

Catholic Courier

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With the Approval 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 brief slogan: "The CATHOLIC COURIER in every Catholic home."

JAMES E. KEARNEY, Bishop of Rochester

PLANNING FOR PEACE

No man can predict with certainty when the war will end. Admiral Halsey says 1943 will tell the tale, President Roosevelt says we shall be well on our road to Tokyo and Berlin during 1943, Vice-President Wallace says 1944 shall give us the prelude to victory. Victory with peace is our way! The attacks on liberty and democracy will soon be repelled. The way for peace shall again be open for the world.

It is not too early to begin to plan the peace. There can be no just cause for putting off that planning till the war is over. Serious thought and considered judgment should be the foundations on which the coming peace shall be built. Well may the children of all the world weigh and ponder the Christmas message of the Pope on this subject. It was given to "My children of the whole world" on Christmas Eve of 1912: it was a Christmas message, but not to be received and considered only at Christmas. It contains the ground principles in which a lasting peace must be based. For us, then, to go over it in detail, to consider and study its every part, to make it so much our own that we may be ready to do our part in any discussion and formulation of the conditions that shall govern the peace.

A terrible calamity that threatens humanity, hangs over the world, now greatly ill because of the war and all that led up to it. Humanity must find a remedy at once if it is to escape. The Church will help all to know the basic laws that are necessary to enable peoples and states to solve the gigantic problems of domestic order and international collaboration. Internal peace is a prerequisite to external peace; peace can come to the world only through the domestic peace that obtains in each country. There can be no peace between nations unless there is peace within the nation that inspires trust.

That internal peace can come only when men understand that every society worthy of the name has originated in a desire for peace. The Holy Father quotes St. Thomas Aquinas in defining peace as a "tranquil living together in order." Living together in order, living together in tranquility, both are needed for true peace. The peace to come must provide for both of these. We shall give further study to the message of the Pope in subsequent editorials.

THE POORER CLASSES AND PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Lincoln said the Lord must have great love for the common people, or He would not have made so many of them. The common people are made up in great measure of what some call the "poorer classes." Lincoln himself, in many another great man came from the poorer classes. "Planned parenthood" was not there to prevent his coming. "Planned Parenthood" as preached today by those who would prevent the "poorer classes" from having an overproportionate number of children. If all planned parenthood was there in the heart of his parents, parenthood planned in accord with the laws of nature and of nature's God; parenthood not interfered with by a sin against nature and against God; parenthood planned in accordance with God's blessing and God's command to man—"Increase and multiply."

"Child-spacing" is the pretty title of the abominable teaching sponsored by one of the busy-body organizations that ties the holy name of parent on to its title. Spacing can be had only when there are two children or more; this condition lets out most of those who promote "Planned Parenthood," who "traditionally bear too few children."

The "poorer classes" will continue to plan their parenthood in accordance with the good sense and the good conscience God has given them. They know and will follow the lawful practice that will space their children naturally and morally. They will not feel complimented that those of the "upper classes," whose families can more to spacing than to children, undertake to teach them how to conduct their affairs. They will not feel complimented to be labeled the "poorer classes." Poorer in what way? In mental and moral goods, in healthy bodies and holy souls, in conjugal love and family purity? No, indeed! In all these, they are the "richer classes." Poorer in the things of earth, the material things that fade and pass away; but richer by far than the apostles of barrenness who will not have children of their own and who would deprive our beloved brethren of the right to bear their children in gladness of heart. True lovers of God, true friends of humanity, true Americans, will strive to improve social and labor conditions in our country so as to remove poverty, and enable honest parents to possess adequate means for the raising of their families.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD THAT IS REAL

A visit to the new St. Mary's Hospital will give you a picture of planned parenthood that is real. The maternity department there has been planned for the mothers and babes of the years to come. Parenthood will find here its blessed ally. Its work will be positive, real, productive. Its effect will be evident in new citizens constantly given to the community. It will follow God's law, nature's law. It will respect even the "poorer classes." It will give them no advice or counsel that God would not give them. It will honor their rights as men to increase and multiply. It will assume no right to lure them away from decency, probity, virtue.

Yes, St. Mary's has arranged a program of planned parenthood! The program is one of which every normal human being may well be proud. For those who shall in the future be blessed with the joys of

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Along The Way

Catholic Parents, Note!

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

The Bulletin of the Teachers' Alliance of New York City for December is a rather devastating affair. It is a direct appeal to the legislators and the voters to bring back discipline to the public schools of the city and to eliminate what it frankly terms "Rowdianism."

But Point 6 of their official report on delinquency is worth reading. It is bold, in fact, to thrust upon the noses of those Catholics who bitterly disregard the parochial schools and send their children elsewhere.

Writes the public school teacher:

"It is our considered opinion that the level of public behavior is far higher in our parochial and denominational schools than it is in our public schools, and that this condition is the outcome of the organized teaching and practice of religion. . . . We do believe that emotional emphasis given to the understanding of moral behavior through the tenets of religion is a powerful factor in shaping the character of our children."

Pleasant words, but it is hard to resist a complacent, "We told you so."

Letters From the Navy

He heads his letter from "The Only Grass Hut Barber Shop in the World," and identifies it as "Down Where the Trade Winds Blow." Otherwise, the censor doesn't let you in on where he is or what kind of our far flung occupation he is describing.

He talks gratefully of Catholic pamphlets and the use they are to Catholics and non-Catholics alike. Then he interposes amateur volubility with Church services.

"Theatrical critics aren't necessary here. Tonight we gathered for a vodvil. Marine actors, Marine audience, except for a few of us Seabees. We sat on felled coconut logs in a coconut grove with the stars above. If an actor did well, he knew it. If badly, he was made to realize that fact immediately. Although we live in the bush, there's no beating around it at one of our shows. We simply bellow at the actor the info that he is, shall I say, inferior? We invite him to "knock it off." Hissing is too refined.

"Last Sunday afternoon, I dropped into the cathedral of the Isle's principal town for Benediction. I thought I could spare the fifteen minutes and the benisons would do me good. I caught the beginning of the services at 3:30 P. M. and emerged at 5. Litanies and Hymns, with hymns sung after each mystery, all before Benediction. After the natives had prayed "the European service" followed.

"The deck of the cathedral, except for a narrow strip of pews along the walls, is covered with mats, upon which the natives in their white Sunday apparel, squat. The Sisters, also in white, kneel in

the pews, but the girls, all natives, squat on the mats. The girls are dressed in pink dresses with inch-wide blue trimmings. The dresses are double-breasted affairs. The earrings reach from the armpits to the ankles, and over these another dress is worn, reaching from the neck to the shins. The trimmings run like tinsel on a Christmas tree, latitudinally. Though the color scheme varies the majority of the women of this island dress that way. Hollywood to the contrary and D. Lamour notwithstanding.

"Good-by, Father, and let's pray for peace."

Unfinished Story

My little story of the chalkie left to the Catholic church in Philadelphia by a convert Quakeress brings an interesting sequel. My pleasant correspondent writes thus:

"A number of years ago a friend of mine was visiting Philadelphia. I advised her to be sure to stop in at the old Jesuit Church in Withings Abbey, and she did.

"When she was walking away from the church, she met a Quakeress dressed in the Quaker's plain garb. She spoke to my friend, asked her if there was a Catholic church near by, and walked back with my friend to Withings Alley.

"You may be surprised, said the Quakeress, that I asked to see a Catholic church, for I've never been in one. But two weeks ago, I dreamed a lovely woman came to me. She said, 'I want you to go to a Catholic church and pray for me.' I'd never seen the woman before, but I am sure she was my Mother. You see, I was an orphan adopted by a Quaker family."

"My friend took her into the Catholic church and explained the Real Presence, the shrines, the lights, and all. The Quakeress knelt down, prayed silently, and then cried with her head in her hands.

"When they reached the street again they parted. She never knew the Quakeress' name, but we have both often wondered if the story had a happy conclusion in conversion."

Sorry to leave my readers with an unended story. Perhaps on God's happy judgment Day we may know its end.

Clips

The oldest known pen was unearthed in Egypt. Older than those in the post office? — "Evansville Post."

Even if your life is an open book there are times when you should turn over a new leaf. — "Boston Post."

Diocesan Recordings

Prince Hubertus of Loewenthal, lecturing at the Christian Culture Series at Aquinas Institute last Sunday night prefaced his period discussion with commendation of who had turned out despite gas line rationing. He could not understand, however, he said with twinkling eye, how driving to a lecture on European affairs could be classed "as pleasure driving."

Rochester has a campaign on for used musical instruments and athletic equipment that is being gathered to be sent to our prison (P. of W.P.). This is a commendable undertaking but we hope the small boys will not take it as an opportunity to get out of practicing on their musical instruments. Giving away their baseball bat and gloves will be more of a sacrifice.

"A Client of the Blessed Sacrament," sends in this piece for pondering:

"Feeling that your paper reaches thousands of our Catholic people, I wonder if it would do any good to print an article regarding the apparent letdown of our people for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament."

"Traveling on the buses four times a day, I have been amazed, at not only the laymen but a good many times at our own beloved priests who pass by our Catholic churches and never make a pretense of raising their hats."

"In years gone by I have known it to be a fact where some of our non-Catholic brethren have remarked about so many men raising their hats passing a church. It just gave one an inner sense of gratification that our Lord was being honored. What is the matter with our people? No wonder there is a war; that God is calling His vengeance on the people. They don't respect Him, so how can they respect their fellow-men?"

"If this small letter would make just one man remember his God the next time he passes a Church it will be worth while."

Our erstwhile movie commentator, Private John Springer worked at one time for the Hutchings Advertising Company in Rochester. John has been transferred to Miami and his new commanding officer is Capt. Mosher Hutchings his former boss. Small world, isn't it?

QUERIES and REPLIES

War—War—War, Looks Like God Has Forgotten The World.

War—War—War—because men have forgotten God. The blight of unbelief has so eaten into the souls of men that the roots of righteousness and right living have been, deadened to the core.

Only something radical, could possibly bring man back to the realization of his status as a creature wholly dependent upon a Creator whose laws he may not ignore with impunity.

The world is indeed a ghastly mess. A quarter of a century of political chicanery and moral evil-doing has come to a shrieking climax. Hundreds of thousands of young men have been butchered in the abattoir called Europe over which hangs a sinister sign: "Civilization Without Christ." There has been agony begging description, death and destruction beyond belief. And yet we will not learn.

You have merely to open the pages of one of our metropolitan papers to see as of old the same sickening stories of marital infidelity, quick divorces, quicker remarriages, parties whose lavishness is matched only by their incontinence, night clubs that are veritable night ovens—everywhere the same old blight evidencing a total failure to comprehend the meaning of this shattering hour.

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem! thou who fillest the prophets and stonest those who are sent to thee! How often would I have gathered thy children together as a hen gathers her young under her wings, but thou wouldst not!" (Matt. 23:37.) "I am the Lord thy God. Thou shalt not have strange gods before Me" (Exodus 20, 2). — (From the pen of Father Richard Felix, O.S.B., Defenders of the Faith, Conception, Missouri.)

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

By M. J. MURRAY

THE GATEWAY to WARNHAM CHURCH, ENGLAND, GROWS—
It is a cleverly chained you tree!

A monastic school which flourished at MUNGRET, IRELAND 900 A.D. HAD 500 MONKS AS TEACHERS & 1000 PRIESTS & PREACHERS!

In Barcelona Cathedral, SPAIN, is a statue of the CHILD JESUS on which FERDINAND the first of Castile and ISABELLA the first of Aragon were crowned.

It is a well attested fact that during the final apparition of OUR LADY of FATIMA, PORTUGAL, on October 13, 1917, THE SUN REVOLVED COMPULSIVELY SENDING OUT GREAT TONGUES OF FLAME.