

Editorials

Saint's Influence Active Answer Call of Vocation More Readers As Tribute By Msgr. William M. Hart

Praise To St. Patrick

Traditionally has the prayer gone up from Irish hearts in every land in praise of St. Patrick. Part and parcel of the make-up of the Irish personality has been the hearty appreciation of the faith of Christ and the part St. Patrick had in planting that faith in Ireland.

There are Irishmen who are not of the Church, but they are rare. There have been renegades from the faith among Irishmen, but they are more blameworthy because they have done something so alien to the heart of the true Irishman.

The faith and the nationality have gone together ever since the days when Patrick first won Erin to the following of Christ. Fifteen centuries have passed since the Apostle of Ireland began his work, fifteen hundred years have gone by since he applied his zeal and strength and learning and holiness to the work God had assigned him. Yet his influence is today more active than it was so long ago, more widespread wherever dwell descendants of his first converts, more actively productive of good among all the nations of the world.

The Irish are Catholic because of St. Patrick. The Irish do well when they sing "All Praise to St. Patrick!"

Patrick enslaved no man, rather he freed man from the serfdom to the paganism of the Druids. Patrick persecuted no man. Rather he brought to man the freedom that belongs to the son of God. Patrick raised his converts to the heights of Christian culture and dignity that have been the glory of Irish life.

Long shall his praises ring wherever religion and learning and freedom remain as prized heritages of mankind! Long shall his influence rule when the diabolic activities of pagan Communist personalities shall have been lost in the resurgence of mankind to the free practice of the faith in Christ, which he gave to Ireland and to the world. All praise to St. Patrick!

Come Follow Me

Christ calls his children to help Him in His work. He looks to the powers He has granted to them, powers of mind and of soul, health and strength of body, as the means which He has chosen to use as the means of salvation for their brethren under God. He sends His summons into the heart of one He loves. He looks for a ready and cheerful response. He welcomes the response that means so much for the one called, so much for the souls that chosen one shall serve and save. Is Christ calling you?

Be sure to answer the call of vocation. Look for helpful advice from parents and pastor and confessor, for cooperation from your teachers. Then give your answer in the same spirit in which the Apostles left all things to follow Christ, in the spirit of an Augustine, a Boniface, an Anthony, a St. Patrick.

Christ looked to them for the growth of His Church, for the salvation of their contemporaries. He did not look in vain! What a sad world this would be had they hardened their souls against Christ's call, had they refused the summons of their Master! Christ looks to you today, calls you to His aid. Are you ready to follow Him?

To A Catholic Editor

The Courier pays tribute to twenty-five years of devoted service to Catholics and to the Church as it celebrates the Silver Jubilee of its revered Editor, Thomas H. O'Connell. A man of faith, he has labored for the faith in his writings over a quarter of a century. A man of principle he has fought for all the Catholic principles call for. A man of vision, he has seen the future of the Church as a cause worthy of his best efforts.

His training and experience have been reflected in every issue of the Courier. His writings have been backed up by the fine example of his personal and family life. An outstanding Catholic in parish and fraternal circles, a faithful husband and father in the best Catholic tradition, an example to all of what a Catholic father should be to his home and to his children, our Jubilarian deservedly receives the congratulations and approval of all his followers.

Withal, he has been in every sense a true friend to all his conferees, a pleasant personality, calm and even-tempered in all the ups and downs of newspaper production. The Courier greets him as Dean among its Editors!

Our Readers surely join us in our jubilee tribute. They have profited by the labors of our News Editor over all these years. They will urge their boys and girls to find in the Courier such benefits as men like Tom prepare for the rising generation.

Our most moving testimonial of appreciation to him will be the effort to promote the circulation of our paper, and thus increase the number who will continue to profit by his gifted labors. God grant him length of years as our revered friend, our respected journalist, our outstanding Catholic newspaperman!

Casting Out Devils

Many devils Christ cast out without special mention, just as the Church today in the Sacrament of Penance and in her ordinary ministrations of prayer and preaching banishes the power of Satan from men's souls.

The Church still uses her power of exorcism in very special cases to deliver unfortunate from the possession of the devil; a public act overcomes what has been recognized as a public case of possession. So Christ's Gospel casts out a dumb devil. The people are about, are witnesses of the act of Christ, note the restoration of speech to one who by diabolic influence had been dumb. They heard him speak.

The devil never gives up. While the man delivered, maintains purity of heart, he guards well his soul against new diabolical assaults. When he permits the devil to grow stronger than himself, by dabbling in sin, by returning to bad habits, by neglecting prayer and grace, he may soon find the devil taking possession of his soul anew. He has permitted the devil to become stronger than himself.

The devil comes to seize all the good that he has, to expell every trace of merit and virtue and grace, to take away his whole armor on which he was depending and to divide his spoils. Little wonder that the last state of that man becomes worse than the first.

Christ has come to free us from the devil. He gives us such power through Holy Mass, through prayer, through the Sacraments, that the devil can never overcome us.

Diabolical possession never occurs save in those souls which have surrendered themselves. Sin comes on a soul only when it has given in to the temptation of the evil one. Christ today urges all of us to be true to Him, to maintain in our souls a possession cleansed and adorned by grace. Thus shall we see in Christ's manifest power over Satan, that the Kingdom of God has, indeed, come upon us.

Housing Needs Hit Family Life

The following article is a portion of last week's "Sunday Edition of the Courier Journal", a weekly Catholic editorial commentary on current events, broadcast each Sunday at 8:30 p.m. on WHAM by the Rev. Richard Tormey of the Courier Journal staff.

When a man is forced to give up his blood in order to rent a place to live, it's time for well-to-do Americans to wake up to the shameful shortage of housing in our communities.

A few weeks ago, a 35-year-old mailman in Brooklyn went to the Red Cross and asked if he could exchange four pints of his blood for any three-or-four room apartment. He said he could spend only \$60 a month for rent but he would give his blood as a bonus to anyone who would offer him an apartment.

Then he told the whole story. For two and a half years Irving Scheer, and his wife and two children, aged 4 and 1, had been living in one room. Mailman Scheer begged the Red Cross to give him credit on some of the 20 pints of blood he had donated for the emergency of others so that he might solve his own family's desperate wants.

THE LATEST REPORTS on the Census Bureau estimate that more than three million families in our nation are living doubled up with relatives; another three million families are forced by modest income and their several children to squeeze into quarters that are too expensive, too crowded, unhealthful and dangerous to family harmony.

This fact points to one of the most serious aspects of the housing shortage: its effect on family life. Let's face it — for the last five years American family life has been weakened and frustrated by our housing shortage.

Here is a professional opinion:—The Family Service Association of America is a reputable organization comprising 138 family service agencies. They announced recently after a national survey that the housing shortage is causing "acute breakdown in family life, creating tensions between husband and wife, parents and children, married couples and their in-laws."

Proving the moral element of housing, the survey said: "The difficulty of finding decent shelter is resulting in postponement of marriage and child-bearing. It is overtaxing family budgets to a point of real psychological danger."

Now this was an impartial survey but it proves vividly that no single question before our Congress and our state legislatures so vitally concerns the public welfare as the finding of an intelligent solution to our housing needs. Like public health, job security and justice at court, the possession of a decent place to live in is a human right which the government must look after when private and individual efforts fail.

DO YOU KNOW just how big the problem is? To solve today's urgent needs, housing authorities believe that America must have over a million and a half homes each year for the next four years. Yet last year only 900,000 dwellings were built by private funds and the vast majority of them were for the upper income groups, homes in the 12 to 20 thousand dollar bracket.

This means the builders almost completely ignored the needs of the lower class incomes despite the fact that forty percent of the families in the nation have an annual income of less than \$3,000. — and they are the families that need shelter most today.

But there are some rays of sunshine on the problem: three weeks ago Governor Dewey signed housing program bills providing that \$20,000,000 be set up for public housing subsidies in this state. The program will be placed before the voters next fall for approval or rejection.

Then the day after the Albany action a Senate committee in Washington approved a bill calling for 810,000 new units of public-financed housing in the next six years for families earning under \$2,000 a year.

DURING THE PAST week another forward step was made in Rochester by leaders of Catholic, Protestant and Jewish church groups. The church leaders urged that a city housing authority be appointed immediately to survey local needs and expedite the planning of all necessary steps to house our families adequately. The statement said:

"Without responsible public action we cannot clear slums and provide adequate housing for our families." The churchmen stated: "A housing authority accountable to city government can most effectively carry out this public responsibility for relieving the miserable condition caused by substandard housing and overcrowding."

Then, to prove religion's right to enter the field of civic planning, the representatives of the three faiths declared: "The family is the basic unit of our society. We should do all in our power to strengthen that unit by providing a favorable environment for the fulfillment of healthy family life."

The whole housing picture shows a blighting of human rights and natural needs. And still the program has many opponents. If there ever was a special interest group working against the obvious needs of millions of our fellow citizens, this is it.

HOUSING IS MORE than just doubling up and cooking over a hot plate. It's the barrier that keeps many fine young couples from having another child.

It is the reason why many nice young people who married in a romantic rush after the war have separated because they couldn't turn their marriage into something permanent in a real home.

Housing is the fire that killed the crippled woman in the old firetrap; it's the pale, sickly face of the little girl in the tenement near the railroad; it's the epidemic that started in the slums and the fires that break out there and the juvenile crooks that are growing up in alleys.

We take our stand with Pope Pius XI who said in discussing marriage: "If private resources are not sufficient for suitable dwellings, it is the duty of public authority to supply for the innumerable needs of individual effort. For this is a matter of supreme importance to the common welfare touching as it does the maintenance of the family and married people."

Apostle of Ireland



'St. Patrick's Breastplate'

It was in the year 433 that this beautiful prayer of St. Patrick, popularly known as "St. Patrick's Breastplate," is supposed to have been composed by him in preparation for his victory over Paganism. Following is a literal translation from the old Irish text: I BIND to myself today The strong virtue of the invocation of the Trinity. I believe the Trinity in the Trinity The Creator of the Universe. I BIND to myself today The virtue of the love of seraphim. In the obedience of angels In the hope of resurrection unto reward. In prayers of Patriarchs, In predictions of Prophets, In preaching of Apostles, In faith of Confessors, In purity of Holy Virgins, In deeds of righteous men. I BIND to myself today The power of Heaven, The light of the sun, The brightness of the moon, The splendor of fire, The flashing of lightning, The swiftness of wind, The depth of sea, The stability of earth, The compactness of rocks. I BIND to myself today God's Power to guide me, God's Might to uphold me, God's Wisdom to teach me, God's Eye to watch over me, God's Ear to hear me, God's Word to give me speech.

God's hand to guide me, God's Way to lie before me, God's Shield to shelter me, God's Host to secure me, Against the snares of demons, Against the seductions of vices, Against the lust of nature, Against everyone who meditates injury to me, Whether far or near, Whether few or with many. I INVOKE today all these virtues Against every hostile merciless power Which may assail my body and my soul, Against the incantations of false prophets, Against the black laws of heathenism, Against the false laws of heresy, Against the deceits of idolatry, Against the spears of women and smiths, and druids, Against every knowledge that binds the soul of man, Christ, protect me today, Against every poison, against burning, Against drowning, against death, and all that I may receive abundant reward. CHRIST with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ within me, Christ beneath me, Christ at my right, Christ at my left, Christ in the chariot seat, Christ in the pop, Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks to me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

Irish Pioneer

By THOMAS J. MAC MANUS Dublin (RNS). No one is interested in the story of atomic energy can afford to pass by the name of Father Nicholas J. Callan who was born in County Louth 149 years ago. Father Callan came to St.

Priest Evolved Voltage Used In Atom Research

Patrick's College at Maynooth Ireland's national seminaries — as a professor in 1826. In the years that followed he pioneered in developing the high tension voltage that was destined to prove essential in the atomic research of the 20th century.

THERE IS a bare reference to one N. J. Callan in the Encyclopedia Britannica. The name is merely linked with that of Faraday, the famed British scientist, the American Joseph Henry, Freeau the Frenchman and the German Ruhmkorff — in connection with the invention of the induction coil — an instrument for producing high electromotive force and much used in X-ray work, in which very high voltage is required.

It is believed that Father Callan made the first induction coil to be produced in Europe — a copy of which was exhibited in London during 1837. The coil stirred the scientific world, but credit for it, until quite recently, was associated with the German Ruhmkorff.

In any case Father Callan's work in this field was not confined to the induction coil. As is now known he also conducted experiments in connection with the self-induced dynamo which has been attributed to a Hungarian.

ACCORDING to Dr. Otto Mahr, formerly of the Berlin Institute of Technology, Father Callan discovered the principle of the self-induced dynamo 30 years before the Hungarian is supposed to have invented the dynamo.

From records maintained at St. Patrick's, Father Callan's interests also ranged to the possibility of developing electric traction in Ireland. And there is evidence to indicate he devoted years to evolving a scheme for a nation wide rural electrification system.

STRANGE BUT TRUE Little-Known Facts for Catholics By M. J. MURRAY. Illustrations include: 'Honours PALLADIUM CHURCH OF SAN GIORGIO MAGGIORE STANDS ON ITS OWN ISLAND IN A VENETIAN LAGOON.', 'ROTATION Periods of Planets Venus, Jupiter & Mars were first calculated by a Catholic, CASIMIR GIOVANNI (1604-1625)', 'Mother Goose', 'ALTHOUGH PRACTICALLY HIDDEN & NEVER SEEN IN DETAIL BY THE NAKED EYE THE ROOF BOSSSES — KEYSTONES OF THE VAULTING RIBS — IN MEDIEVAL CATHEDRALS WHEN REVEALED BY MODERN TELEPHOTO LENS SHOW EXQUISITE CARVING & WEALTH OF DETAIL.'

Red Propaganda War Intensifies

By J. J. GILBERT

Washington — (NC) — A fact which is becoming increasingly clearer to observers here is that the individual citizen in the United States is faced with an enormous and constantly increasing responsibility.

It is another way of saying that, in the end, the citizens themselves must save America as the stronghold of democracy, and international Communism is deliberately making this task harder for them day by day.

President Truman, as a result of his spanking victory in the 1948 elections, has a high regard for the discernment of the American people. Students of events are coming more and more to hope that the American people will have the ability to distinguish between propaganda and truth, and be able to fix the responsibility for things where they properly belong, if and when it becomes necessary to do so.

THE REASON for this concern now is this: The cleavage between the East and the West shows no signs of healing. There is at present no prospect of further Big Four conferences, and, in view of past experiences, it is to be wondered whether the American people would not look upon another one at this time with something less than enthusiasm.

As a matter of fact, international Communism seems deliberately to be provoking the West, and particularly the United States — note the Berlin blockade, the cases of espionage exposed, and the effrontery of Communist leaders in western countries in publicly declaring in favor of Soviet Russia in case of war between Russia and their respective countries.

No reason has been found for exultation over the changes in the Soviet high command involving Molotov, Vishinsky, et al. There is ample reason to believe that the "cold war" policy will be continued, and may be intensified. This could mean that Communism believes it is winning the propaganda battle, for that is a principal element of the "cold war."

If it can carry the propaganda campaign to a successful conclusion, it can pave the way for world Communism without resort to arms. What must be borne in mind is that the masters of the Kremlin are committed to the world wide establishment of Communism. They contend that Communism and capitalism cannot exist peacefully in the same world.

THERE ARE elements of the propaganda offensive which everyone should have recognized by now — Russia's invariable tactic of accusing non-Communist countries of the crimes of which it is itself the great exponent, its attempt to create the impression that Russia is a democracy, its incessant linking of Western countries with capitalism, and its ceaseless insistence that all capitalism is bad.

How many times has Russia charged the United States with blocking the establishment of peace, when she herself has done just that by rearmament and the veto? How many times has Russia accused the west of being fascist, when she herself is the obvious heir of mad Germany?

But a part of this war of propaganda this "cold war," this "war of nerves" and not easily recognized as such are these facts:

Russia's blocking of the peace after World War II and its threat to the peace of the future are responsible for this country's huge military budget.

Russia's insistence on keeping Europe, and Asia, unsettled and thereby unable to fully recover make necessary our continued outlay of enormous sums in relief.

Russia's frustration of World War II peace treaties is delaying needlessly the development of international trade and world recovery.

All this, in turn, makes necessary the great burden of taxation borne by the American citizen. It is this sequence of events which students are hoping the American citizen will always be able to keep in mind.

THE UNEARTHING of spies in Government offices and the declaration of Soviet Russian sympathy by American Communist leaders which prompted President Truman to call them "traitors", coupled with other developments in great number and variety, are leading to the enactment of laws which the American people would not seriously consider except in times of war and national emergency.

There will be cries that these constitute infringements of individual rights. But as Senator Pat McCarran of Nevada, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said: "It's not a question of civil rights. It's a question of legal loopholes that harbor spies and representatives of our enemies."

But it can be expected that the Communists will make capital of this legislation. They can and will in this country. It is doubtful to be hoped that when this propaganda begins to be spread, the American people will show the discernment they are supposed to have, and that they will know what has forced the United States to adopt these measures.

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