

Catholic Courier

VOLUME XIV OCTOBER 22, 1942 NUMBER 43

Official Newspaper of The Rochester Diocese

With the Approbation of the MOST REVEREND JAMES EDWARD KEARNEY, D.D. Bishop of Rochester

The CATHOLIC COURIER has my most enthusiastic approval. A diocesan newspaper has become an essential part of the program of Catholic action in every diocese. The CATHOLIC COURIER should be found in every Catholic home in this diocese. I find it hard to understand how any Catholic can be so indifferent to what is transpiring in his church throughout the world as to rely upon unreliable sources of information or even to seek no information whatever. Let us have a best slogan "The CATHOLIC COURIER in every Catholic home."

JAMES E. KEARNEY, Bishop of Rochester.

AVE ET VALE

The COURIER is confronted with a twofold task today in marking the passing of Father Mooney from his position as Managing Editor and the coming of Father Randall into that office. Appreciation for work well and faithfully done is mingled with a natural regret as we bid farewell to Father Mooney from the editorial chair. The COURIER is pleased to note that he continues on the Board of Directors even as parochial burdens lead him to give up his active editorial work. Father Mooney took over the COURIER when it was at an all time low financially and materially and spiritually. He surrounded himself with able and zealous helpers, and labored earnestly to bring the COURIER to its present state. His confidantes on the paper and all our subscribers unite in a common expression of sincere thanks for all he has done for the COURIER.

Father Randall receives our most hearty welcome as he succeeds to the position of Managing Editor. It is no sinecure, but a serious job that will call for much time and labor. We know that he will undertake his task with his usual dynamic and persistent spirit, determined to give the best that is in him in carrying on the traditions of our paper while striving heartily to bring betterment into its service to its readers. Improvement as needed and feasible into all of its departments. In his new position, Father Randall will have the constant and complete cooperation of the Bishop and of the staff of the COURIER, together with the appreciative consideration of a large army of faithful readers.

CHRIST THE KING

The solemn dedication of the human family to the Sacred Heart of Jesus will be made on Sunday by the priest in each parish. The prayer will be recited during the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. It will be in fulfillment of the precept of the Holy Father, Pope Pius XI, promulgated in 1922 directing this dedication on the Feast of Christ the King.

That all men on earth should claim Christ for their King, that all members of the human race should offer themselves as willing subjects to Christ the King, that the loyalty and love of every human heart should be given completely to the King on Whose bounty we depend for all needs of body and soul, is the purpose of this dedicatory prayer.

Pius XI of happy memory had in his heart a design on the whole human race. He wanted to put them under one leader, a Divine Leader; to unite them in one grand body inspired by a common love of God. His design was not in furtherance of any totalitarian philosophy, was not a submission through force to any dictator, was not borne of injustice to men and rejection of God. No! His purpose was to increase the happiness of all men by giving them back to Christ the King; it was a purpose based on a philosophy of love, a project to be perfected by the individual love of every member of the human family, was born of justice to all men tempered by mercy with the fullest acceptance of God through faith, hope and charity. It was to be the crowning joy of those whose life, liberty, happiness, coming from God, would take on new depths of meaning through being dedicated to their true end, God Himself in the Person of Christ the King.

The world suffers today from those who would derogate the whole human family to themselves as slaves to the dictator will, unto the enslavement of body and soul to the pagan philosophy of those who know not God nor God's ways.

The Feast of Christ the King should find the world more than ever devoted to its true King, should, by contrast with the misery and suffering and rapine and injustice of the total war dictators have stirred up as the scourge of mankind, emphasize the peace and joy and riches and mercy of the Kingship of Jesus Christ. Long live Christ the King!

H. G. WELLS STILL HATES THE CHURCH

There may be still some few who read the alleged histories foisted on an easy public by H. G. Wells. There may be some who have failed to see through the mockery of truth and the fabrications reflected in these books. Bias, hatred of religion, innuendo and false reporting of affairs concerning the Church, serve to make the Outline of History as untrue as this time as it is unreliable concerning anything historic.

Now in the middle of a war where the Church and the Holy Father are striving so mightily to secure humane conditions currently and an eternal peace that will bless all men, we find Mr. Wells writing in the same rash and mendacious strain as of old, a current article finds him "revealing" that the Vatican is allied to the Axis powers and is using its Vatican City as a spy center for Axis spies. He finds the Church filled with an inexplicable hatred for the "new world," using its hidden powers to oppose it in every way. He feels it would be well to destroy the menace by dropping a 2000 lb. bomb on the Vatican.

Perhaps this new manifestation of unreasoning hatred of the Church may serve to warn people that they will look in vain for the truth in the works of a man whose mind and heart are obsessed by

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Diocesan Recordings

FOR BRIVICEMEN. Members of Rochester Council Knights of Columbus have worked out a plan at their Monday Night Parties whereby a number of boys in the service will each week receive a money order for \$7.50 each. The names are chosen by those attending the parties. The recipient's creed is not questioned. He is sent the gift to do with what he pleases. There should be some interesting responses from this token to men on the fighting fronts. Any other organization with any plan to aid the servicemen? This department would like to hear of such plans.

SOUND READING. Coming to Aquinas Institute next Sunday for a lecture in the Christian Culture Series is Dr. Mortimer J. Adler, author of the widely known "How to Read a Book." This reminded one of our readers, this week, that nearly forty years ago, Brother Azarias of the Brothers of the Christian Schools in Syracuse, was the author of a book entitled "Books and Reading," a 166 page document giving the thoroughly Christian viewpoint on the business of reading. Brother Azarias is the author of "Philosophy of Literature," and is famed for his ability in stressing the "art of forgetting" which is just as important as he treats it as the "art of remembering."

OVER HEARD. A member of one of our Catholic lay organizations was recalling hearing of a young man from the back country having been inducted into the army. The young man was not too robust physically but when another inductee proceeded to use vile language, and continued blating out the objectionable, the young man trembling but with force ordered him to stop. The young soldier to be declared "I am a Roman Catholic and I cannot stand to hear you use such language." His protest was heard. This is the type of moral courage needed in an army fighting for the ideals of Christian living.

FIRST MEETING. Two Catholic lay readers met for the first time Sunday at the Communion Mass and Breakfast of the Knights of Columbus in Rochester. Guest of honor was Francis P. Matthews, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus and attending as a member of that organization was Supreme President, General Frank H. Biel of the Knights of St. John. They were introduced. The mutual service of their respective organizations was discussed and particularly what their organizations can do for those left behind when their members are called to their eternal rewards. Both organizations can feel justly proud of the leadership which these two outstanding Catholic laymen bring to their organizations.

QUERIES and REPLIES

Why Do Catholics Have To Go To Their Parish Priest To Get Married? Why Wouldn't Any Priest Do?

In the eyes of the Church, marriage is something permanent. It is a Sacrament that endures until death. Just as no Catholic can validly enter into a second marriage as long as the partner of the first marriage is living, no priest is allowed to officiate at a marriage until he is morally certain that it is a valid marriage.

The officiating minister must make sure that the couple is free to marry. Freedom to marry is an essential condition for the valid reception of the Sacrament. Naturally the pastor would know better than any other priest whether this condition obtains. A permanent record of the marriage has also to be made and kept. The logical place for this record is in the official record books of the parish to which the bride and groom belong.

If any priest were permitted to officiate at Catholic weddings and make record of them in any place he chose, it would be an impossible task to prevent invalid marriages or to trace marriage records if need arose in later years. That is why only the pastor enjoys the privilege to assist at the marriage of his people and why another priest can do so only when authorized by the pastor. If bride and groom are from different parishes the wedding normally takes place

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY

St. Peter's Cathedral
 HAS PROJECTED AS WORLD'S LARGEST.
 PRESENT OFFICE IS ONLY ONE
 TENTH OF THE UNFULFILLED
 AMBITIOUS PLAN.



Beyond the reference to SIMON in St. Luke (C. 11) tradition preserves nothing concerning him.

GENEALOGY OF EARLIER ABYSSIAN KINGS IS A VERITABLE LITANY:
 NEWAYA-KRESTOS - Vessel of Christ.
 NEWAYA-MARYAM - Vessel of Mary.
 BAEDA-MARYAM - He who is in the hand of Mary.
 LEBNA-DENGEL - Incense of the Virgin.

TURKEY SYRIA IRAN

ALEPPO, SYRIA, has the unique distinction of being the SEE town of ARCHBISHOPS, BISHOP of the MELKITE, SYRIAN, ARABIAN and MARONITE RITES.

Along The Way

It Is 'The' Island

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

To those who live there and come from there Prince Edward Island is simply "The Island," with an accent on the article. There is no other that rates consideration. It is a center of Catholicity, a home of bishops, among them the present bishops of Toronto, Antigonish and Oklahoma City. And their love for Prince Edward Island is delightful which is prelude to my magnificent boner.

I was talking with a high ecclesiastic who comes from Prince Edward, and said I ingratiatingly "I'm expecting to visit your part of the country this trip."

"Are you?" he asked with kindly interest. "Yes," I replied, "I'm spending a day on King Edward Island. He looked at me patiently. "Prince Edward, Father, Prince Edward," he corrected. "It was as stupid on my part as it would have been for someone to say to me, a St. Louisan, 'I notice that you came from that city in the States called King Louis.'"

Antigonish

Its fame is far out of proportion to its actual size, no doubt of that. It is the seat of St. Francis Xavier University, a Catholic school that has revolutionized the economic life of Nova Scotia, a merca to which important men come to find out how Christianity can be made to work in the collaborative life of the people.

But to me, Antigonish is always associated with Sister Mary Theresa. I met her when I was sick in St. John's Hospital in St. Louis and she was a wonderful old lady already retired as head of the Mercy Sisters of our diocese and the builder of the new St. John's. She dropped into my room just after my operation and became Heaven bless her! in her own words "my St. Louis Mother." And as I was a very young Jesuit at the time the adoption was most gracious and welcome.

But hardly had we begun to talk than she told me of Antigonish. That was her home. She was a MacDonald, and one of the grand Scotch Catholics who had brought the faith from the Highlands as proof that all Scotland had not fallen away from the true Church. Into my sick room she brought The Antigonish Casket, which isn't really a newspaper but an institution and a banner. She took me through the Scotch names that

in the presence of the pastor of the bride. The records, however, must be recorded in the parish both of the bride and of the groom. (From the pen of Father Richard Felix, O.S.B., Defenders of the Faith, Conception, Missouri.)

filled its pages, each with a story that brought back the days of her youth. MacDonalds, Chisholms, Camerons, McLellans, and so on down the list. She told me marvelous stories of the supernatural and preternatural that marked the lives of these Highland Catholics - the light that went with the priest who carried the Last Sacraments to the sick, the ghost that appeared regularly and was always concerned with some debt unpaid or some obligation unfulfilled. And she grew very young again as she told me of the fine old Scotchman who had been her father and the bright and bonny customs of her youth.

So as I rode through little Antigonish and saw over the stores the same Scotch names, picked up the current issue of The Casket, noted the recurrent red heads that appeared everywhere on the streets, and visited the magnificent hospital run by the sisters, my mind kept running back to the gracious lady who fed me the young and hungry scholastic afternoon lunches and the Catholic tradition and delightful folk lore of her Scotch Catholic ancestry. She has been with God for years now. I'll bet she talks the language of Heaven with a slight burr and thinks that the bagpipes are much more musical than the heavenly harps.

Ghost Stories

And by the way Antigonish has not forgotten its ghost stories. I talked to the priests of St. Francis Xavier about them and found that they still continue and flourish. Each of them knew of someone who had seen and talked with a ghost - a brother shot in the war and returning for a brief final word the day of his death, the father who could not rest until a widow in another town had been paid the three dollars and a half that he owed her the woman who came back to reveal some trifling details of her life left incomplete. Scotch neatness and thrift displaying themselves even after death. I've never seen a ghost, worse luck! But I'd have a first class hope of meeting one if I stayed long in the environs of Antigonish.

Said one of the Fathers by way of explanation: "Our people brought their priests with them when they came, but never enough. So there were long intervals for many of the settlers without Mass and the Sacraments. Couldn't it well be that God, fearful they might forget the supernatural, allowed these manifestations to remind them of the other world and the immortality of their souls?"

And the explanation sounded extremely reasonable.