

**Read It and Learn**  
**Pope Needs Prayers**  
**The Lord Arranges**  
**Weather Guessing**

By MONSIGNOR HART

### For Our Catholic Press

The attention of Catholics in the United States is centered during February on the Catholic Press. While the Catholic Press includes books and magazines, weekly and monthly periodicals, it usually emphasizes the Catholic weekly newspaper.

The power of the Catholic newspaper will be very much dependent on the number of people who are regular readers and supporters of the weekly newspaper in their vicinity. It would not do to rest on our oars and feel that what we have accomplished in the past will by its own power continue to grow in the future. Rather we must continue to give an active and understanding support to our Catholic newspapers.

Enter into the spirit of this month and go over in your own mind the points of interest and value that every Catholic will want to find particularly in the local Catholic paper. The Courier Journal does not feel that it needs to emphasize the excellence attained by it, in the Catholic newspaper field. Read it carefully every week and learn to know the interesting events constantly occurring in the field of our Catholic newspaper.

### Prayers For The Holy Father

Every Catholic will add special prayers for Our Holy Father at this time. Any sickness is bound to be serious for a man of 78 years, and the Holy Father has had an extra weight of responsibility that has grown heavier as his years have increased.

Add your voice of prayer to the voice of Catholics throughout the world that the special blessing of God may surround Our Holy Father in these days of illness and bring him safely to recovery.

### Weather Signs And Portents

The groundhog has seen his shadow. With prudent thought for the future he warily goes back into his winter home in the thought that we are going to have six weeks more of winter weather before we can look for the first approach of Spring.

Even the most careful student of the weather will in his sober moments acknowledge that the groundhog sees his shadow because the sun is shining in the heavens on the second day of February, but he does not believe all that is contained in the legend about the end of February. Those who write our Almanacs are able to make calculations covering not merely a year or two but many years and from their knowledge they can make predictions covering many years ahead.

The study of the weather gives us a picture of how the Lord arranges things for each day and for each month. We need no groundhog or other animal to give us our full knowledge of the weather, but we do need an idea of the wisdom of God in arranging the weather for all the year so that it brings many blessings to man in his position as lord of the earth.

May we continue to thank God every day for the blessings of sunshine, for the clearness of cold air, for the variety that each season brings to us in the change from cold to heat, from clear to stormy, from the summer conditions that are so dear to us to the wintry weather that gives us variety in the earth and in the heavens above. God gives us every day to bring us an assuring promise of the days that are to come and we hope that for each season of the year there will be a heavenly blessing upon man and his domain here below.

### Talks About The Weather

It was a wise man who reported that everyone talked about the weather but nobody seems to do anything about it. There is every reason for people to make the weather a part of their conversation. We have it with us at all times.

We have daily evidences of the various types of weather, but nobody seems to do anything about it, which is proper also, because after all, just as the providence of God does for other things in the world so also He cares for the weather. We have men who think that they can make the rains fall at will. We have others who think that they can really do something about the weather.

The constant failure that accompanies their predictions never teaches them a lesson, never tells them that they can do nothing about the weather in the days to come, but there remains in all of us a certain feeling that we would like to study the power of nature that appears to us and perhaps make an occasional good guess as to what is coming our way.

Everybody talks about the weather! But nobody does anything about it and yet our daily paper every twenty-four hours brings us a short forecast and then a report based on a study of the temperatures, the direction and velocity of the winds and the prospect that faces us for changes in the weather.

The more ambitious individual loves to give a daily study to his barometer. It is registered at a particular point and it is either rising or falling, steady or unsteady, but after we get all through studying it we can still say that we are those who talk about the weather but never do anything about it.

**THE CATHOLIC**  
**Courier Journal**  
OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE

Vol. 65 - No. 19 February 5, 1954

**MOST REVEREND JAMES EDWARD KEARNEY, D.D., President**

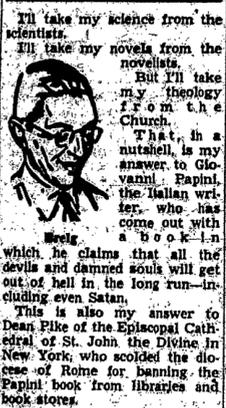
Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations and the Catholic Press Association. Subscriber to National Catholic Welfare Conference News Service, Religious News Service.

Published Every Friday by the Rochester Catholic Press Association.  
MAIN OFFICE: 22 Erie St., Rochester 4, N. Y.  
ADVERTISING OFFICE: 22 Erie St., Rochester 4, N. Y.  
CLASS. OFFICE: 22 Erie St., Rochester 4, N. Y.

Entered as second class matter in the Post Office at Rochester, N. Y. as provided in Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. Monthly subscription price in U. S., \$4.00. Outside U. S. \$5.00. Second Class Postage Certificate, 2675

## JOSEPH BREIG

### How To Go To Hell



I'll take my science from the scientists.  
I'll take my novels from the novelists.  
But I'll take my theology from the Church.

That, in a nutshell, is my answer to Giovanni Papini, the Italian writer, who has come out with a book in which he claims that all the devils and damned souls will get out of hell in the long run, including even Satan.

This is also my answer to Dean Pike of the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York, who scolded the diocese of Rome for banning the Papini book from libraries and book stores.

DEAN PIKE seized the opportunity to come out with the old Galileo taunt against Rome. He praised Papini for "reminding the Roman Catholic authorities that they had banned Galileo's writings. And who turned out to be right, Galileo or the Pope?"

Dean Pike really ought to know that the Galileo hassle was over Galileo's imprudent publishing of the Copernican theory, that is, that the earth revolves around the sun.

HE KNOWS, or he ought to know, that Nicholas Copernicus, who first advanced the theory, was not the protégé of a cardinal and a bishop, with a dedication to a Pope.

He knows, or he ought to know, that no Catholic objections were raised, although the Protestant leaders Luther and Melancthon condemned Copernicus bitterly.

He knows, or he ought to know, that Galileo's trouble arose from three causes—his own cantankerousness, the danger of disturbing the faith of simple people, and the mistake of theologians in thinking that the scientific theory contradicted Holy Writ—that is, the word of God.

THE THEOLOGIANS were mistaken—Catholic and Protestant alike. The theory didn't conflict with the Bible; no truth ever does. But can you blame theologians for having opposed something which they thought contradicted Revelation, and which they knew might endanger some people's faith?

Anyhow, the main point is that the Galileo case was in no sense a parallel to the Papini case. Galileo was a scientist talking scientific fact.

But Papini is a popular writer talking theology—and talking it ignorantly.

As I say, I'll take my theology from the Church—not from Giovanni Papini.

BUT WHAT AMUSES and saddens me most is the spectacle of Dean Pike picking and choosing out of the Scriptures.

Papini, the writer (no theologian, he!) says hell isn't hell; it's purgatory. Maybe a kind of superpurgatory, maybe a rather hellish purgatory, but still—purgatory. It's a place of punishment, but not of eternal punishment. Temporary punishment.

That's what Papini says, and Dean Pike says maybe he's right. "We'll never know," says Dean Pike, "this side of the grave."

NOW HOW DOES Dean Pike know that there's a side beyond the grave? Because the Scriptures say so.

How does the dean know there's a heaven to go to if you get out of Papini's superpurgatory? Because the Scriptures tell us there's a heaven.

How does Dean Pike know there are any such things as devils? Because the Scriptures say so.

But the Scriptures also say there's a hell, and that it's everlasting, and that that's where you go if you die wicked and unrepentant. If the Scriptures can be wrong about that, they can be wrong about anything or everything.

PIKE AND PAPINI can't have it both ways.

But I think I understand what's troubling these men. They don't realize that nobody goes to hell unless he belongs in hell. And that, there isn't any other place. And that it isn't a question of God refusing somebody another chance; it's a case of persons whose will is fixed on evil; persons who, as St. Bernadette remarked, love evil.

Nobody goes to hell except by rejecting God. And anybody who rejects God rejects all goodness, and just won't fit anywhere except in hell. The inhabitants of hell don't want to be good, they want to be wicked. That's why they're in hell, and that's why they couldn't be anywhere else.

## Off The Record

By SISTER MARGARET TERESA  
(Professor of Literature, Nazareth College, Rochester, N. Y.)

OFF THE RECORD, by Ronald Knox, 1954, \$2.50.  
CATHOLIC SHRINES IN THE U. S. AND CANADA, by Francis Beauchamp Thornton, Funk, 1954, \$4.75.  
Books available at Trant's and Tucker's.

Pray for them, urges Monsignor Knox, in his Introduction to OFF THE RECORD, "something is lacking in our prayers if we forget the secret maladies of men's hearts." If we forget the souls "too shy, too proud, too dilatory to invoke any human counselor in their bewilderment."

The book consists of his friendly, witty answers to forty odd sheep not of his fold, Catholic and non-Catholic who had the courage to ask him about the Catholic faith. It is not the best of his writing, Knox, the priest turned novelist, God, shepherd of the individual, is yielding the faith that "comes by hearing."

His method is kindly. Scarcely uttered a word. The inquirer is made to look at his own mind, examine his own question. Books are suggested, wonderful books, with the disclaimer, "I am indebted to bibliography. I am wretched at theology. His frequent Scriptural interpretations are a boon to any instructor as to any convert. He is comfortably certain that each correspondent in a special personality who must in a deep sense 'suffer'."

NEW CONVERTS are welcomed to "blow off steam," as he says, about the coming and going during Sunday collections. He even bends backward in his remarks on the saying of Halliwell (and it falls oddly on the ear) and on zeal for gaining indulgences, to meet the long-estranged English mind, though after all, his summary treatment of indulgence-gaining reminds one of the Little Flower's just remark, "that the greatest plenary indulgence is 'charity, which covereth a multitude of sins.'"

Gently persuading, amusing, teasing, offering the historical proof, this masterly debater refuses to follow his opponent into a corner, does no punning, turns apologetically away when he has scored a point. He has a Pauline habit of saying "I too," standing over with his correspondent on all human issues the better to defend the divine.

Answering a lady who had a wide range of last-minute scruples, and among them a fear that Catholics hold a brief for mental reservation and equivocation, he says, "In real life I don't think Catholics ever equivocate, because it demands such a confounded lot of ingenuity if you are to do it on the spur of the moment. They just lie, as Protestants do, when telling the truth would have disastrous consequences, schoolboys and politicians, of course, especially."

ENCOURAGING A man who needs faith, he says, "If you should feel moved to pray—but not otherwise; do not think it in any way a duty, at the moment, I should use the kind of approach which you get in The Closed of Unknowning; i. e. simply lift up your heart toward whatever is there, and suppress as far as possible all thought about yourself. Don't ask for anything."

And then comes "I don't see"

## Priest Warns Novenas Not 'Spiritual Bon Bons'

New York—(NC)—The first purpose of every novena should be to get better, according to the Catholic Hour speaker. "Otherwise our novena is in danger of dropping to a mere game of gimme, or becoming a spiritual charm bracelet, or a religious cosmetic—a kind of 'powder' and 'lipstick' applied to the soul."

FATHER Joseph Manton, C.S.S.R., of the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Boston, prefaced his remarks by deploring the "Spiritually our time has been called the Age of Novenas. Every priest wishes to heaven it were known as the Age of the Mass. Between a novena service and the Sacrifice of the Mass there is no more comparison than between a devotional vigil light flickering away at a shrine, and the great crimson sanctuary lamp blazing forth the Presence of God at the main altar. But people like novenas, partly I think because they are praying for some particular personal intention. This is not bad; it is merely the lesser of two goods."

Moving right into the question of popular attitudes toward novenas, the Redemptorist preacher said:

"What is the difference between standing before a little mirror and putting on your cheek a dab of rouge and pat of powder, and kneeling before a little shrine and just putting on your soul a little patch of prayer and a little match of hymn—if that's all the novena means! In both cases isn't it all on the surface, only superficial? Don't they

## Parish Harvests Honey Bees Stored In Church

Richford, Vt.—(NC)—Father Charles Marcoux, pastor, bided his time and a mighty sweet reward came to the parishioners of All-Saints Church here.

Seems that last summer a swarm of uninvited bees took up residence inside the church. Father Marcoux rejected suggestions of evicting the swarm at that time—reasons that someone would get stung. He decided to wait for cold weather when the honey gatherers would be in a state of inanition.

Couple days ago, Father Marcoux supervised the eviction of the bees, rendered harmless by the cold. A store of honey was discovered at the foot of a cross over the church's door. The parishioners gathered in a harvest of 150 pounds of honey. It was found that the weight of the honey had made the cross over the door unsafe and it had to be repaired.

## You Can Win Converts

Method That Never Fails

By Rev. John A. O'Brien, Ph.D.

"We're taking up the annual parish census," said Monsignor Robert Falvey of St. Paul's Church in San Francisco. "I'd like to know if there are any Catholics in this apartment."

"No," replied Mrs. H. A. Z. E. Dabney, "but I'd be interested in hearing a sermon on the subject."

"The Catholic religion," I've known a number of Catholics and I noted that they took their religion very seriously."

"Fine," said Monsignor Falvey, "Come around to the Rectory and I'll see that you get a course of instructions."

But like so many non-Catholics, Mrs. Dabney was hesitant about going along for a complete course of instruction just for herself, especially when she wasn't sure in advance she would want to embrace the Faith. She mentioned this to her neighbor, Miss Frances Melhord.

"Well," said Frances, "I've got just the answer for you. The Faithful Fathers at Old St. Mary's have announced an Inquiry Class. I'll go with you to all the lectures and then at the end you can feel perfectly free to embrace the Faith or not. There will be a goodly number at the lectures and hence you need not feel that you have taken up a lot of a priest's time."

"THAT," CONTINUED Frances, "is one of the great advantages of the Inquiry Class over private instruction. Not only will you feel under no obligation but you will also feel more relaxed and at ease because there will be others there."

"But won't that be something of an imposition upon you?" inquired Mrs. Dabney.

"No," replied Frances, "it will be a pleasure, and besides I'll learn a lot too. We Catholics can always learn more about our holy Faith."

"How often," I asked, "did the class meet?"

"We went twice a week for three months," replied Frances, "and we found every lecture very interesting. Father Martin O'Looney conducted the course and he was most kind to Mrs. Dabney. She had lost her husband three years ago and was feeling rather lonely."

"Father had frequent little chats with each member and all he would come to the lecture room a half hour before he met this one and that one, and spend five or ten minutes with each to see that every one was following his lectures successfully and getting the gist of what he said."

"THEN HE WOULD linger for a half-hour after the lecture so that others could ask him questions privately and thus be sure they were understanding everything properly. It was an admirable system and I've wondered why I hadn't simpler in my parish. It has all the advantages of a private course of instruction and none of the disadvantages."

"When the course was finished, Mrs. Dabney was more than eager to embrace the Faith. Father sensed that, being a widow and without employment, Mrs. Dabney might be in some financial straits. So he got her a job as housekeeper at St. Mary's Hospital Nurses Home. She was especially touched by this act of unsolicited help and kindness.

"She was baptized conditionally and looked forward to receiving her First Holy Communion from Father O'Looney the next day. But then a disappointment occurred. Father stated that he ministers to the inmates of a prison and was scheduled to bring Holy Communion to some of them in the morning.

"But to and behold! The pastor said the Mass and Father O'Looney helped in distributing Holy Communion and Helen was able to receive from him. Tears of joy streamed down her cheeks.

"WE HAD A nice breakfast afterwards. Helen said, 'God has been so good to me. This is the happiest day of my life—the day of my First Holy Communion!'

"I shared her happiness. Indeed it made me feel that I haven't lived in vain. It's a wonderful feeling for a Catholic to know that she has helped lead a soul to Christ."

"Have you been able," I asked, "to help any others into the fold?"

"Ray Stafford worked with me in the office where I was a stenographer. Her aunt became a Catholic shortly before her death so I invited Ray to Mass with me. She liked the music and noted the reverence of the faithful. Then I took her to an Inquiry Class being conducted by the Franciscan Fathers. At its end she was received into the fold by Father Raymond Smith, O.F.M., at St. Boniface's Church."

## 13. Rochester Annals (1)

Professor Bonn and Father Petter

By REV. BENEDICT EHMANN

(This series of articles commemorates the golden jubilee of the "Motu Proprio" letter on Church music issued by blessed Pope Pius X on Nov. 22, 1903. Author of these articles is the Rev. Benedict Ehmann, nationally known authority on Church Music and pastor of St. Mary of the Lake Church, Watkins Glen, N. Y.)

The diocese of Rochester was established thirty-five years before Blessed Pius X became Pope. Its first Bishop, the vigorous and zealous McQuaid, was always a loyal son of the Church and a promoter of what was good and beautiful for the house of God.

Under his administration, a favorable atmosphere was developed for the growth of a new and ready acceptance of Pius X's reforms in church music in the Rochester cathedral.

There was sterling musicianship in a fine choir under the direction of Professor Eugene Bone.

This gentleman was one of God's noblemen. I say that not only from my head but also from my heart, for I knew him. Some of my nicest memories center around Professor Bonn. He was in love with the Church and its worship; he spent himself upon it as if he were dedicated to it, and yet he had a wife and family to whom he was devoted; he was a marvelous musician, and there are perhaps many who are reading this who are still remembering the magical power he had over that great organ in the old cathedral of St. Patrick's and over the choir that was so devoted to him.

When I knew him, he was an aging man, as slight and thin as a toothpick, but his thick-lensed glasses and the frockcoat he always wore at his work bespoke the genuine maestro—and that he was indeed, a maestro of church music, as much at home with us seminarians as were the priests who were our professors.

BISHOP McQUAID did not start his major Seminary until a decade before the Motu Proprio on Church Music. But that early, with only a small number of students, he had a lookout for one who would be his right-hand man for the music of the diocese. God was kind to him, for he did find a good prospect among those young candidates for the altar. This was John Michael Petter—another name of most venerable memory in the annals of the diocese.

Surely there were priests and files of imperfection, the flaws and faults of our human lot. But in the memory they melt into the background of the bright picture, and we who were privileged to live in that brightness have a debt of gratitude beyond our power of assessment. Perhaps many of us have gone on that golden standard, and have since contented ourselves with silver of lead, forgetful of our great forebears, Pius X, McQuaid, Petter, and Bonn. Their standards are still the only true coin for the worship of God, and let us not forget it.

I'M SURE THERE'S not one priest of that generation, now reading this, who will not thoroughly endorse and applaud what I say here. We were brought up in great times and under great men, and most of us knew it. If since then we have nodded, even as they say, "fomes nuda," and have relaxed the vigilance of our watch over their ideals, let us rouse up with that perennial vigor which is infused into us by our dedication to God and by our loyalty to the Holy See.

## Sunday Sermon

By Monsignor Hart

### AN ENEMY HATH DONE THIS

The problem of good and evil in the world is one that men have sought in vain to solve. Here we have the Kingdom of Heaven and the Master sowing good seed in his field. Then we have the enemy coming to sow weeds among the wheat. When we good blades sprang up the weeds appeared as well and his servants remarking this condition got from him the explanation—"an enemy hath done this!"

The servants were all for immediate destruction of the weeds that had come from this evil seed, but the Lord said, "No, let both grow until the harvest and at the harvest I will say to the reapers gather up the weeds and bind them in bundles to burn but the wheat gather into my barn."

When we see conditions existing in the world that seem to be productive only of harm, we must understand that God is making provision for his own servants by the opportunity that the world gives to those who can use their opportunity for salvation.

### She Wins

"Oh, darling," the young wife said tearfully, "the woman next door has a hat exactly like my new one."

"And I suppose," the husband responded warmly, "that you're suggesting I buy you a new one?"

"Well," the wife pointed out, "it would be cheaper than moving."

### She Wins

"Oh, darling," the young wife said tearfully, "the woman next door has a hat exactly like my new one."

"And I suppose," the husband responded warmly, "that you're suggesting I buy you a new one?"

"Well," the wife pointed out, "it would be cheaper than moving."