

Editorials

By
Re. Rev. Msgr. Wm. M. Hart, P. A., U. S. C.

Birthday Greetings

The Rochester Courier-Journal sends Birthday Greetings to the Catholic Star Herald of the Diocese of Camden. The Birthday Edition was delivered last week to 17,000 subscribers. With Bishop Hughes presiding over the new publication, a staff of editorial workers begin their labors of bringing Catholic news and letters to the people of his Diocese. An auspicious beginning will surely mean prof-

perous and useful days ahead for the Catholic Star Herald.

The Courier-Journal is happy to be associated with this new Catholic paper, sharing the facilities of its press and ready to give all possible courtesy to it. Our prayers and good wishes go with the Catholic Star Herald, with its leaders and with the fine Catholic people who make up its first list of subscribers.

Hundred Years at St. Mary's of the Lake

St. Mary's of the Lake Church of Watkins Glen, N. Y., is observing its One Hundredth Birthday. A full century ago this parish began to serve the people of God in and about this village. The ministry of grace through Mass and the Sacraments has been united within the walls of this church to the ministry of the word in the preaching of the Gospel. Many generations have been in this period to profit by the spiritual influence of this Catholic parish.

rather rejoicing in the strength that one hundred years of service have given to it. We congratulate Father Ehmman on the happy observance of this significant centennial. His zeal has meant much to the spiritual life of his people and his tireless efforts to improve their spiritual home have given to the church edifice improvements that have added to its beauty and increased its usefulness in serving the congregation.

May God bless the congregation and its Pastor as they render Him thanks for the blessings of one hundred years. Our Lady of the Lake has been the patron of this Parish and its people and has brought to them countless blessings. May she continue to preside over this beautiful Parish as it begins the second century of its life.

Corpus Christi

All the world takes part in the annual celebration of the Feast of Corpus Christi. To the north, the south, the east and the west the solemnities of the celebration are in the air. The Body of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament brings sanctity and consecration to millions of churches. The smallest village parish joins with the Cathedral churches of our great cities in giving public worship to Corpus Christi, the Body of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

Corpus Christi have a beauty that is all their own. St. Thomas Aquinas gave to it all the spiritual wealth afforded by his great sanctity and his unsurpassed learning. St. Thomas points out that the timing of the Feast corresponds with the actual part of the year in which the Apostles first began to bring Corpus Christi to their people in the celebration of Holy Mass and distribution of Holy Communion.

Corpus Christi. How the Body of Christ brings unity among all those who reverence it in their churches and who receive that Body in Holy Communion! Christ gave us the Blessed Sacrament nineteen hundred years ago. Every year since that has seen new growth in the number of people who to Christ's Church, in the number of places that have been marked by the erection of a tabernacle for Corpus Christi, the Body of Christ. Only the love of God could find so powerful a means of keeping every Catholic conscious of Christ's death on the Cross for the redemption of the world.

The death, resurrection and ascension of our Lord were followed by the descent of the Holy Ghost. Pentecost Sunday was the birthday of the Church and just at this time the Church began to do its most fruitful work in bringing to its people Corpus Christi, the Body of Christ. May each one of us join with his brethren in every part of the world in giving praise and adoration to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. May each one of us join with the long line of spiritual ancestors who in every age have paid to Corpus Christi, the Body of Christ, the same praise and adoration that we offer today.

A Saintly Pope

Pope Pius X will soon be beatified. The sanctity of his life and the record of his heroic virtue furnished the foundation for his beatification. Many have prayed at his tomb since his death in 1914. Many have instinctively turned to him to ask for spiritual favors for themselves and for others. Wonderful things have been done through the invocation of this holy man.

for the promotion of the cause of Pius X let us all be mindful that what the world owes him particularly is for his work in re-introducing the practice of frequent communion and in welcoming children to the altar rail as soon as they have reached the use of reason. The world is more holy today because of the response of our people to the spirit of Pope Pius X.

The Great Supper

Christ spoke this parable to the Pharisees. Surely they were the type that would refuse the invitation that the Lord was to give to so many. With one accord they would be ready to excuse themselves. The excuses would be things that reflected that their interest was entirely for the things of this world; they had no time for the things of God. Marriage, business, care would claim all their attention.

the first guest refused to come. The Master sent out into the streets and lanes of the city to bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, the lame. And then sent his servants out into the highways and hedges to make more come in so that his house would be filled with guests.

They noted that the Lord insisted on the desire of the Master to have a full quota of guests present at his supper. They noted how when

the Lord promises that they shall not taste of His supper. The invitation of Christ goes forth to men in the world today. He is preparing for them a great supper. He wants them to attend. Men of good will find a way to accept the invitation and to profit by the blessings of the Great Supper. Men of ill will will imitate the Pharisees of old and begin at once to make excuses.

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May Christ help us to set aside every excuse and find a definite way in which we can accept His invitation; let it be our purpose not to receive Holy Communion once a year but to receive it frequently, every week, yes, every day. Frequent communion, even daily communion, is the ideal of the church. We should strive to live up to that ideal. Let us be ready to answer our invitation to the Great Supper.

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GRETTA PALMER

Every now and then — probably no oftener than every quarter of an hour — a young, zealous group of Catholic decide to "do something" about the Catholic press. The "something" generally involves a jolting, on the back of any convenient or unpopular plan for a national Catholic daily "rather like the Christian Science Monitor." In about half the recorded cases, the envelope is thrown away a week later when the would-be publisher is sending his suit to be cleaned. That is the end of the story.

But not all the conversations end so quietly. Sometimes the envelope-minutes of the meeting include the notation "Find out how much \$ needed?" Then there may be a second meeting and — if the group is outstandingly realistic — a further scribble.

It will read, "Possible backers," with the names of half a dozen Catholic laymen. Two of the names on the list will be Joseph P. Kennedy and James A. Farley, who are usually complete strangers to all those present.

NOW, IT IS healthy and normal and altogether desirable that young people should want to lick their weight in wild enterprises which might spread the Faith. It is heartening to have Catholics filling their pipe dreams with images of the apostolate, in any form. The old question, "What would you do if you had a million dollars?"

Good Deed Brings Reward

Osaka, Japan — (NC) — When a group of emigrants were preparing to leave for Brazil in 1930 they were assisted in various ways by the Rev. Peter Yamanaka, pastor of one of the churches in Osaka. The priest was pleasantly surprised recently to receive a letter of thanks from a number of emigrants who later became Catholics. Accompanying the letter was a gift amounting to \$454.

K. of C. Ads Draw Inquiries

New Orleans — (NC) — Residents of the State of Louisiana had sent a total of 9,581 inquiries to the religious information Bureau of the Knights of Columbus up to May 1 as a result of the organization's series of advertisements offering information, lecturer Adras Laborde reported. Of this number, 842 had enrolled for religious instruction an increase of 192 in the last three months.

Last We Forget . . .



Diocesan Weeklies Give Readers What They Want

There are a dozen sound reasons why a national Catholic daily will not become a paying proposition. Capital does not like Funny Putty, return to its original shape when you have made a dent on it. As an eccentric millionaire, you can have a fine press-run for your money — but you cannot retain the money, too, to oil the presses for a second year's run. Yes, even if you could, you would discover a sad fact known to all makers of documentary and educational movies' (excuse it, Hollywood), of documentary and educational films.

What the public likes in a daily newspaper is news. News is an expensive (and a highly perishable) commodity; but it is an absolute essential for any editor who wishes to display his gifts. You might be William Randolph Hearst and E. W. Scripps and Roy Howard and Adolph Ochs rolled into one, but you still could not bring out a newspaper without purchasing news.

NOW, WIRE service news is not particularly Catholic in its viewpoint; that, according to the envelope-planners, is one of the things that is wrong today. But where are they going to get their news? Even in their most ambitious moments, they can hardly intend to hire expert staff reporters in every major city of the globe, all with unlimited cable accounts.

U. S. AND BRITAIN:

War On Communism Embrace Tito As Brother

London — (NC) — Britain and the United States must make up their minds whether they are opposing communism or certain countries, such as Russia, the Catholic Times, weekly newspaper, says. "It is ridiculous to talk of the fight against communism yet to embrace Tito like a brother and send all the goods he needs to keep him in power," it adds.

Fines Swell Crowd At Popular Rallies

Singapore — (NC) — The secret of the "popular" participation in the Red rallies and parades in China is explained in information reaching here. Red officials have worked out a scheme whereby each family is informed of the number of members who must attend under penalty of heavy fines — a threat which is usually sufficient to insure a "tremendous crowd."

JOSEPH BREIG

Educational Freedom Is The Essential

"A strong private as well as public school system is an essential element of a strong nation, state or city."

Four that sensible and valuable state members, the world is indebted to the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Boone, Iowa. I say that the world is indebted because this whole question of non-government schools has become a world problem. It is as much an issue in Europe as in America; in Asia as in Africa.



And our discussion of the matter is continually being confused by a looseness and a vagueness of terminology. What we all tend to forget, it seems to me, is that what we call the public school is not the only school that is public.

To put the public schools in one category, and all other schools in another and exclusive category, is to be highly inaccurate. WHAT WE call public schools might much more precisely be referred to as government schools.

Their essential difference from other schools is that they are owned and operated by government. But to call them public schools, and then to talk as if all other schools were non-public, is highly incorrect.

Still more misleading is the practice of some people of having as if non-government schools were somehow "un-American." The pronouncements that are issued from the ivory towers of Columbia University's Teachers College always take that line. From reading them, you would think that there was something subversive about a parent sending a child to other than a government school.

Furthermore, the Teachers College group takes the position that all children without exception ought to be in the same schools, and that non-government schools are "divisive."

I CAN ONLY say that the Teachers College philosophers simply do not understand Americanism, or for that matter the whole spirit of western freedom. It is the special genius of American government, and of free government generally, that government makes no attempt to force everybody into the same mold.

And forcing or pressing or forming people into one mold is certainly a likely result of sending all the children into one government-operated school system. "A strong private as well as

public school system is an essential element of a strong nation, state or city."

There is obviously much more vision, and much more comprehension of true freedom, in the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Boone, Iowa, than there is in the John Dewey clique in Teachers College of Columbia University.

THE JAYCEES clearly realize that private schools and parish schools and other non-government schools are educating American citizens and are serving the American public.

The Jaycees further recognize that it is an essential part of a parent's rights, and an essential part of American freedom under the Constitution, that a father and mother must be free to select any recognized school for their children.

Therefore the Jaycees condemned the action of the public school board in dismissing a teacher because he refused to transfer his 7-year-old son from a parish school to the public school.

But the Jaycees went much deeper into the fundamental issue than that. "A strong private as well as public school system is an essential element of a strong nation, state or city."

Upon that platform, anyone can stand who really understands the spirit and the strength of our form of government. We must not have everyone sitting in rows, thinking exactly alike about everything, according as they are taught to think by a government.

I DO NOT MEAN that all products of public schools think alike far from it. But there is a grave danger in the world-wide tendency of governments to establish educational monopolies. Once such a monopoly is established, then the pressure for universal conformity inevitably begins. We have seen it in Russia. We have seen it elsewhere.

Those associated with the "public schools" ought to be, but unfortunately are not at present, the most vigorous defenders of the rights of non-government schools.

They are always talking about academic freedom; and it never seems to occur to them that academic freedom will wither and die if ever a government monopoly of education is established, whether by financial pressure or otherwise. Certainly freedom of education — the freedom so specially represented by independent schools — is an essential freedom. And the Boone incident, where a group of small school politicians tried to force a father to send his child to the school they control, is symbolic of what would certainly happen if education became a political monopoly.

A LOOK AT LABOR

Developments of Welfare Funds

By A. C. Tuohy

One of the greatest accomplishments of collective bargaining in the post-war years has been the development of welfare funds. These funds have tended to remedy serious defects in the operation of the capitalistic system. They have given some protection to workers and their families in sickness and old age, protection which the weekly wage and the annual salary presently cannot provide.

While some critics of "creeping socialism" would prefer to see welfare funds abolished, it is probably nearer the truth to say that most workers would benefit from extended and increased coverage.

In the life of a worker unemployment, sickness, and old age are not the only problems. The "layoff" is an equally serious cause of family disturbance and yearly is becoming more so. Henry Ford II recently announced that the Ford Motor Company will lay off 10,000 workers in the next two months because of government ordered production curtailments. The company president said "prohibitive costs" make it impossible to keep payrolls intact while Ford is preparing for defense production. He added: "Because of necessary tooling to get these defense jobs underway, we simply can't rehire those people for many months."

It is true that overtime pay is sometimes necessary to give workers an adequate living wage. However, many families during war years wasted their premium pay on unnecessary luxuries and left themselves without a cushion during less prosperous days.

NO ONE will argue with Henry Ford "laying off" workers where there is real economic necessity, provided that the necessity is provable and where the common good of the whole corporation is involved. But what happens to the workers laid off and to their families?

It is true that laid off workers are better protected by national and state laws today than they were in pre-New Deal days. In the golden days of American capitalism unemployed workers were left to poverty and destitution, victims of that infamous

and immoral principle "the law of supply and demand." Even so, laid off workers are not sufficiently protected by present government sponsored insurance plans. No normal family can live even on the maximum unemployment benefits allowed by law.

HERE IS A field for new adventure. Trade unions ought to seek benefits from industry during periods of enforced lay-offs. During the next few years there will be a great deal of overtime. Since we are in a period of inflation and since the government will encourage voluntary savings to keep down prices, why cannot income derived from overtime be put in a trust fund and returned to workers during periods of enforced idleness and economic dislocation?

The money will belong to the workers and can be withdrawn by them when they leave employment or for other suitable reasons. If saved in this way, additional benefits can be granted workers during layoffs.

It is true that overtime pay is sometimes necessary to give workers an adequate living wage. However, many families during war years wasted their premium pay on unnecessary luxuries and left themselves without a cushion during less prosperous days.

WE CANNOT always look to government for the solution of our problems. Industry carries the primary obligation in these matters not only to move slowly in creating unemployment but also in alleviating the plight of workers whom it discharges or lays off.

A welfare fund built up by premium pay or by some kind of device would go a long way toward stabilizing the lives of unfortunate workers. It would not be a burden on industry and it would contribute to the curbing of inflation.

Advertisement for St. Peter's Finger, a product for rheumatism and arthritis, featuring a picture of a hand and text describing its benefits.

Advertisement for the Courier Journal, including contact information for the Rochester Diocese and subscription details.