

CONSECRATION OF FAMILIES TO SACRED HEART URGED

TORONTO.—The Most Rev. J. C. McLaughlin, Archbishop of Toronto, has asked that each family in the

archdiocese be consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus to mark the centenary of the founding of the archdiocese, which is this year. A condition of consecration is that the picture or statue of the Sacred Heart be displayed prominently.

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DR. McGUIRE

(Continued from Page 7)

known, of her poems is a protest against motherhood! It is worthwhile to quote a passage in the original:

"J'approve dans mon coeur l'oeuvre liberatrice De ne pas m'ajouter moi-meme au lendemain Pour l'orgueil et l'horreur d'etre une genitrice."

"The horror of being a mother." She deliberately, she says, decided not to suffer that horror. Nor should any woman deliberately accept it. And she made her life correspond to her philosophy. She married. She enjoyed for some years the pleasures of married life. When she tired of them, she separated from her husband.

Besides Teresa, there were four more daughters in the Martin family. They had the same parents and were subject to the same "heredity, environment and force." After proving that Teresa's exceptional sanctity was due solely to these causes, she was confronted with an obvious difficulty. She writes: "But how was it that only one, and she the youngest, achieved holiness?" But she faces the difficulty manfully. Her "science" is always equal to the task: "It has happened in the families of artists that the youngest child, gathering up, as it is believed, the finest elements in the heredity, has become the genius of the family, quite as if the other children were but sketches for a masterpiece. It is as though the mind of Teresa Martin had been from birth a tremendous accumulator of radiant energy. It is easy to explain this by following from point to point the "History of her Soul" (bold face mine) and so she follows the autobiography "from point to point" and repeats that "it is easy to one who understands Teresa's writings." She is herself one of the few who do understand.

Now, as I have already intimated, that is one, and only one, sample of the pseudo-science which makes up the Madame's whole book. Was there ever such nonsense? But the nonsense will be evident to the reader without further explanation.

ANOTHER QUESTION

There is another question that Madame Mardrus might have asked herself and attempted to answer. How does she know that Teresa was the only one of the Martin sisters who "achieved holiness," that is, in the context, sainthood? She does not know, nor do I, nor you. Teresa spent less than a decade of years in Carmel. She became a saint by a strict observance of the Carmelite Rule written by her "Holy Mother," St. Teresa of Jesus. Her sister "Pauline," now Rev. Mother Agnes, still living, has spent over six decades in strict observance of the same Rule. She may some day be canonized. But even if she is never canonized, we have no means of knowing whether she has not already "achieved" a greater degree of holiness than her sister the canonized Saint. I don't know. But I could say she has, and run no fear of being heretical, or of irreverence to the Saint. This is a point that should be of interest to all Catholics, for it shows again what is really meant by sanctity and canonization. Hence, although this article is already too long, I hope the COURIER will find space for the following from a Saint, a great Saint and theologian, St. Antoninus, Archbishop of Florence:

"As for us, whose faith is surrounded by shadows, to whom it is permitted to judge of the Saints by what we know of their works, I think that none can doubt but that many of the blessed men and women who have not been canonized by the Church, are even mentioned by her, have not been less worthy than the canonized. For the

sanctifying of them does not make them more worthy, nor give them more essential glory, neither does it determine the degree of sanctity, but only that temporal honor and glory that may accrue to them from the solemn celebration of their office and festivals, which without this cannot be done."

Placed On Index

Vatican City.—The Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office has issued a decree that the book "Gebet Vorsehung Wunder" by Otto Karrer be placed on the Index of forbidden books.

Harry J. Brady

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