Honored By King

Quebec, Que. — Madame J. C. L. Ramieres, widow of Dr. Ramieres, recently was honored by King George VI with the decoration of an Officer of the Order of the British Empire, which entitles her to use the letters O.B.E. after her name.

This honor was for her outstanding work in social service work, organized by La Ligue Catholique Feminine of Quebec Diocese. She has long held active positions of the social welfare and family committees of the L.C.F. and headed the patronage session of the Juvenile Court of Quebec. Her decoration was for her services on behalf of the family and of society.

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TIMELY ETERNALS

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

HEREDITY

"What can I do? Please help me!" The good old mother was despondent, and she wept in despair. Her boy had married a nice girl almost a year ago, and the young wife was with child seven months. The home had been a good job but lost it. "My dear lady, it is not easy to find good positions," I said, "but I'll try to get him work. What made him lose his job?" "Why was he laid off?" Another burst of tears by reply. He had taken money from the firm to cover his gambling debts.

After that revelation, the same hopelessness which had seized the mother, attacked me.

"Was his deceased father a gambler?" "Yes, but he was such a fine man in every way. God rest his soul. It was his only weakness."

She boasted that her boy was a splendid young fellow, but; but his one failing was sure about to ruin his future, reputation and young family in prosperity and misery. And broken his mother's heart to the grave.

Is the child of a parent who is a gambler, a drunkard or a remorse bound to follow the parent's erring footsteps? The unending answer is in the negative. The offspring of a mother whose lungs are affected does not necessarily contract tuberculosis. It may predispose the child to the dread disease, but, with care and caution, he can develop and grow into strong maturity.

ONE HANDICAP

And so it is with children of morally afflicted parents. They can be made to grow up into sound souls, if all precautions are taken from early childhood. There is one great handicap, however, which makes the prevention of a parental character weakness in the child more difficult, and that is, the bad example in which he is so often exposed.

The contagion of drunkenness and waywardness is not so dangerous as gambling, because these former weaknesses are more abhorred. The latter mental disease has, in a certain sense, more disastrous consequences, because lying and dishonesty invariably follow in its wake, especially when the player does not run in luck. Not that the poor victim wants to lie and steal; but, at times, he is forced to cover up, hoping for Dame Luck to smile on him the next time. And how many gamblers make money at their pastime? Not two out of ten. For most of them, there is no next time, except at long intervals. It is more difficult to cure a gambler than any other weakling.

CAREFUL WATCHING

Parents, themselves, cannot be too careful in watching for the symptoms of the gambling fever in their children, and they should make sensible prohibitory rules as soon as the inclination is discovered. It is very risky to take matters lightly when children are small. Do not allow them to be exposed or encouraged at any time, insist that they abstain and refrain, even if they have to appear unreasonable and to refuse to get into the social swing when the occasion presents itself.

As they get older, you can explain matters to them. If you would have to warn them against their own father, and so make him less acceptable in their eyes, you should take this step, for the children's sake. They can still be saved, though their father may merit a hopeless case. This procedure can even have a good effect on him. There are very few fathers so degenerate that they no longer care for the appreciation of their children, whose pride they always should be.

TRAGIC REALIZATION

I know of a father who was an inebriate all his life, until he was cured in one day. His eldest son, as a compromise, had been allowed to drink beer. One day, the father, half drunk, found his youngman son boisterously staggering about in a saloon after drinking whisky. He knocked him down; the son got up and, in a drunken rage, kicked his father around the place, touching him in the language for all the abuse and misery he has caused the boy's mother and the rest of the family.

Getting On In The World

An unusual thing in women, says Shakespeare, is a voice soft, gentle and low.

Of late, riding in a bus, we have noticed how loudly many women talk. Among these young women of about high school age. They raise their voices to a strident pitch, to make their persons understood, but in doing so they let everybody around them hear, too. They disturb the passenger who may be trying to read; or, what probably is rare, meditate. They betray a lack of true womanliness both in the quality of their voice and in the quality of what they say. Some matters are not intended to be discussed in public, and the people around you in a bus are a little public.

Shakespeare is hopelessly old fashioned, of course. But some of the things he said are immortal. One is that a soft voice, gentle and low, is an excellent thing in woman.

Consecrate Parishes

Dublin — At their annual June meeting at Maynooth the members of the Hierarchy of Ireland decided to consecrate all parishes and dioceses in Ireland to the Immaculate Heart of Mary in accordance with the expressed desire of the Holy Father. His Eminence Joseph Cardinal MacRory, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All-Ireland, presided.

Wins Rifle Honors

Dubuque — The rifle team at Loras Academy, here, has shot itself into quite a few high honors. The team finished second in the National Inter-Collegiate Gallery Matches; took first place in the Service Command National Inter-Collegiate meet and won second place in the William Randolph Hearst matches.

Twins In Class

Chicago — Sixty-six members of the graduating class of Quigley Preparatory Seminary were awarded crosses following Mass in Holy Name Cathedral here, by the Most Rev. Samuel A. Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago. Included in the group which reached the first lap in their goal to the priesthood were twin brothers, John Thomas and Richard Nathan Curtin.

Wigs are older than Egyptian mummies upon whose heads they have been found. Modern wigs date from the seventeenth century and originated in France.

Labor as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.—Tim. II, 2, 3.

FEATURES

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