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sighted leaders in industry gladly welcome the help of labor organizations in stabilizing conditions, are ready to confer with labor's representatives, to hear labor's side of questions. But we still have those who think this is all wrong, that labor's connection with industry is all one-sided, implying definite obligations and duties with its rights determined by the employer.

There may be defects in the Wagner Act. There may be lawful complaints on the procedure and the decisions of the NLRB. Where such defects are definitely recognized, they should be corrected. Among those who stand for American standards, who seek equal rights for employer and employee, who look for that industrial peace that can come only from collective bargaining, there can be no compromise with those who would destroy the Wagner Act under the pretense of eliminating its defects. Let those who would destroy it speak out candidly what is their opposition based on, on the fact that it works or on the assumption that it does not work.

The New Year is with us. We hail its beginning with a prayer and a hope that it may bring better things to the world than did its predecessor. 1940 has seen such suffering among nations and among peoples as has not been from the beginning. Total war has brought its fury into the homes of civilians. There is a new battle-front, not manned on either side by soldiers in equal combat, but manned on one side by those fully equipped to give, and on the other by those equipped only to take. That this horror may fade from earth, is a boon that we pray for, a blessing that we hope for.

In our industrial life, may we not look to 1941 to restore that nice balance that will so distribute our prosperity that all may share in it? Unemployment has been the curse of the country for many a year. May it give way to the normal needs of our country, and to the demands of the defense program, so that every person able and willing to work may find ready employment for laudable self-support. Relief records show a falling-off in the number needing help; public and private organizations report a constantly growing number of men employed. May this be a harbinger of good things to come in the new year, 1941!

In our home life, 1941 offers us every motive for improvement. It is a new year, it invites us to clear out all that kept the old year from finding our home life on a high moral level. If every member of the household resolves now to live and act for the greatest good of all other members of the home circle, things are bound to look up. Consideration, kindness, forbearance, are just so many elements in a life of charity such as Christ wants his children to live.

1941 should find us eager to improve our individual lives. Time will zoom something to us only when we use it well. Here we have 365 days facing us, each with its golden opportunity of correcting faults and practicing new virtues. God has blessed us with a renewed period in which we may look for His daily help in serving our neighbor and serving our God in a program that is based on love. 1941 reminds us that time is the greatest among our blessings, because through it we can make ourselves ready for all the good things God wants to give us. So we greet the New Year with faith in God and in our fellow man, with hope for the good things to come, with love for all men based on our love of God. 1941, All Hail!

Catholics find it hard to grasp the meaning of those writers who are constantly inquiring whether the church can be of service to them or not. One man goes to church for a time, reports that he finds it does a good work in him, that he is for it. Another tries it out for a time, and reports no advantage exists in it. Then arises the question, "Is the church failing in its mission? Is it meeting modern problems? Is it able to help the man of today?"

These questions are meaningless to a Catholic. The mentality that prompts them is not Catholic. To us the Church is Jesus Christ, actively and powerfully exercising His influence to save men. The Church can never fail in its power to help us; we can fail in our co-operation with the Church. The Church answers the problems of life today even as it did yesterday, because the infinite wisdom of Christ is at hand always to help men of every age and every condition of life. Knowing Christ and knowing His Church, every Catholic recognizes his obligation of loyalty and devotion to the Church even as he recognizes his obligation of faith and obedience to Jesus Christ.

Every man is called to know God, that he may love Him and serve Him. Every man can find salvation for his soul only in seeking after God. To each one is given the means of finding God, one means for this man, another for that. Let us be ready to follow the star!

STRANGE BUT TRUE

A Little-Known Fact for Catholics

By M. J. MURPHY. This is a striking incident which has been recorded in the death of BLESSED JEAN GABRIEL (1822-1839). A sign appeared in the sky on his death. A young man named... Catholic Mercedes Doubts.

PAGE MY PASTOR by Right Rev. Msgr. Peter M.H. Wynn, C.M. Editor-in-Chief, Catholic Action of the South.

Change, and I'll hold it. "Fran, I have a confession to make." "A confession? What now, Cedic?" "You remember, last Tuesday, when we talked about the fact that there can be only one true Church of the Lord?"

What Can The Church Offer Me? Catholics find it hard to grasp the meaning of those writers who are constantly inquiring whether the church can be of service to them or not. One man goes to church for a time, reports that he finds it does a good work in him, that he is for it. Another tries it out for a time, and reports no advantage exists in it.

Diocesan Recordings

The year of 1940 was a 365-day period of intense Catholic activity in this diocese. Under the leadership of His Excellency, the Bishop, the lay organizations of Catholic men and women carried out diversified activities that could not have helped but have a salutary influence in the many communities.

The Three Gifts

By REV. BENEDICT JEHMANN

With the first procession of the Virgin Mary... The three gifts were the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, knowledge, counsel, fortitude, piety, and fear of the Lord.

Christmas Wins

By REV. JAMES M. GILLIS, C.S.P., Editor, The Catholic World

Christmas and the Epiphany and the carols on Beacon Hill. In 1629, with the coming of the Cromwellians and the restoration of the monarchy, came a demand for the abolition of the law against Christmas.

Rubin's In Tampa

By REV. DANIEL A. LORD, S.J.

Over on a "me" I had thought that French cooks were the best. This in spite of the fact that world travelers insist on using the metal with crossed prongs or chopsticks to the Chinese cooks.

While 80,000,000 Listen

The importance of the Fireside Chat of President Roosevelt last Sunday evening was well understood by the people of the United States. From every part of the country citizens sent in their advice to him, and the largest radio audience in history listened to him as he spoke solemnly and logically his message on world conditions and our need of immediate defense measures to protect us against the aims of the Axis powers.

It was a serious moment for the United States and its citizens. It was a speech that went forth from the fireside of the President of our country to the fireside of every American home. It told in clear and unmistakable terms of the ruthlessness of the dictators in dealing with the nations about them. It related the need of immediate aid to England, short of war, as our best defense. It stressed the emergency as one that forbids any "business as usual" program. It pointed out the impossibility of a negotiated peace with the dictators. It stated there was no intention of sending men to fight in Europe, but of sending what democratic Europe needs now, munitions and machines and planes.

The defense program calls for the most hearty co-operation of all Americans with our President. Capital and labor must subordinate their differences to the general welfare. Patriotism must make way for pure nationalism. All that is American in manpower, in productive industry, in wealth and in skill, in an adequate army and navy, must be turned to the defense of our country against the lawlessness and ruthlessness so fearfully personified in the dictators of the Axis powers.

Chief Justice Hughes Speaks. Appreciation of American ideals and abhorrence of all that would contravert those ideals is the burden of a speech delivered last week by Chief Justice Hughes as he received a citation from the National Association of Jews and Christians for his work along Inter-Faith lines.

Recognition of rights that are fundamental, that can not be made the object of partisan attack, that can not be set aside by majority rule, is essential to Americanism. No true American can, therefore, be moved to hatred of any man because of his race or religion. Antisemitism must necessarily start with Anti-Americanism when its purpose is to destroy or violate principles that are foundation stones of the democratic edifice in the United States.

Wagner Act Revision. One of the great improvements in industrial relations in the United States, was wrought in by the Wagner Act. The country was facing not a theory, but an actual condition, when it was introduced. Workers in a free country were unable to secure the right of collective bargaining. Employers recognized organization among themselves as a right, but denied in many cases the same right to their employees.

The Congress had before it a record that told eloquently of abuses that must be cured, practices that must be controlled, of injustice that must be made impossible, if men employed were to enjoy the same rights as those who were employers. Long study of actual conditions to be met, guarantees to be made against undue use of capital and influence against efforts of men to organize, gave the Congress a complete grasp of the subject in hand, before the bill was advanced for passage.