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Rev. Dr. Owen B. McGuire

A Charming Letter of Cardinal Newman in Which He Recalls His Childhood and the Impressions Made on His Child-Mind by the Coming of Easter and June

Since the Jesuit magazine America started a movement to have him canonized, the name of John Henry Newman has been kept to the fore in the Catholic press. It will then, I hope, interest lovers of Newman, among whom there must be many readers of the CATHOLIC COURIER, to have copy of a charming letter of his, which, I believe, has never been published in this country. It certainly does not appear in Longman's edition of his complete works. I am myself an old lover of Newman. The first fifty dollars I saved after my ordination, fifty years ago, I invested in this Longman's edition—in 20 volumes. "Young Father Hartley"—young them to distinguish him from his older cousin now the venerable Monsignor Hartley—a lover of Newman and of all good books—had set the example and his example was worth following in this and other matters.

How I came to have a copy of this letter may also be of interest to the reader. While I was living "over there" in Spain I had a standing invitation to tea on Sundays afternoon from an English Catholic family resident in the same place. This family subscribed for several English periodicals—the daily Times, the Sunday Times (this latter, the most literary weekly in London, has no connection with the daily Times) and two of the Catholic weeklies—and on Sunday evenings they sent me back to my lodgings with a large bundle of these papers.

Rare Manuscript

In 1928 there was "an auction at Sotheby's "of rare books, manuscripts, etc." Among these was the original MS. of "Alice in Wonderland," which may, I think, be described as the best known and most popular book ever written for children. Its author was an Anglican clergyman who wrote under the pseudonym of Lewis Carrol. His real name was Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, and, strange to say, this imaginative and poetic writer of fancy was a professor of mathematics and author of several books on that science! The MS. was knocked down at 15,400 pounds sterling—at par about 11,000 dollars. The purchaser was an American, a Doctor Rosenbach, who announced through the auctioneer that he "would hold the MS. at the disposition of the British nation at the price he paid for it".

The whole transaction produced a flood of "Letters to the Times" which kept running for over a week. The most violent of these were in denunciation of Yankee plutocracy. But the greater number of them referred to the history of the book and of its author.

Beautiful Letter

One correspondent wrote that in a copy of Alice in Wonderland which he had purchased forty years before, he had found on a small printed slip, loose inside the book "An Easter greeting to every Child who loves Alice," and signed "Lewis Carrol". The letter is long but certainly beautiful. It asks the child if it remembers Easter morning when a loving mother's hand drew apart the curtains and asked it to get up, "to rise and forget, in the bright sunlight, the ugly dreams that frightened you so when all was dark." After several paragraphs, to match this in beauty and feeling the letter concludes with a comparison of this happy Easter morning after a night of "ugly dreams" to "that brighter dawn that you will one day see—when lovelier sights will meet your eyes than any waving trees or rippling waters, when an-

(Continued on Page 17)

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1831 . . . MORE THAN A CENTURY OF SERVICE . . . 1942

222nd SEMI-ANNUAL STATEMENT

June 1, 1942

ASSETS

Loans secured by First Mortgages on Real Estate situated in Rochester and vicinity	$30,611,396.82
Modernization Insured Loans and Loans secured by Legal Collateral	80,946.67
United States Bonds	21,307,335.52
State, City and Municipal Bonds	1,134,530.90
Railroad Bonds	2,180,177.60
Public Utility Bonds	853,808.20
Investment in Savings Banks Trust Company, Institutional Securities Corporation, and in Savings Bank Life Insurance Department	468,150.00
Bank Buildings	1,515,000.00
Other Real Estate owned by the Bank	1,879,076.94
Interest now due and accrued on Loans and Investments	594,341.28
Other Assets	352,010.62
Cash in our vaults and on deposit in other banks	4,156,730.07
	$65,138,504.62

LIABILITIES

Due Depositors	$57,225,249.95
Other Liabilities	95,067.98
Amount reserved for Accrued Taxes and Other Expenses	236,044.07
ALLOCATED RESERVES	1,659,885.51
SURPLUS (Investment Value)	5,922,257.11
	$65,138,504.62

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State K. of C. Meet

(Continued from Page 3)

our eminent statesmen and seek to divide the country in its hour of peril.

In the resolution submitted by Mr. Walsh, the Knights called for wholehearted support of the government of the United States in its prosecution of the war effort.

The convention opened with a Solemn Mass in St. Agnes Church at which the Most Rev. James E. Kearney, Bishop of Rochester and state chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, presided, on Thursday, May 28.

Upon news of the death of Daniel A. Tobin, president of the State Hospital Association, on May 26, Bishop Kearney announced that a Requiem Mass would be offered on the following day. The entire convention party attended, accompanied by Supreme Secretary Joseph F. Lamb and state officers. Mr. Tobin was to have delivered the report of the Hospital Association at the convention, and his report was read by Supreme Secretary Lamb.