

Editorials

By
Reverend Msgr. Wm. M. Hart, P. A., U. C.

Catholic Solidarity

The Holy Father in his New Year's Message... makes a plea for Catholic solidarity. Where a common faith is a natural and supernatural bond of union between all the members of the Catholic Church there should be a universal reaction to all world problems on the basis of this faith. The Divine law and the natural law receive full support through this faith. Therefore there is a solid and correct answer for every moral problem in the faith of the individual Catholic.

There can be no occasion for a Catholic to depart from the principles of right and wrong so clearly taught by the law of God and the law of nature. Others may wander

from the right path; Catholics have no reason to imitate them.

Our duty toward our government and our community binds us to the strictest honesty, the most unwavering morality in all our dealings with those about us. In public offices and in our private associations our faith must guide us. False attitudes on world questions that come up from time to time must have the steady opposition of men who have faith in God and in God's Church. Every Catholic will be glad to add his part to this Catholic solidarity. It is really merely another way of saying that we should live our faith.

First Things First

The Law of God has no place for divorce. The bond of Christian Marriage cannot be dissolved by any human power. What God hath joined together let no man put asunder. That there should be constantly growing difficulties in regard to the divorce legislation of the different States; that there should be intense dissatisfaction with the patent results of this legislation; that any semblance of a proved morality should be looked for all in vain among those who by law have sought to make themselves candidates for divorce, is all to be expected.

Evil is evil wherever you find it. God is not mocked. Any attempt to go against God's will by permitting the divorce of lawfully wedded Christian people is bound to bring with it all the evils our communities are now experiencing.

First things first! Marriage is a Sacrament. Only by the Sacrament of Matrimony

can a Christian man and woman be united in lawful marriage. Marriage is indissoluble. Persons entering into it should realize it is indissoluble except by death. Every non-Catholic who enters into a marriage with a Catholic makes a definite declaration that he is entering into the marriage union, understands it is indissoluble except by death.

The Catholic has the same attitude because of his adherence to the teachings of Christ as revealed in the Catholic Church. Couples who have these facts in mind at the time of their marriage should strive earnestly to keep away from anything that could weaken the influences that promote domestic tranquility, mutual happiness and the enduring quality of their marriage happiness. Only by keeping away from divorce can society hope to avoid the evils that are essentially connected with divorce itself.

Catholics in Action

There can be no such thing as a passive practice of the Catholic faith. A man who really loves God and has faith in God and God's Church will be eager to express that love and to put that faith into practice in his daily life. God calls some to the ranks of the clergy. God calls the laity to cooperate with the clergy in the work of the Church. The ordinary parishioner gladly supports his Pastor and is ready to help him in all that concerns the running of the Parish.

Many men and women feel the urge to be members of the Church Societies. The material set-up of the Church calls for the active attention and interest of those who serve on the boards of the various corporations, the trustees of the parish Churches, of our hospitals, charitable institutions and

other corporate entities that carry on the work of the Church. Every city and every parish owes much to these men and women who are called upon to use their varied talents in the field of education, religion, charity and social service.

Catholics in action! Clergy and laity unite to make the influence of the Church effective in the blessings it brings to individual Catholics. This is Catholic Action. Be ready to serve where your Bishop or Pastor calls on you for service. Be ready to show esteem and regard to those devoted men and women among the laity who have responded so faithfully to their Bishop and their Priests as Trustees and Directors to the organizations that administer to the well-being of our Catholic people.

THE WEDDING AT CANA

Most important among all the wedding contracts since the beginning was that which took place at Cana of Galilee. It was most important because Jesus was there. It was most important because Jesus on that occasion raised the natural contract of marriage to the dignity of a Sacrament. There was the outward sign that sign. There was the grace imparted by the Sacrament. The Grace of Jesus Christ entered into the souls of bride and groom, increased the friendship of God within them and consecrated them to each other throughout their lives.

occasion of the first miracle of Christ, marking the opening of His public career. Christ knew how great a help for Christian living would be the great Sacrament of Matrimony. He was willing to bless the bride and groom with the special graces proper to the Sacrament of Matrimony. He was willing also to give an added joy to their wedding feast by providing them with wine that was good. We find some in every age that reject the holiness of the Sacrament of Matrimony. We find some that object to the good wine that Christ furnished for the wedding feast. But followers of Christ instinctively know that they cannot be wrong when they follow the lead of Christ our Saviour on both of these points.

The Mother of Jesus was there! What a blessing for both bride and groom to number Mary among their guests. Mary, the mother of God, Mary, the patron of all Christians, Mary, the Queen of the Holy Family.

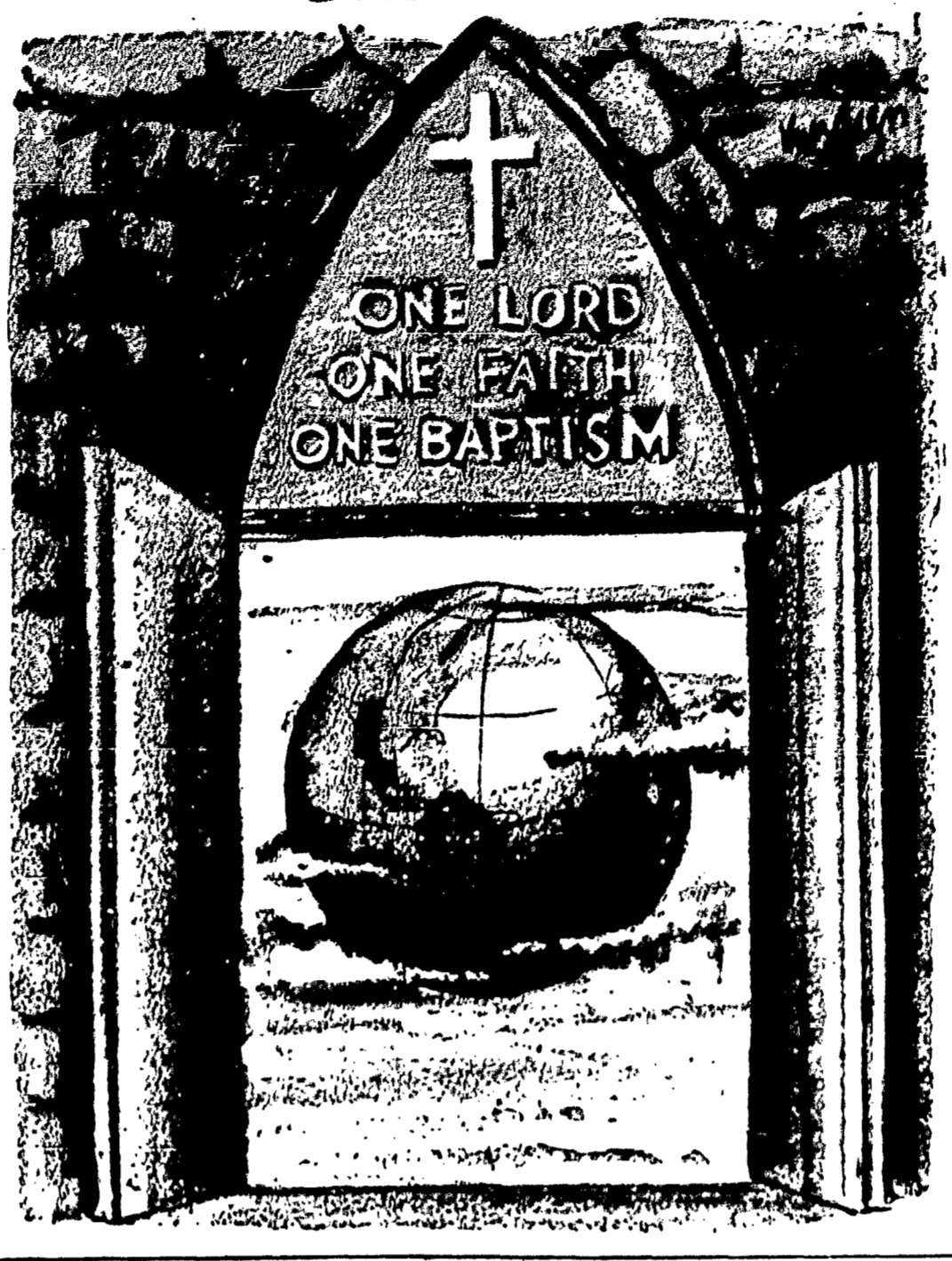
Wherever a Christian after that date entered into the holy state of Matrimony he bride and groom as they did it through the reception of the altar. It was the

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The Wedding at Cana. To all prospective brides and grooms, the Church says: "Be sure to invite Jesus and Mary to your wedding". Let your love for each other be supernaturalized and guaranteed against any flaw by the blessing and prayers of Jesus and Mary.

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One World



GRETTA PALMER

Quack remedies for the soul appear to be on the increase in the year 1952. The advertising columns of formerly so-called, even today, literary periodicals are filled with pleas to buy the spiritual equivalent of those electric belts once offered as a cure for cancer. Indian tonics once sold as cures for every human malady. There is no Pure Food and Drug Act operating in the field of spiritual

Horse and Chariot Beliefs

the laws of nature, while it is man's glory and risk that he can disobey the laws laid down for him. No scientist can predict man's actions for man's will is free, and a science whose prophecies are worthless is no science at all. Philosophy has made that very clear. But if philosophy were totally ignored, as it has often been in the past, we should not have to reason to sniff blasphemy at this blasphemous kind of scientific information. It is on "human relationships" of which the learned last speaks. Where there is a "will" in both man and nature, the relationship between them is not governed by the laws of nature, but by the will of man.

Take any newspaper or magazine that is lying around the house and run your eyes down its columns until you find some "expert" sounding off on the "advances" lately made in understanding man. It is these statements which make the quack book-ads seem plausible. The first "expert" on my desk happens to be Judge Anna Knox of New York who, discussing a matrimonial case in a court, urges changes in the law and its administration "to meet the demands of our modern, highly competitive, speeded-up civilization. It's still a horse and buggy concept. We have at our disposal a tremendous backlog of scientific information on living, on human relationships that has not yet been implemented. But the courts won't make use of it."

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JOSEPH BREIG

Has UNESCO Lost Its Buttons?



I am willing to leave aside for the moment the fact that athletes and agnostics seem unduly prominent in writing of a History of Mankind under sponsorship of the United Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Right now, I want to raise another point. Why is UNESCO spending \$600,000 of the people's money for a history at all?

Even in the inflated world in which we live, \$600,000 is money. It would buy a lot of food and clothing for refugee Arabs, for destitute Koreans, for people starving in India. It would purchase desperately needed medicine. It would finance any number of legitimate United Nations activities toward world peace.

There are ten thousand things which war form humanity needs. But high on the list of things for which humanity has little use, and in which humanity is not even mildly interested, is another shelf of ponderous books, good mainly for gathering dust.

Nowhere have I seen the slightest attempt at a defense or justification of this proposed huge History of Mankind, which is to engage 1,000 scholars for five years at a cost of more than half a million.

What's the big idea? What's the good of it? What contribution is it expected to make to the peace, prosperity and happiness of the human race? After all it's so obvious.

From the beginning this business seems to have been shrouded in a kind of polite secrecy. I do not recall any headlines announcing that UNESCO had appropriated funds for this historical rat race.

The whole affair, in fact, probably would have passed unnoticed had not the notoriously anti-religious Dr. Ralph E. Turner of Yale been named to head up the job. Thus first we heard of the project was when his appointment was announced.

Had it not been for the controversy which followed, the \$600,000 might have gone quietly down the drain. And eventually, I suppose, the forbidding historical tomes would have turned up on the library shelves in public libraries here and there.

Forbidden, they will certainly be if ever they go to the printer. I know there are people who like long books, but \$300,000 words are a lot of words for an occasional strange character who might be kept out of this

chief while plowing through them.

But what I want to know is, what's it all about? Who sold this bill of goods to UNESCO? Who authorized the thing? Who appropriated the money—and by what authority? Who selected Turner as top man?

WE ARE TOLD that the history is to be compiled under auspices of the International Commission for a Scientific and Cultural History of Mankind. We are informed that this commission is "operating independently although sponsored by UNESCO." That gives us a lot of words, but mighty little information. What's the pitch?

Who are the members of the International Commission for a Scientific and Cultural History of Mankind? Who made them members? Why was such a commission formed in the first place? What does "operating independently" mean?

Is the commission in charge of the \$600,000, or is UNESCO? Which delegates from which nations voted to spend the money? How did they arrive at the decision that what the world desperately needs is one more shelf-binding history?

And why didn't we, the people, hear about this business sooner? We who pay through the nose to support UNESCO, and who have not the slightest desire to contribute to the further spread of the agnostic and atheistic ideas which are wrecking our civilization.

I WISH ALSO that somebody would tell us where this kind of thing is going to end? If UNESCO is going into the book business, we could all suggest ideas for occupying deserving scholars and writers.

Come to think of it, I can write books myself. I've done it and I can do it again. I don't like to undercut the market, but I am willing to turn out 3,000,000 sensible words for somewhat less than \$600,000. In fact, I can produce an army of writers at the drop of a hat who will give UNESCO a better bargain than it's getting.

But pleasanties aside, what we want to know is whether UNESCO has lost its buttons and is entering into an international era of wonderful nonsense and agnostic writing histories for the United Nations, but then we don't see why anybody should be writing histories at UN expense.

Correct us if we're wrong but we were under the impression that the UN was organized for somewhat more important purposes. Maybe it's high time we found out what goes on here.

A LOOK AT LABOR

Anti-Business Labor Rhetoric - A Stuck Pig

By A. C. Tuohy

There is nothing that makes my blood more than to have a good argument run afoul of cliches and shopworn slogans. The good argument is bound to lose. To this must be added the fact that the labor press, reporting and comic book editorials, the checkbook represents irrefutable truth and irrevocable principle.

To any argument in favor of giving the federal government power to close down mines declared unsafe by federal inspectors, the inevitable crusher is "States Rights." As if the 119 miners who died in West Frankford or their families, can be comforted by the unsold silver piggy bank.

The "greedy capitalist" is locking horns with "labor bars" as the "free enterprise system" is being crushed by the "octopus of the welfare state," "private profit" the backbone of an expanding economy is being wiped out by bureaucratic planners and so on and so forth.

Intelligent disagreement becomes impossible. Disputants become slaves to their own terminology, so that a business man who might favor government regulation in certain matters of a labor leader who might oppose further centralization keep their points of view to themselves.

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THIS WAMPAN BELT DISPLAYED IN DETROIT'S 500TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS 1951. RECORDS THE FIRST PEACE TREATY BETWEEN WHITE MEN & INDIANS (St. Ignace Missionaries and Hurons in 1679).