

Editorials

Trouble Brewing In N.Y. City

Perhaps because the trouble has been overflowing in Ireland itself some of the boys have decided to import a bit of it to New York for the St. Patrick's Day parade.

As if the parade needed any extra emotion, some of the boys decided to make Michael Flannery, an ardent supporter of the Irish Republican Army, the grand marshal.

Flannery, a lad of 81, is one of the founders of NORAI, the Irish Northern Aid Committee which has been ordered to register as an agent of the IRA. He also was recently acquitted of running guns to the IRA even though he admitted "I blessed the hearts of those that did."

Incidentally, a similar choice was made for the Philadelphia Paddy's Day parade — but that is another county.

From this vantage point, the selection of Flannery is

indeed unfortunate. Any endorsement of terrorism, however indirect, is to be censured.

The announcement has already caused a brouhaha with the politicians lining up on both sides. Himself, in this case the senior senator from the State of New York, Daniel Patrick Moynihan, has flatly refused to participate.

"I reject without qualification the violence of the provisional IRA," he said. "I cannot participate in such a parade."

Another Irishman, Hugh Carey, the former governor, has also taken an "I won't march, don't ask me" attitude. A spokesman said, "It's controversial and he believes there should be no controversy attached to such a parade."

But parade-lovers, don't give up your corner just yet. A whole bunch of folks, including the Archdiocese of New York, disagree with Messrs. Moynihan and Carey.

The Catholic Church people tried to block the choice of Flannery but once it was made has played a different tune. An editorial in the archdiocesan newspaper opined that participation does not indicate sympathy for those who advocate violence in Northern Ireland.

But, au contraire, and excuse the French. Why then was Flannery selected in the first place?

To be candid, however, it must be reported that a large bloc of fellows from other counties will swell the ranks of the marchers.

Among them:

— Former Mayor Edward Koch: "I will be marching to honor St. Patrick and Irish-Americans. I deplore the terrorism perpetrated by the IRA provos."

— Sen. Alfonse D'Amato "feels that the parade is not a political event and that it promotes brotherhood."

— Rep. Mario Biaggi "sees the parade as a way to express solidarity with the Irish people."

— Gov. Mario Cuomo will appear "out of respect for the history and tradition of Irish-Americans."

The blarney aside, no one gets bruised by such verbal shenanigans, but the promoters of the parade and those who give it their blessing are obviously risking more than argument — they are inviting a donnybrook.

Everyone must pray that that does not happen. But if it should, won't it be grand hearing what the politicians will have to say?

and Opinions

Armament Oppresses Poor

Editor:

In "Soldiers Are Peacekeepers" (2-28-83), the response to "Must Not Choose War" (1-12-83), Gertrude Newberry asserts that threats of war are posed by "imperialists whose proclaimed goal is world domination." I agree. Still, we should keep in mind Jesus did not condemn Imperial Rome and military might, as Father Albert Shamon pointed out in his "Word for Sunday — Turn the Sword Inward" (12-18-82). Neither did He proclaim its favor.

On the other hand, it is well to remember that Our Lord found in the centurion no greater faith in Israel — the officer who said, "Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof," whose servant Jesus healed (Luke 7:1-10).

Yet, Jesus' intimacy with soldiers, sinners and tax collectors is not quite the endorsement of the divine right of kings, presidents or the U.S. Department of Defense, as some writers would seem to want us to believe.

On the inter-connected issues of peace and nuclear war, violence and non-violence, rich and poor, the prophet speaks: "... small and great alike are greedy for gain ... They would repair as naught the injury to my people: 'Peace, peace!' they say, though there is no peace." (Jeremiah 6:13-14)

And the psalmist: "Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss." (Psalm 84:11)

Many of us look the other way, avoid the cry of the poor and seek safeguards in money, flag and armaments. Opposed to such seductions is Father Shamon's inspired "Word for Sunday — Happiness Is Trust in the Lord" (2-9-83).

Is it inflation or is it human beings who bear upon the poor a multitrillion-dollar global war indebtedness and the threat of nuclear holocaust?

Clearly we hear the call to be the Body of One whose self-proclaimed mission is "... to preach the Good News to the poor ... to announce release to the captives and restoration of sight to the blind, to set free the down-trodden and proclaim the year

of the Lord's favor." (Luke 4:8-19)

Thus may we receive the bishops' forthcoming pastoral letter on war and peace this Holy Year, 1983.

J. Francis Carver
PO Box 21
Trumansburg, N.Y. 14886.

Statement Seen in Error

Editor:

Readers can only see complete harmony of the "Statement of the Purpose of the Courier-Journal" (unanimously approved by its Board of Directors (3-30-82) with Vatican II's "Decree on the Means of Social Communication," which are in the Feb. 2 issue of the C.J.

Unfortunately for everyone, the C-J frequently fails to practice 1. its preamble of requiring "truth and timeliness" for responsible journalism, and 2. the decree's mandate for agreement with the magisterium on fundamental principles. Frequent, serious departures by the C-J Board of Directors can be readily illustrated by comparison of articles authored by some of the clergy and religious with 1. readers' corrective letters in the "Opinions" feature and 2. reference to authentic Church teachings. Readers expect and deserve not to be fed articles which are contrary to Catholic faith and its Church teachings.

For example, the article "Liturgy of the Eucharist" (C-J, 1-19-83) should not have been published since it contains Modernist (false) teaching. Correction by true Catholic teachings on the Eucharist and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass were in Opinions by three readers' letters (C-J 2-2, 2-2, 2-9). Without authoritative correction by the C-J staff, fundamental Church teachings and false teachings are "rendered" as "tolerable

opinions for intramural debates. We should not be deceived! False teachings are intolerable — not debatable!

Pope John Paul II, as the visible shepherd bearing the pastoral voice of Vatican II teachings, has warned priests, brothers and Sisters living or visiting in Rome against violating the Church's regulations requiring their wearing of their clerical or religious garb. He has directed that "men and women religious, under the surveillance of their superiors, will wear the habit of their institute" — a pastoral example to the bishops and Religious through which they can likewise teach the obedience of the love of us and our children. (St. John, 10:1 ff., Matt. 12:50)

In printing pictures of lay-image religious, is not the Courier-Journal staff teaching that rejection of Church authority and discipline are matters for intramural debate? However, such pictures of authors are effective in destroying credibility in their articles — i.e., "Following the Path of Peace" (1-12-83), "Peace Lies in Truth" (2-9-83), etc. — and in the Courier-Journal staff.

Joseph J. Murray
38 Wyndover Road
Rochester, N.Y. 14616

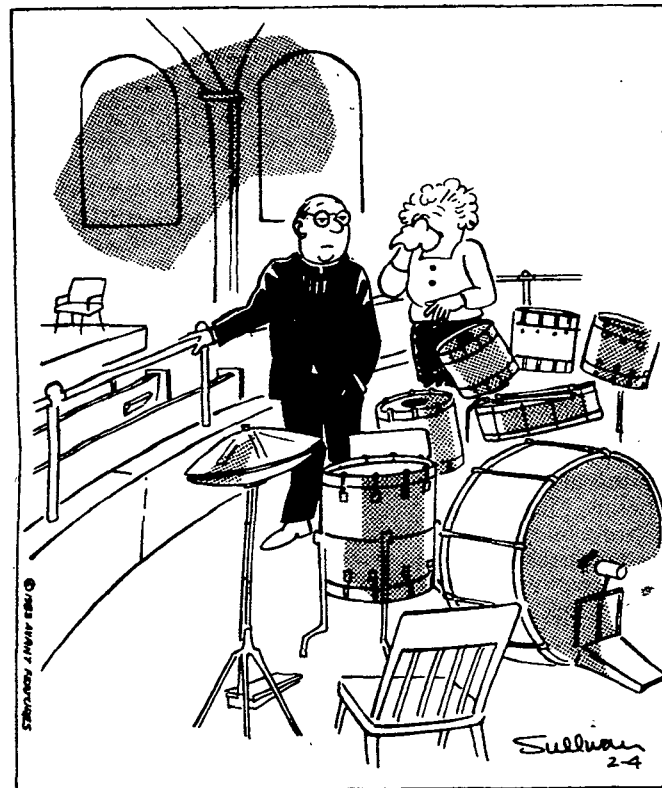
Milking A Joke

Editor:

On the editorial page of one of Rochester's daily newspapers in a feature article (Feb. 15), it says: "Prince Charles spends a week working 12 hours daily on a dairy farm to find out what such a job is like. He'll find it hard to convince anyone that he is to the manure born."

I am compelled to say that I disagree with that statement. I'm convinced!

Dick Mullaney
39 Sunnyside Lane
North Chili, N.Y. 14514



* FATHER DUNAHEE, GOD REST HIS SOUL, WAS JUST STARTING TO DEVELOP SOME WONDERFUL NEW IDEAS FOR THE LITURGY.

Lenten Regulations

Good Friday is the only remaining day of both fast and abstinence.

Other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat.

The fast is defined as one full meal a day, with two lighter meals. It is required of those 21-59 years of age.

The prohibition against meat on Fridays applies to those 14 years of age and older.

A Catholic should not lightly excuse himself from these practices.

Guidelines

The Courier-Journal welcomes your opinions. Letters must bear the writer's signature, full address and telephone number. They should be sent to Opinion, Courier-Journal, 114 S. Union S., Rochester, N.Y. 14607.

Opinions should be brief, typed, double-spaced, no longer than 1 1/2 pages.

We routinely condense letters, edit offensive words and libelous statements, and reserve the right to reject letters. Generally speaking, however, only limited grammatical corrections will be made and the letters will reflect the writer's own style.

Because submitted opinions exceed the space for letters, we publish only original letters addressed to us. We will not use poetry, open letters, or copies of letters sent elsewhere. To ensure diversity, we limit each writer to one letter per month.

Gabriel

