor of St Gregory Church.

Monsignor Thill Flays City Judge

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unless they have their source in the natural and Divine law"

Was the Judge who got sensational first-page notices speaking as a Judge on the bench?

"I leave it to the Judges of our courts and to the legal profession of Cincinnati to pass on the propriety of a Judge while exercising his duties on the bench asking questions which were in the first place irrelevant and which in the second place offended without justification a very large element of the community.

"Was the Judge seeking publicity as a birth-control propagandist?

"If one Judge in the exercise of his official duties is permitted to become a propagandist for birth control by asking irrelevant questions, thereby offending many who helped to elect him, what is to prevent another Judge from becoming a propagandist of Communism by asking irrelevant questions?

"Did the Judge speak as an economist?

Scores Economic System

"A prisoner is warned in a public court, irrelevantly, by a Judge not to emulate his parents or the parents of his wife by seeking the riches and blessings of many children, because an unwise and unjust economic system does not enable him to support them. The Judge is not quoted as saying anything against the injustice of an economic system which would prevent a laboring man from acquiring the priceless wealth of a large family and enjoying the great human happiness that reigns in most homes where there are many children

"This is the stultifying position which we face today One branch of the Government is destroying the abundance that Providence has given us, under the plea that there are not enough people to consume it Another branch, through such false economists as the sensational Judge, is insisting that there must be fewer children, because the poor man cannot supply them with food. Thinking people should not be fooled by the philosophy of scarcity, whether it be the cursed philosophy of food or the still more cursed philosophy of scarcity of children'

Oppression of Poor

"Was the Judge speaking as a moralist?

"He was reported as quoting the Scripture. Does the Judge regard as moral our unjust industrial system, which oppresses the poor and too frequently makes economic slaves of the laboring classes? Does he mean to say that these unjustifiable conditions place limitations on the natural and divine law by which every virtuous married man has the right to look forward to the blessing of many children and the further right to the means of rearing them in frugal comfort?

"If so, and if the press reports are accurate, then the teachings of the would-be moralist Judge are putrescent The Judge according to reports, made a pitiable figure of himself in his attempts to be witty.

"The subject matter of this letter should be brought to the attention of your congregation In these days when people are so concerned about acquiring wealth they fail too frequently to realize that children in themselves are the greatest possible wealth The realization of the great blessing of a large family should be brought home to your people."

Thou Shalt Not Steal—Cornelius!

If thou employest men and payest them not in accordance with their worth and their needs, but prosper unjustly fat by the sweat of their brows, then thou art taking from them what thou hast not rightly paid for and thou shalt not steal Cornelius'

If thou workest for another for a just wage and givest not thy full time and skill or if because laborers are scarce thou demandest more than is thy due then thou cheatest thy employer and thou shalt not steal Cornelius'

If thou art a teacher and dost remove from youthful minds and hearts God religion and consequent morality teaching as facts that which thou canst not prove then thou art a robber of the innocent and thou shalt not steal Cornelius'

If thou art a wedded man and dost misuse the privilege of the married state then thou robbest God and the world of human beings and thou shalt not steal Cornelius'

If thou art a surgeon and dost mutilate the body of an innocent man who thou thinkest (and only thinkest) may bear ill fruit, then hast destroyed in him a God given function and thou shalt not steal Cornelius'

If thou, as a physician dost end the life of one thou deemest to be unfit or because he suffereth exceedingly then thou takest betimes that which belongeth to God alone and thou shalt not steal Cornelius'

He who "everybody [illegible] business [illegible] Malthusian [illegible] offspring of pagan [illegible] is tolerated by [illegible] and applauded by [illegible] because much of the world hath discarded God and [illegible] none [illegible] [illegible]

For the "modern" [illegible] men too often labelled doctors of this or that offer no sure or proved solution to the ills of the world but rather have a devastating effect on the individual the family and the State And surely dear Cornelius such of these teachings as would rob God and man and the world of what is essentially and rightfully theirs must bring down afresh from the heights of Mt Sinai that terrible and unmistakable warning to all men of all time THOU SHALT NOT STEAL'

(Catholic Information Society, Narberth, Pa.)

Pass Resolutions Pledging Co-operation to Negro Race

The Manhattanville Resolutions on the Negro question formulated by students of the College of the Sacred Heart New York City were unanimously adopted at the public meeting sponsored by the St. Peter Claver Society last Sunday, March 1. The resolutions were as follows

WHEREAS I am enjoying the advantages of a democratic form of government and the privilege of the Catholic Faith, I recognize that I have certain duties and obligations toward my fellowman, among whom I must consider my conduct and attitude toward the American Negro.

I therefore resolve to carry out and adhere to the following resolutions

1. To maintain that the Negro as a human being and as a citizen is entitled to the rights of life liberty and pursuit of happiness and to the essential opportunities of life and the full measure of social justice

2. To be courteous and kind to every colored person remembering the heavy yoke of injustice and discrimination he is bearing. To remember that no race or group in America has endured the many handicaps that are his today.

3. To say a kind word for him on every proper occasion

4. Not to speak slightingly or use nicknames which tend to humiliate offend or discourage him.

5. To remember that the Catholic Church and the Catholic program of social justice has been called "the greatest hope of the colored race."

6. To recognize that the Negro shares my membership in the Mystical Body of Christ and the privileges that flow therefrom and to conduct myself in accordance therewith

7. To become increasingly interested in the welfare of the Negro to engage actively in some form of Catholic Action looking to the betterment of his condition spiritually and materially

HONORS U. S. PASTOR

Altoona Pa (NC) The Italian Government has bestowed upon the Very Rev Dr Jerome Zazzara T.O.R., pastor of Our Lady of Mt Carmel Church here the rank of Chevalier of the Most Royal Order of the Crown of Italy

Beatification Prayer For Father Damien Is Distributed in Hawaii

By George J. Peavey
Hawaii Correspondent, N C W C News Service

Honolulu In the cause of canonization of Father Damien the Catholics of Hawaii have received leaflets on which are printed a picture of the Molokai Martyr a short summary of his life, and a prayer for his beatification

The prayer reads

"O good Jesus, Who while on earth by word and example didst so deeply instill in the hearts of Thy children Thy commandment of love of neighbor vouchsafe, we beseech Thee, to glorify Thy Servant Damien, and with him Christian Charity itself May we, in Thy divine dispensation, soon see him honored as Blessed, who for love of Thee, gave his life for the most wretched of his brothers"

Ten thousand of these leaflets have been distributed

Success of the Catholic press depends on Catholic loyalty The cause of the Catholic press works down to the individual.

Fr. La Farge and Elmo Anderson Urge Catholic View In Move Here for Negro

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Negro, as was the second Bishop of the diocese of Portland, Maine. "A Catholic Negro surgeon of Chicago who died recently was the first physician ever to stitch a human heart," he added in evidence of the contribution of the Negro group to civilization.

"But," he contrasted emphatically, "the Negro in the United States has been the victim of damnable inferiority propaganda, sown by those who were economically interested in keeping him enslaved."

Mr. Anderson concluded with an eloquent appeal to the audience to "go beneath the color of his skin, and discover a man like yourself; a child of God and a brother of Christ. Help the good Shepherd to find his lost sheep, so that there may be one fold and one Shepherd."

The Negro and the Church

Father La Farge, the chaplain of the Catholic Interracial Council of New York, called attention to the relation between the exodus of the Negro from the South—over a million Negroes have left the South since 1920, he stated—and the Catholic Church.

"The Negro is in closer touch today with the Church than he ever had a chance to be before, because the Catholic Church is stronger in the North than in the South. The Negro looks to us especially for justice and for charity, which means love and human sympathy, rather than a handout. He cannot understand how the Church which sends missionaries to frozen Alaska and burning India can be indifferent to his own race which is so closely with us and of us."

Catholic Solution

Father La Farge presented a two-point program for Catholics to aid the Negro:

1. Assist the individual in his effort to rehabilitate himself, and [illegible]

[illegible]

for the relationship the Catholic white man should assume towards the Negro were proposed to the audience and passed without a dissenting vote.

Copies of the "Interracial Review," official organ of the Catholic Interracial Council, as well as leaflets containing copies of the Manhattanville Resolutions were distributed among the audience

Presiding as chairman of the meeting was James E. Cuff, former County Attorney and Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus Present on the platform were also the Rev. William F. Bergan, Chancellor of the Diocese of Rochester Miss Cecilia Yawman, head of the local unit of the National Council of Catholic Women; Mrs. Perry J Burke, and officers of the St Peter Claver Society; J. A. Broco, president; O. J. Greene, secretary; W Quamina, Sr., vice-president, and the Rev. George J. Weinmann, treasurer and chaplain.

The program was concluded by the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner" by all present.

A musical program was presented by the Nazareth College Glee Club, under the direction of Leroy Morlock. The Rochester Jubilee Singers, a Negro quartet, sang three spirituals which were enthusiastically received by the audience.

Chiefly responsible for undertaking the affair and for bringing the two noted authorities on the racial question to Rochester were the Rev. John C. O'Donnell director of the Aquinas Institute Mission Unit, who was in charge of arrangements, and to Father Weinman. Both of these priests have distinguished themselves by their unselfish devotion to the cause of bettering the condition of the negroes of Rochester, and the initiative and zeal with which they have organized Catholic means to that end.

DUCHESS CONVERT

Berlin — (NC) — The Dowager Duchess Maria of Anhalt, widow of the late Duke Frederic II of the German Principality of Anhalt, has recently become a convert to Catholicism. Her husband died in 1916. Anhalt is preeminently a Protestant territory.

The time to begin writing an article is when you have finished it to your satisfaction. —Mark Twain.

The Pamphlet Survey

Compiled by Eugene P. Willging, Librarian, St. Thomas College, Scranton, Pa.

This list of pamphlets on Lent stresses devotional manuals, particularly for Holy Week Inquiries sent to the editor should contain a self-addressed stamped envelope to insure a reply Order pamphlets directly from publisher.

"Christ Suffering" by P H Burkett (America 461 Eighth Ave. New York City)

"Death-Watch of Our Saviour" by J Conway (America) Meditations on the seven last words.

"Devotion to the Holy Wounds." (Benedictine Convent of Perpetual Adoration, Clyde Mo.) History of the devotion and meditations Way of the Cross

"Jesus Crucified Readings on the Passion," by W Elliott (Paulist Press, 401 W 59th St., New York City)

"From Olivet to Calvary, Reflections and Prayers in Honor of the Sacred Passion" (Benedictine Convent of Perpetual Adoration)

"At Noon on Calvary," by E A Fuller (America). Introductory sermon and meditations on the seven last words.

"Passion of Our Lord," by P. W O'Gorman (Central Bureau, 3835 Westminster Place, St. Louis, Mo.)

"Christ's Last Agony His Seven Words" (Paulist). Meditative Sermons for Public and Private Devotion.

"Order for the Service of the Three Hours Agony, Good Friday Afternoon, With Appropriate Hymns, Tunes and Prayers" (Paulist). This form sells for 10c There is also a "Short Form of Devotions" issued by Paulist Press for 5c.

"Seven Last Words," by F. J Sheen (Our Sunday Visitor, Huntington, Ind.). Meditations delivered in the Catholic Hour

(NCWC Features)

FR. DAMIEN RELICS

San Francisco—(NC)—An "Ecce Homo," painted by Brother Joseph Dutton and presented to Father Damien for the little Catholic chapel at Molokai, was one of the treasured relics sent back to Belgium from here where the United States Army transport "Republic" sailed bearing the body of the heroic apostle of the lepers.

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