

Editorials

Our Only Hope For the World Deserve Best Of Countrymen Must Help Separated Brethren

May For Mary From shrines and altars in every part of the world arise the prayers and hymns of those who would honor Mary in her Month of May.

Great is the spirit of devotion to the Mother of God! It is found in the public services in parish churches, it is found in the devotional shrines in our school rooms and in our homes...

In this lies the only hope for the world. Destructive philosophies are abroad in every land, pagan aims seek harm for all mankind. Morals are attacked, virtue is assailed...

Our hearts pour forth their protestations of love for Our Blessed Mother, our lips sing her praises in song and canticle, our souls are raked up in prayer to Her.

A Monroe County Peace Memorial

America has waged war only as a means of bringing peace to the world. Our boys have labored and sacrificed and fought and bled, not for love of the conflict, but for love of peace.

A Peace Memorial. One that shall serve the cause of peace, while it acclaims the bravery of those who for peace have made the supreme sacrifice.

For the better things that peace makes possible! Conventions from state and nation will find the memorial a standing pledge of welcome, providing for hospitable attention to all the needs of the many thousands attending.

Officers for the various veteran societies will be an important part of the contemplated structure. Commanding a leading place in the Memorial will be the stately hall given over to a shrine commemorating on an altar-like plaque the brave men who gave themselves that their country might have the blessings of peace.

Christ Calls All Christ calls all to Himself. He came to save all, He died to save all, He arose to save all.

The Joy of Redemption The way to happiness for man is the way of redemption. By Adam's sin and by actual sin, every man was under the slavery of the devil.

Christ passed through the sorrows of suffering and death so His followers were to have sorrow. They were to see the world rejoice at the seeming destruction of Christ and of all that Christ stood for.

Father Gillis Says:

Among the innumerable stories told of Father "Bible" Orr - pastor, a generation ago, of the parish which included Harvard College - is one to the effect that sometimes when a student had made his confession, the skrawd old priest would say, "Now for your penance - oh by the way - can you read, my child?"



When the pro-Soviet meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York was called by one Harvard professor and attended or approved by others, Father Orr's question with a bit of modification, came to my mind: "Can you read, Professor?"

OR HAVE THE PROFESSORS read Victor Kravchenko's story, "I Chose Freedom," recently vindicated as authentic in a court of law in Paris? Did they read Jan Ciechanowski's "Defeat in Victory," perhaps the best of all the books on what Russia (with our help) did to Poland?

They may retort that a professor of physical science is accustomed to accurate thinking and therefore equipped to pass judgment on matters philosophical. Is that so? Have they forgotten Sir Oliver Lodge and his fantastic views on Spiritism? Or Conan Doyle's grotesque superstitions?

WHERE HAVE THESE professors been for the last five or ten or twenty years? Per-

Don't Harvard Dons Read Anything?

haps, like the late Oliver Wendell Holmes, they boast that they never read a newspaper. But if not a newspaper why not a pamphlet, the Congressional Record, a document of the Departments of State or of Justice? Or an F.B.I. report? Don't they read anything? Ha! Harvard become an asylum for ecclesiasts? If they shun books and papers and all manner of informative documents, do they also eschew all conversation on the most vital subjects now under discussion in all the world?

TO SWITCH THE ENQUIRY again, do these scholars accept the great American fallacy that because a man is illustrious in one sphere of life he is an authority in all? Years ago we used to read articles about the immortality of the soul, by an admittedly great mechanic and industrialist, Henry Ford. Did Henry Ford know - at that time - any more about that profound philosophical problem than Joe Doakes?

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Dr. Shapley is quoted as saying that he never met a Communist. Why not? There are plenty of them on the Harvard campus. If the good doctor doesn't want to bother with amateurs, Mr. Browder or Mr. Budenz or Mr. Gitlow will be glad to introduce him to some mechanic and industrialist, Henry Ford. Did Henry Ford know - at that time - any more about that profound philosophical problem than Joe Doakes? Also we used to hear John Burroughs and Mark Twain quoted on the existence or non-existence of God. What would Dr. Chapley or Dr. Mather or Dr. Einstein say if we were to quote Clark Gable on geology or Gregory Peck on astronomy, or Greta Garbo on Relativity?

Top of My Mind



Gretta Palmer

The pattern of betrayal from within is as old as the Trojan horse of Homer; the wolf in sheep's clothing of the Gospels; as up-to-date as the Fifth Column of Ernest Hemingway's Madrid. Always, in every age, the sharpest stabs are those of the apostate; the bitterest blows are those given by the foe who poses as a friend.

News stories out of eastern Europe give us warning that the familiar drama is being played upon another stage. A recent C.I.P. dispatch from London says: "Communists posing as Catholics and church-goers are leading agitation directed at 'amazing' members of the Catholic clergy of Poland for remaining loyal to the Pope and the hierarchy."

IT IS EASY for anyone who has ever attended a Communist infiltrated meeting to reconstruct the scenes being played in Poland during these well-rehearsed "workers' meetings." Today we can fairly see the Communist diamond-shaped formation, so that the seconding speeches may seem to come from all sections of the floor.

For in the present war of the mind, the Communist strategy is a simple one: divide to conquer, confuse to destroy. The Marxist leaders would like the world to believe that the class struggle is taking place within the Church itself, that the faithful are divided between a proletarian laity and a hierarchy that is bloated and reactionary in its point of view.

By Gretta Palmer Betrayal With A Kiss

But real, baptized Catholics who can be bamboozled into following the Communist line are all too rare for the Communists' plans. It is necessary for them to produce synthetic "Catholics" - men who will parody the gift of faith, men who will infiltrate among the honest Catholics in an attempt to disrupt their beliefs and sow suspicion of the clergy in their hearts.

Other Red soldiers - according to published eyewitness accounts - in Catholic sections of Poland distributed holy cards to children and stopped youngsters on the street to urge them to say prayers. The purpose of the strategy was obvious: The Communists hoped to foster the legend that their system of life has no quarrel with God or the Gospels, with the Saints or the Rosary.

All that offends them, the Communists would tell us, is the temporal policy of whatever Church authorities happen to be involved. If the poor peasants and workers of eastern Europe will only surrender a few things... if they will only turn against the Pope and their Bishops... if they will sacrifice a few phrases from their creed and catechism, why, then there need be no quarrel at all. Christ and Antichrist can get along. God and the Devil can settle their differences like gentlemen. A compromise between heaven and hell can easily be found.

This type of strategy will not mislead many Catholics throughout the world but it will mislead a few. In countries where the Communists are already in control of the government, the penalty for defending the Faith requires great heroism. If the lukewarm Catholic is shown a way out that does not seem to outrage his conscience too cruelly he may be tempted to take it.

We may look with pity on the occasional sincere Catholic who is led astray by Communists posing as Catholics in Poland today but what shall we say of the men who deliberately lead them astray - of those agents who cynically perform the rituals of a religion which they would destroy? Their condition is a more serious one, they are guilty of a grievous sin - the sin of prostitution of the soul. It may become the most dangerous sin of our day to the temporal Church.

A Convert Writes

EDITOR: Prayerfully, if with some disquietude, I have been following the "case" of Rev. Leonard Feeney and lay associates of Boston College, Realizing God's mercy. I read confident both that Father Feeney and his lay colleagues will see the light very soon and that the publicity given the controversy will bear fruit in clearer understanding by Protestants of the not so bogged and prejudiced Catholic Church.

ON THE OTHER hand it occurs to me that the declaration of the Church's stand on salvation outside the true fold, if misunderstood, may also cost some souls their salvation. Although stressed in the declaration that willfully refraining, if convinced, from open profession of faith in the Catholic Church means the loss of salvation, nevertheless, there will be many, I fear, who due to the stiffness of fallen human nature will presume themselves "of the soul of the Church" and hence rationalize that they need not go farther however convinced they may be of the tenets of the true faith.

I write as a convert and with shame confess that for eight years such was the state of my soul. I had my children baptized in the Catholic Church, urged my husband out to early Mass, sometimes under protest when he had to work Sunday, never attended my own church services even once after marriage, even learned to recite the rosary and yet I kept putting off, professing my convictions openly.

It was never convenient - I'll go next week, next month, when the oldest makes his first communion, etc. And then, ex-cusing myself to my conscience - "God knows my heart and He will judge its intentions."

I am certain mine was not a unique spiritual position. I know people today who are all but convinced of the True Faith yet through shyness, human respect or slothfulness (or all three) do not get around to taking the "fateful" step. It really does take a deal of courage for a non-Catholic, especially a "cradle-Protestant" to face a priest and say "Father, I'm interested in taking instructions in the Catholic religion." Just to say "Father,"

you know, to the priest is difficult when you've been brought up to "call no man father, save your Father in Heaven."

MAY I SUGGEST a few things from the convert's angle: 1) that, should a Catholic meet any Protestant who professes a sincere interest in the Church, he first asking the other's permission, ask the priest to call on the Protestant and invite that person to instruction classes. 2) that, if feasible several parishes in large cities or one in smaller places, conduct conversion instruction classes, the year around and advertise them in the personal columns of the daily papers, classified ad section. This column is read by many many people.

NEXT I SUGGEST a trained lay committee of men and women in every parish to follow up conversions, visit the convert as a friend, prepared to answer the hundred and one queries that come to mind concerning the "mechanics" (if I may so speak) of Catholic practices and religious services other than the Mass.

And, forcefully, of course, but with friendly persuasion try to get the convert interested in one or another of parish activities and church work.

I think this is especially important in cases where the convert was a devout and active worker in his former Protestant Church. (Name Withheld)

Library Girl Lauds C-J Gentlemen: Attached is five cents in stamps for a copy of the April 21st edition of the COURIER JOURNAL - the issue containing the very fine articles and reports of the "Weeping Statue" phenomenon, also of the Boston College professorial dispute, and the fine picture of Theresa Neumann. A very excellent issue!

STRANGE BUT TRUE

Little-Known Facts for Catholics

Illustrations and text for 'Strange But True' including 'CHRIST NAILED TO THE CROSS' and 'ANCIENT FIGURE OF OUR LADY OF ROCAMADOUR'.

High School Survey

Washington (NCWC NEWS SERVICE) - The impressive growth of the Catholic high school system of the United States in the past quarter-century is brought into sharp relief in a new survey published here.

The survey examines at greatest length the place of the Catholic secondary school program in this country was prepared by Sister Mary Janet of the Commission on American Citizenship of the Catholic University of America.

About Lenten Snacks

EDITOR: I am employed at Kodak Park in an office which consists of about twelve people, six of whom call themselves Catholics.

AFTER READING the pre-lenten letter on the front page of the Courier-Journal and conversing with my confessor I understood that nothing at all was to be consumed of this time.

About the second or third day of Lent one of my co-workers called my attention to the fact that I was not eating between meals. I told them that I thought according to our Sunday sermon we were not allowed to eat at this time.

THINKING THEY were just misled I forgot the situation until I visited a nearby parish Wednesday evening. After services the word was passed that the crowd was going to a nearby delicatessen for the usual sandwiches and sodas. I know that every member in the group was over twenty-one years of age.

In Christian doctrine we were taught that the Roman Catholic Church is universal. How then can we become "super dupe" Catholics when harmony is lacking among our instructors?

THE CATHOLIC Courier Journal

Publication details for The Catholic Courier Journal, including address, subscription rates, and contact information.

EDITOR'S NOTE: You were right and the Courier-Journal was right. Your friends were wrong. During Lent, all Catholics between the ages of 21 and 59 inclusively, unless they are dispensed for a just reason are obliged to fast. This Lenten fast permits only one full meal a day (taken either at noon or night), a light breakfast and a lunch (taken either at noon or night). It does not permit snacks between meals.

Crowning Held

Prague - (AP) - Unusually large crowds of Prague's Catholics flocked to the Church of Our Lady of Victory here for the 29th annual coronation of the statue of the Infant Jesus of Prague. Numerous members of the diplomatic corps attended.