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Readers' Never Had It So Good,' Says Newsman

(Steve Fitzgerald is a veteran newspaperman, long a member of the Bochester Democrat and Chronicle editorial staff.) By STEVE FITZGERALD

As one who is well and favorably acquainted with the merits of The Courier-Journal from its start and has had personal relationships with its shabby progenitor, the Journal, I would like to three cheer the general diocesan reaction to your annual subscription

cause the four to six-page Journal, whose few hundred copies I am amazed and pleased by creaked uncertainly from an outthe wide, 100 per cent family coverage you are achieving in so worn, flatbed press and hand-set many parishes. It must be type, had little appeal. It was a heartening to your small, hard sad, unprofitable adjunct to a working staff — a lift to your little job printing shop. spirits when the job gets a bit Wherefore, considering the

rough and trying. MY PERSONAL interest goes back nearly a half-century when I was Cathedral correspondent for the Journal and turned in the necrology and sodality and social doings - cribbed for the most part from the monthly calendar - to Editor Ryan for the modest pay of two bits per

This was my first venture in journalism and I must admit I wasn't underpaid. In addition, "I attempted one vacation period to hawk dollar subscriptions Fuller a top reputation in the national brush style from door to door.

ture articles by competent writers, a well-spiced editorial page, selected parish happenings, timely pictorial work and eye-easing makeup, I feel like shouting to your readers, "You've never had it so good." It should be no secret that The Courier Journal not only enjoys

fine and varied news coverage

Catholics of the diocese enjoy

today - reliable accounts of

worldwide happenings, fea-

Catholic field, but also is highly regarded by the Rochester secular press for its efficient and tempered handling of news which easily can be distorted or overplayed. This I know from per-

IN THIS regard I would like Commonweal, entitled "Anathe- raid on a motor convoy in Laos ma Sit," in which he objects to included the French mother suwhat he terms an open season perior of the mission in Thakhek on "liberal Catholics," a practice which I know, happily, cannot be tacked on you.

"Within the past few months." writes Cogley, "in certain sections of the Catholic press, purges have been carried out regularly; a self-appointed Inquisition has tried the 'liberals.' who are invariably found guilty, and then burned them at the editorial stakes for the weekend edification of the righteous . . ." He quotes from a Midwest

paged this portrait of a "liberal." The 'liberal' Catholic likes: the of Thakhek. more at home with the latter; religious reached that city. to solve in minutes problems which stagger the Church for years: to be an outstanding Catholic without being outstandingly Catholic. His main concern is not how to please God burt

displeasing God." Cogley points out that in some sacrosanct Catholic editorial circles the "liberal" is a "phony Catholic, full of hypocracy, puffed up with pride, irreligious and impious; his soul would appear to be an open book and his spiritual standing is just about zero. Let us all thank God, brothers, that we are not like

This writer, whom I hold in high esteem, thinks "it is time to complain publicly about the treatment meted out to the 'liberal' Catholic - by which is usually meant any Catholic who does not agree with The Tablet,

HIS IS NO plea for the toleration of heresy or near-heresy, he concludes, adding: "But it is a demand that if anybody insists on charging a fellow-Catholic with heresy he either put up or shut up. It is a demand that the business of applying motives and moral judgments which seem to be picked out of the partisan air be stopped. It is a request that political disagreements be kept political; that controversy be kept decently impersonal; and that a man's sins - even a 'liberal. Catholic's sins - or his supposed sins, be kept as private as his confession."

Cogley, in my opinion, merits hand for thus chiding that small segment of the Catholic press whose editors usurp an annoying holier-than-thou orthodoxy on questions that usually are more political than moral or theological; and lump all dissidents in their catchall cate-

This desideratum, "devoutly to be wished," might be hastened it charity-lacking editors would abide by Cardinal Newman's famous definition of a gentleman - "one who never gives pain"—in his Idea of a University in which that great and gentle prélate portrays such a person,

. . is never mean or little fair advantage, never mistakes which he dare not say out ..."

CWV Guest



COUNTY COMMANDER of Monroe County American Le-William T. Cavanaugh will receive a scroll in recognition of the Legion's success in the "Back to God" movement at Monroe County Catholic War Veterans Communion Breakfast, Sunday, March 7 at Hotel Sheraton, Rev. James R. Barnett, S.J., McQuaid High School rector will speak at the breakfast. Mass will be at 7:30 a.m. in St. Joseph's Church, Rochester for veterans and

auxiliary members.

Religious

Hanoi, Indo-China --- (NC) to call attention to an article by Twenty religious carried off by John Cogley in this week's The the Communist Viet-Minh in a and 16 Laotian nun novices, it was disclosed here. The other religious were four

French missionary priests, among them Msgr. Jean Arnaud, of the Paris Foreign Mission Society, Prefect Apostolic of Thakhek. Monsignor Arnaud has lived in Laos a quarter of a century. All the missionaries at Thakhek had been evacuated when the Reds reached that city on the

a concordat with him personally, refuge at Pakse, 250 miles south doing it for a high and satisfy. firm stand! than the company of the faith- the group of missionaries back him. He sought a casual friend

Detectives and Engineers

(Professor of Literature, Nazareth College, Rochester, N. Y.) REYOND THIS PLACE, by Archibald J. Cronin. Little, Brown and Co., 1953.

GOD'S ENGINEER, by Daniel Sargent. Scepter Press, Chicago. 1954. Both available at Trant's and other Catholic bookstores.

Will yours be a quiet Mardi Gras? Then I hope you naven't yet read A. J. Cronin's Beyond This Place; though how you could escape it I don't know, since it ran as a magazine serial, "To Live Again," the Opus Dei — the first Secu-

It's a broth of a tale, essence erty, chastity, and obedience, It's a proin of a tale, essence and remain in the world — and on principally in the Dutch cap lied with "hated capitalists." just the right proportion and found himself more and more ital and in Rotterdam by the blend, simmering away right at happily involved. your elbow for a perfect evening. It is the great quiet romance and Carmelites.

Observe procedures and the work.

It's a detective story, but not the man so involved that they cannot this anostolate is seen in circle. heroless kind in which you are men so involved that they cannot this apostolate is seen in statistic their contacts with the workers befooled and disillusioned until cut away and return to self, tics released recenly by the you despise all the characters, forget the motive of the crime,

and just read on to tidy it up. It's a murder story, but the Spanish Civil War just to lay dock workers, 60 per cent of the murder happened years ago, the siege to Isidoro's heart, but He building and industrial workers lady metaphorically speaking deserved it, and the murderer didn't do it. There are a likeable revolt begins, and from the hour young hero and heroine, and of Calvo Sotelo's murder his own showed that 47 per cent of the and pledge of alliance to the various pleasant and unpleasant high peril begins. His days are dock workers, and about 40 per American flag. characters who are what they seem. The detective is the hero. amateur, desperate, smart, perilously excitable, so relieved when to escape the Reds. He has a ne omits to shoot! persistent, racing onward because of com- informant, who tells him what

AND THE STYLE - I give thanks for Cronin. Good Eng-Midlothian and Tale of Two "Isidoro's challenge is different." fast pace of today's, Honestly, when the hero bends-his-stepsalize how much I've missed those

just day after day, a little bet embrace all who come to you... ter and a little better, lived up by-passing ourselves so we could a man who is one. He'd be happy wave back, ha hat and get on to meet Isidoro. to where there are only God and other people in sight?

good old bent steps!

Well, Isidoro does just that: Mekong River in their drive Isidoro, God's engineer, is real, across the narrow waist of Indo- of course. He is a saint of today. China. More than 100 were left He died in 1943, and the process Catholic weekly which front in the mission group, including for his canonization has been en-- that he thinks . . . "his soul's personnel of the nursery. With reporting cures and conversions. ing reason, and he did not arnaud later led smother the voice that spoke in

and has been a best seller for lar Institute, whose full-fledged members take the vows of pov- ers themselves.

> It is the great quiet romance and Carmelites. is no other where. God did notmaybe? - arrange the whole Amsterdam 66 per cent of the used it for that.

Isidoro is in Madrid when the rather like Father Pro's; though he is not a priest, he brings Holy Communion to many, helps many special Underground agent and escape routes will still work; she is-Our Lady del Pilar!

HIS ILLNESS and death are a lish, a bookful. Not only that, modern idyll of sanctity - you but the cadence and the dialogue see the sun and mist of Guadarof the tradition - see Heart of rama, and a clear, clean going. Cities and Edwin Drood and an says Daniel Sargent, ". . . He is Arnold Bennett tale of the Five all friendliness. His summons Towns, the full-hodied texture has no words even, yet it peneof an older English with the trates deep into us, to where we are most free, and to where we make decisions joyously." "Yes in-the-direction-of, I suddenly re- bearers of life," says Plus XII, "penetrate into every place, into factories, offices, fields . . . Offer yourselves, be known to one You know the dream: if we another . . . Open wide, too, to You probably know a boy who to it all - finally succeeded in would like to be an engineer, or

Daniel Sargent, the author. long ago showed in Four Indeneedents that he had more than a touch of genius. He also spells like a genius — independently Now, it is an editor's (even a harassed, understaffed Catholic orphans in the mission's care and tered, and people in Spain are editor's) business to curb genius salvation is a part-time work; a civilian convey, protected by He wanted to be an engineer, so ought in the interests of the that the Church ought to make a military column, they sought he became one. He wanted to be Faith and Mr. Sargent to take a

ful (he consorts with sinners); to Savannakhet, between Pakse of other years, now a priest, who \$4,300,000 addition to St. Elizthe catch phrases of the day and Thakhek, and the raid on might know the answer, and he cated Feb. 24 with Archbishop more than eternal truths; their convoy occurred before the walked right into the Opus Del. Karl J. Alter of Cincinnati offi-HE GAVE a slittle service to clating at a Pontifical High Mass.

COURIER-JOURNAL

Worker-Chaplain Apostolate In Holland 10 Years Old

over the priest-worker movement in France has focused attention on a somewhat similar apostolate carried on in Hol-

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land for the past ten years, The Dutch apostolate has dif cent of the building and indusfered from the French in that trial worders and taxi drivers the priest serve as chaplains to stay away from church.

the workers rather than as work-Jesuits, Capuchins, Franciscans

They must go on, and up—there Catholic Social Church Institute. ganized by Catholic Action lead-The statistics show that in and taxi drivers do not attend bers of the Nashua Board of church. Rotterdam statistics future meetings with a prayer

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MARIAN

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> at private meetings generally orers among the workers.

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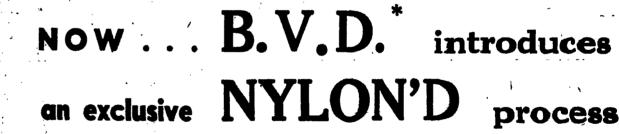
Father Gillis, Senator McCarthy,

gory of "liberal," an outworn. semantic dodge that should be retired from intelligent contro-

in part, as one who:

in his disputes, never takes unpersonalities or sharp sayings: for arguments, or insinuates evil

how to please himself without





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