

# EDITORIALS

## Freedom Day

This is Civilian Defense Week. The defense of our country and of the liberties which it guarantees to us, is the duty of every citizen. Civilian defense is distinguished from that official defense which is the work of our Army and Navy. Those responsible to the people for the safety of our liberties, relying on the knowledge of world conditions that comes to them through official reliable sources, feel that the definite danger that threatens us demands the services of civilians as well as that of our professional soldiers and sailors.

In every city the Office of Civilian Defense has set up an organization that will enable our citizens to have a part in defending their community against every danger.

From November 11 to November 16 the Civilian Defense Week program will seek to arouse the people to a higher appreciation of the duties of their citizenship and to a keener appreciation of their rights as free men under a free government. Definite organization of the man-force of each community for civilian defense will be undertaken, while ways and means to make this project most effective will be discussed.

Sunday, November 16, has been designated as "Freedom Day." Around it will center the other activities of Civilian Defense Week. On this day men shall be asked to ponder the meaning of American Freedom; its guarantee of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness to all; its constant and wholesome respect for the rights of the individual; its recognition that the citizen is not the slave of the state, but that the state is the servant of the individual. Neither wealth, nor power, nor influence, nor might, shall be permitted to assail these rights, to destroy them. Today they are in danger from forces within and from forces without. True Americans will be on the alert to defend them.

Bishop Kearney publishes in today's COURIER his appeal to priests and people for the observance of Freedom Day, asking that all pray for the preservation of our traditional freedom from enemies within and without our borders, and calling to their sympathetic attention the letter sent out by Mayor LaGuardia as Director of Civilian Defense. Americans all, our response to the Bishop's appeal shall send up to Heaven a barrage of prayer that will seek for our country continued divine protection against all who would assail her ancient liberties. Under God we have had a government by the people, for the people, for the people. Under God we pray that this Freedom Day may help every American to be ready to defend that government against every power that would seek to destroy it.

## A Notable Anniversary

During the past week clergy from all parts of the United States gathered in Baltimore to celebrate with the Sulpician Fathers the 150th anniversary of the founding of St. Mary's Seminary, and the 300th anniversary of the founding of the Sulpicians. The organization was already a century and a half old when Archbishop Carroll asked them to come to his diocese and found there a school for training priests. Jean Jacques Olier had opened his community December 29, 1644 in Paris, with two other priests, eight students were soon under their charge. Since that day his community has continued faithful to its first purpose, the training of candidates for the Holy Priesthood. Its work spread out to other dioceses, and in 1791 came the first call from America.

St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore has been in commission ever since the first Sulpicians came from the Mother Seminary, Issy in France, with Father Negat as Superior. 500 students are now registered in the schools of philosophy and theology at St. Mary's. It is a proud record that this grand old school has made, spreading into the present century year after year its quota of young men for service in nearly all the dioceses of the country, until its alumni list now runs into the thousands. Who on all the souls brought to salvation through the work of the graduates of this old school. Its work still goes on, on even a higher scale than ever before. Provision for the coming years is spoken of in the dedication on November 11 of the new chapel.

America can thank God for the work of Father Olier and his religious family. His successors in the organization carried his rule and his tradition into these United States into the education and sanctification of generations of priestly men. Catholicity has grown because of their work. Gladly and gratefully do all the clergy and laity of America join with our Sulpician Fathers of today in the celebration of this two-fold anniversary, the 300th of their organization, the 150th of the founding of St. Mary's Seminary. It speaks of magnificent things accomplished for God and His Church, it speaks the promise of ever better things to come.

## 723 On the Move

Maxim, day comes for many a family each year. But New York City last Sunday saw a moving job that affected 723 individuals. There is no saying how many of them wanted to move to their new home, all of them would gladly have left their old one, could they have done the choosing of the new one. But the new home was for them no matter of choice, they had to take it, like it or not. It was done quietly, so that New Yorkers knew nothing of it till it was over. Guards and policemen supervised the passing of the valuations from the old Tombs Prison to the new Tombs, of the men and women who have been its transient guests in the long years of its history. It does not take permanent guests, but cares mostly for those who are awaiting trial and sentence for crimes committed. After sentence the prisoners are sent to Sing Sing, Auburn or some other State or Federal Prison. How many thousands have passed through its dark corridors, some to freedom, some to years in prison, some to the death house. Memories that are for the most part sad ones, will linger around its hall until the day comes when it shall be razed to make way perhaps for a city park.

Meanwhile, the new Tombs begins its work. 723 guests are registered for its opening day. Better accommodations, more conveniences, brighter walls and rooms and corridors, are among its advantages. They will appeal to those who dwell there, but not to the extent of inducing them to come back after their release from custody.

Perhaps 723 is not a large number to be held in temporary custody in a city the size of New York. Crime is kept down by the police, by the fear of confinement in prisons like the Tombs and Sing Sing. But the real basis of law and order is the conscience of the great mass

## Watch Your Aim, Uncle!



## Diocesan Recordings

There is no "time-out" in the drive against filthy literature. The whistle will not blow to end the game while those of evil minds see a possibility of financial gain in the sale of such trash. Once again Father Edmund Rawlinson has spoken out against the purveyors of evil literature in his city. (See Page 1). The return of magazines and photographs unfit for the people of his community has aroused the clean-minded people to rise up against the sale. We all have taken the pledge of the Bishop's Campaign for Decent Literature. Unless this pledge is kept constantly in mind the dealers being beset by the purveyors of filth will weaken, without the support of decent-minded people.

Knights of St. John of St. Boniface Commandery, Rochester, are to be commended for the presentation of flags to their Church. The American Flag and the Church must be upheld more than ever. They stand for the true ideals of Catholic knighthood.

Organizations in quest of speakers will find their problem solved if they get in touch with Dr. James N. Eastham, Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus, 50 Chestnut Street. A Catholic Speakers Bureau has been organized with 15 laymen trained to discuss some 23 subjects. These speakers are available for addresses before various Catholic groups with no charge. The only charge the Bureau is forced to make is when a speaker goes out of town that his expenses be paid. Among the speakers are outstanding Catholic laymen well-informed and known for their platform ability. The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring the Bureau.

## QUERIES and REPLIES

What did Christ mean when he said to His Apostles, "Behold I am with you all days" (Matt. 28: 20)?

In Biblical language the promise of God to be with a person in the performance of any mission always signifies that a special divine assistance will assure the success of that mission (e.g. Exodus 3: 12; Jeremiah 1: 10).

The phrase, "I am with you all ways or all days" as used in the Bible ninety times. Apart from the few instances in which it implies a mere salutation it signifies that God will insure the success of the person's undertaking. Accordingly, the promise of Christ to be with the Apostles in their teaching office must be interpreted as an assurance that a special divine assistance would be given them, protecting them at least from the possibility of teaching anything false, since error and falsehood are absolutely foreign to a God of truth.

Moreover, that special assistance was promised until the consummation of the world, and hence must have been given to the Apostles, not as individuals, but as members of the Church's hierarchy which still endure to the end of time.

EXHIBIT: Then this promise of Christ extends to all the lawful successors of the Apostles. Add to this the fact that our Lord declared that those who would reject His teachings as proposed by the Church would be condemned forever. "He that believeth not shall be condemned." (Mark 16: 16).

Surely God would not punish those who refuse to accept the teachings of the Church without true. Our own good sense would tell us that God would not command us to accept the teachings of His Church under pain of eternal punishment unless He first secured that teaching authority from all risk of error and all possibility of heresy and spiritual corruption. (From the pen of Father Richard Felix, O.S.B., Defenders of the Faith, Conception, Missouri.)

## Feast Days

- Sunday, Nov. 16.—ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY.
- Monday, Nov. 17.—ST. GREGORY THAUMATURGUS.
- Tuesday, Nov. 18.—ST. ODO OF CLUNY.
- Wednesday, Nov. 19.—ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY.
- Thursday, Nov. 20.—ST. FELIX OF VALOIS.
- Friday, Nov. 21.—THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.
- Saturday, Nov. 22.—ST. CECILIA.

## Along The Way

### Mother McAuley

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

One hundred years ago she died. As yet she is not a saint in the technical sense of the word, but I wonder if the people she left behind her is not her own great canonization.

There was no such thing as social workers in her day. But there were women who loved God and longed to dedicate themselves to working for His beloved ones and daughters. They did not know the rules of the sciences which deal with human poverty and delinquency, and sorrow but they knew the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, and they were looking for someone who could organize them and lead them on a crusade for human happiness.

So Mother Catherine McAuley began her work quietly as all great work has begun in Holy Ireland. She had a much idea that the works of mercy she initiated would spread to every corner of the civilized world. She had no idea that she would be the spiritual mother of those tens of thousands of women who call themselves in simple honesty the Sisters of Mercy.

We owe Ireland much. From the land of saints and scholars came the great Bishops who played so important a part in our church history. From the seminaries of Ireland came that steady flow of missionary priests who planted the faith everywhere throughout the land. But from the little convent of Mother McAuley in Ireland came the Sisters of Mercy, who have done magnificent work for our sick and our poor our insane and our fallen who have seen their educational establishments grow from frontier schools to complete educational systems.

Someday Rome may raise her to the altars. The permanency of her work and the deeds she taught her sisters to do are her constant canonization.

In case you are interested November 11 marks the hundredth anniversary of her death. I should say her birthday and entrance into glory.

### Mistaken Invitation

The fact that Catholic nuns are now so prominent in the world of authorship brings from some rather amazing letters.

There's Sister Mary Louise of Webster College, for instance. Her anthology "Over the Bent World" had a wide sale. Whereupon she was invited to join a writers club. Said the enthusiastic host:

"Drop me a line when you'll be in New York with an evening free to spend at the hotel. We'll try to arrange a dinner party to celebrate the opening of our new clubrooms."

You will always find congenial company to join you in a drink, a smoke or a bit of literary confab.

### How NOT To Handle Children

The youngsters were around ten, old enough to know right from wrong and a few points of good manners. Yet he chose the house where the old man was lying as the spot to shoot off his firecrackers. And to make things worse, he threw them under the window of the dying man.

The married daughter of the house came out quickly, explained the situation to the father and asked him to go elsewhere. He started by throwing a fresh brick the largest one he had against the window. And then because as the fireworks he had the added fun of watching someone he called himself down to spend the afternoon near the dying man.

So the daughter called the private watchman and petitioned that section of the city and the private watchman arrived and without too much difficulty led him to his father.

The father answered the doorbell, whereupon the watchman explained in perfect detail the father lighted into the watchman. What did he mean by touching his child, he could mind his own blantly-blank business.

Said the watchman quietly, "Well shall I swear out a warrant for your child or bring him this way to you to take care of?"

"You touch my kid again" blazed the father, "and I'll get your job if it costs me a thousand dollars."

And all the time the child stood, smiling complacently. Disturbing a dying man was one of the pleasures from which his father had no intention of deterring him.

What a considerate self-sacrificing, humanity-loving adult that kid will grow to be.

## No Children!

There is something the matter with a residential neighborhood, where the laugh of a child is never heard. Wailing babies and shouting youngsters may be a strain on the nerves, but we have all travelled along that road. The babel of children's voices is the voice of a new citizenry making itself heard by those who in a few short years will leave the stage to another generation. The Pilot.

We're for everybody aiming high except the fellows who set prices. — Bayonne (N. J.) Times.