

SO SAY THE MONKEYS

(A release of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference, 1901 Grand Ave., Des Moines, Iowa).

An ancient ape, once on a time, Disliked exceedingly to climb, And so he picked him out a tree And said, "Now this belongs to me. I have a bunch that mums are mums."

And I can make them gather nuts And bring the bulk of them to me By claiming title to this tree."

He took a green leaf and a red And wrote himself a title-deed, Proclaiming pompously and slow: "All monkeys by these presents know."

Next morning when the monkeys came

To gather nuts, he made his claim: "All monkeys climbing on this tree Must bring their gathered nuts to me."

Cracking the same on equal shares:

The nuts are mine; the shells are theirs."

"But by what right?" they cried, amazed,

Thinking the ape was surely crazed.

"By this," he answered, "If you'll read,

You'll find it is a title-deed.

Made in precise and formal shape And sworn before a fellow-ape, Exactly on the legal plan Used by that wondrous creature, man.

In London, Tokyo, New York, Glasgow, Kalamazoo, and Cork, Unless my deed is recognized, It proves you quite uncivilized."

"But," said one monkey, "You'll agree

It was not you who made this tree?"

"No," said the ape, serene and bland,

"Does any owner make his land, Yet all of its hereditaments Are his and figure in his rents?"

The puzzled monkeys sat about;

They could not make the question out.

Plainly by precedent and law

The ape's procedure showed no flaw.

And yet, no matter what he said,

The stomach still denied the deed.

Up spoke one sprightly monkey then,

"Monkeys are monkeys; man are men.

The ape should try his legal capers

On men, who may respect his papers.

We don't know deeds; we do know nuts,

And spite of his 'and 'hods' and 'huds'

We know who gathers and un-

mits 'em.

By monkey practice also eats 'em)

So tell the ape and all his dunkeys,

No man-tricks can be played on monkeys."

Thus, apes still climb to get their food,

Since monkey minds are crass and crude,

And monkeys, all so ill advised,

Still eat their nuts, uncivilized.

—Edmund Vance Cooke

With Catholic Poets

Beyond the Dream
Once Dante (may he rest in peace
To whose soul was the vision given)

Saw his beloved at his side
And lo! he knew himself in Heaven.

In shapes of light the truth may hide

Or clearer forms of tenderness,
But unto Heaven's elect is shown
The beauty of her skyry dream.

Only to him earth's curtains blown
By unseen winds lets in the gleam
Who hears the whisper "Come"
and "Come,"
And follows truth beyond the dream.

—M. Whitcomb Hess

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Measures and Weights
These who guide the destinies of peoples and the peoples themselves must be penetrated always more and more by that spirit of noble personal responsibility which measures and weighs human statutes according to the unshakable rules of Divine Law.—Pope Pius XII

TIMELY ETERNALS

By Rt. Rev. Msgr. Peter M. H. Wyrhoven
Editor-in-Chief, Catholic Action of the South

What's Wrong With Obedience?

A father, a veteran of World War I, a smiling mother and two little boys around the ages of four and five walked into the diner, were seated, and got set for a meal. Things had been somewhat monotonous and dull in the dining car up to that time, but the two husky young-

sters took the situation in hand at once by furnishing all kinds of distractions. They talked loudly and boisterously, kicked whenever a waiter, cried, laughed and whistled. Their mother's sweet pleadings did not mean any more to them than the sizzling of the steak on the broiler in the kitchen. They had, long ago, grown accustomed to Father's threats, with the caveat that only the two little boys in the car had a good time. The World-war-veteran father was ashamed to look up. The mother gazed around, facing the frowns of the other diners with a silly, piteous smile.

PARENTAL WEAKNESS
There is nothing in this world of which normal parents want to feel more proud than of their children. Still, paradoxically, there is nothing about which many parents do less than in raising their children properly. Most fathers labor under the impression that they are doing splendidly by their wives, their children, their country and their God, as long as they bring home the pay check faithfully or give an ample allowance for domestic expenses regularly. Entirely too many mothers are highly pleased with themselves when they see to it that their youngsters get their three square meals a day and are kept in clean clothes.

Providing properly for their physical needs, and feeding them adequately, has something to do with the well-being of children; but this constitutes only a necessary adjunct to the principal business in hand. The main objective in taking correct care of youngsters is, first of all, in season and out of season, to drill them in being obedient. We purposely use the term, drill, for discipline is often quite unpleasant—for child and parent alike.

It is exactly this factor of unpleasantness which makes so many parents fail in the great art of rearing children right. It is so much easier to give in to the child's every whim, so much more agreeable to see him smile when he gets his way than to hear him cry when his young, ill-tempered ambitions or wishes are thwarted.

There is more selfish entertainment in going out at night for a dinner, a social or a show than in stay at home and positive devotion to the youngsters' lives. There are no substitutes for parents. It is much more comfortable to give adolescent Johnny or Jane the front-door key and go to bed than it is to sit up, waiting to see whether they obey your orders and come home on time.

PROPER TRAINING
"Yes, but you should treat your children." Correct after they are properly trained and you just will prove they are trustworthy. No creature is naturally disposed to obey man even less than the brute, because man can use his own judgment and will. Unless his judgment is rightly formed, his own individual inclinations will easily lead to make him follow the wrong path, and he will become the victim and slave of unhealthy attitudes.

There is no one who is thoroughly inclined to good. We all have our leanings to the bad side. Some of us may have better dispositions than others, and in the case of children, it will be much easier, of course, to train the more amenable. But, the good and the bad need constant direction and supervision.

Obedience is the best index and guarantee of character. Without it, peace at home and family welfare are impossible. Without it, society cannot survive. We face laws and restrictions everywhere, and all the time. Every person, no matter what his position in life, is subject to them. Without obedience, no one can be an acceptable Christian or a desirable citizen. He is bound to upset the order that makes for peace and happiness. The principal reason why penitentiaries are filled, homes are broken up, and mothers invariably become prematurely gray-haired, is disobedience.

If disobedience is at the bottom of most of man's misery, why, then, should parents be so neglectful in training their children in this most essential foundation for their future happiness? Why should they start their little ones off in life with a background that spells misery in the future? The four-year-old who stamps his foot and gives his mother a positive "no," is headed for a future which will be, at best, questionable and, at worst, tragic.

Recalls How Pope Pius XI Helped Catholic Paper Begin

LONDON.—An interesting incident illustrating the interest taken by the late Pope Pius XI in the Catholic Press is recounted, by Douglas Newton, novelist, in an article in The Universe here.

When the Most Rev. A. E. J. Kenaly, O.F.M., Cap., was Archbishop of Simla (Delhi), India, and went to Rome on his first and last visit, the Holy Father asked him if he had a Catholic newspaper.

The Archbishop, now living in retirement at Crawley Friary, Sussex, told the Pontiff one of the first things he had done had been to start the Hindu Times.

"Splendid," said the Pope, and taking 50 pounds in English notes from his desk he gave the money to the Archbishop with the re-

mark: "Here's something to help you with your work."

"Have you a good editor?" was the Pope's next question, and the Archbishop explained that as he was poor he had to be his own editor.

"Couldn't he better?" remarked the Pope, reaching into another drawer.

But there was nothing in the drawer and His Holiness tried other drawers saying "Now where is it? I'm sure I had some money somewhere. Where did I put it?"

"Ah! Here it is," the Pope said at last. "Here's 200 dollars for your editor."

Archbishop Kenaly looked at the notes and saw they were for \$2,000.

He mentioned the matter to the Holy Father who just laughed and said: "Then that's so much better."

Foolish Idea

Nothing more foolish can be uttered or conceived than the notion that because man is free by nature, he is therefore exempt from law.—Leo XIII, "Libertas praesentissimum."

Help For Obedient

God powerfully helps the obedient, and the very reason that they submit their will to that of others renders them masters of themselves and wholly free to devote themselves to His service.

Not what we plan makes us praiseworthy, but what we actually do.

Suggests Exchange Of Hess For 100,000 Jews

LONDON.—The suggestion that Rudolf Hess should be offered to the Nazis in exchange for 100,000 Jews is made by the Rev. Bernard Grimley, former editor of the Catholic Times and now a parish priest in Leamster. He was speaking at a meeting of the city's Christian Council, organized to demand help for the persecuted Jews of Europe.

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