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LONDON, SATURDAY, DEC. 9, 1922 WHERE ALL ROADS LEAD

Some little time after his conversion to the Catholic faith Mr. G. K. Chesterton gave an interview to a newspaper representative who desired to make known the famous writer's reasons for this momentous step. Necessarily this interview was brief; but its publication in a

Toronto newspaper was received with anything but indifference. series of articles which are running simultaneously in The Catholic World on this side of the ocean, and on the other side in Blackfriars. It is safe to predict that many

thousands not of the household of the faith will read these articles with deep interest, and many thousands more when they are available in book form. From their different point of view Catholics will be no less interested. "For many years," says The Catholic World, "we have considered him a near neighbor and a good friend; but now he has become one of the family." Yes, he has got safely home. But whether or not he had ever been vouchsafed this crowning grace we should have of disintegrating modern society showed rare moral courage and intellectual honesty in the cause of truth; and to advance the cause of of Orthodoxy. truth is, whether consciously or not, to serve that divine institution founded for man's salvation by

that there are only two really tian genius in mediaval art, litera- ments of the Catholic University of that speed laws are so necessary. fundamental reasons for any man's ture and philosophy, there is a Montreal were destroyed within a Now, about those speed laws.joining the Catholic Church. "One period of comparative sterility in week afterwards has revived the It is perfectly plain to everyone is that he believes it to be the solid such achievements, the Dark Ages rumor. objective truth, which is true were ages of tremendous importwhether he likes it or not; and the ance, a fact that historians are now other that he seeks liberation from | beginning to recognize. Dr. Boyce's his sins."

of the Church" has forced thousands to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In these three fires in leaves to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In these three fires in leaves to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In these three fires in leaves to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In these three fires in leaves to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In these three fires in leaves to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In these three fires in leaves to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In these three fires in leaves to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In these three fires in leaves to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In these three fires in leaves to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In these three fires in leaves to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In these three fires in leaves to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In these three fires in leaves to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In these three fires in leaves to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In these three fires in leaves to give reasons, honest ing the fall of the Roman power building. In the fall of the Roman power building the fall of the Roman power reasons it may be, for not joining in the West really marked "its less than a month Catholic educa- laughed at as soon as the officer's brought out the more clearly his here severally ears and whole heart- here who here here here here. the Catholic Church. "The world indefinite extension and expansion." tional institutions have suffered a back is turned. Commonly, the inherent spiritual supremacy is a edly associated with all those continued inherent spiritual supremacy is a ledy associated with all those continued inherent spiritual supremacy is a ledy associated with the school. He is not has become conscious that it is not Professor Fiske in his beginnings loss of about \$1,000,000. And all speed laws are regarded by motor-fact admitted by all honest Catholic. Only lately it would have of New England, noting "how grave these follow a disastrous fire in the lists as a concession to the demands historians, and which does not been about as likely to broad on the [was] the danger that the stream Montreal institution less than two of old-fashioned people who are really admit of contradiction. fact that it was not Confucian. of life might come to stagnate in years ago. And all the array of reasons for not Europe, as it had long since stagjoining the Church of Rome nated in Asia," goes on to say : marked but the beginning of the

unearthly.'

the history of Christendom."

reading world.

series with this paragraph:

"But the rejuvenation does Mr. Chesterton has now begun a say that we live in one of those we think of the various works of a world.

THE DARK AGES

Considerable misapprehension is Him who is the way, the truth and often evident with regard to the Professor Fiske delivered his lec-On becoming a Catholic Newman ians called—or used to call—by that shed on the problems of the present was savagely attacked, his motives name the period following the were questioned, his veracity imbreak-down of the old civilization of now, though as through a glass, pugned; with the result that literpagan Rome and the flowering of darkly, many, not of the faith, are ature and apologetics were enriched Christian civilization in the Middle beginning to see that if Christian llectual revolution with regard use, by which those centuries be saved through the agency that to the Catholic Church that has since | between the Dark Ages and modern then taken place in England is thus times were designated. On the characteristically illustrated by matter of definite dates delimiting these three periods historians fail to "Until about the end of the agree. During these so-called Dark nineteenth century, a man was Ages the Catholic Church alone Jesuit Collège of St. Boniface, Maniexpected to give his reasons for saved Europe from falling back into toba, was destroyed and ten lives risks; some will use poor judgment, joining the Catholic Church. Today barbarism and laid broad and deep lost gave rise to a rumor that it was some will not look where they are a man is really expected to give his the bases of European civilization, the work of some anti-Catholic fan- going. If there were no danger of reasons for not joining it. This So, though between the time that atic or organization. may seem an exaggeration; but I pagan genius furnished those believe it to stand for a subconclassics in Greek and Latin still ground for suspicion, this rumor re- laws. It is precisely because some of stress, in which the Holy See had scious truth in thousands of minds." studied throughout the civilized ceived little credence, the fact that people lack judgment, or presence In a terse sentence or two he says world and the blossoming of Christhe Dental and Veterinary depart- of mind, or coolness, or carefulness, of Islam, directed as it was But what he calls "the challenge Roman Empire made them realize of the Church" has forced thou- that the 476 A. D. instead of mark-

"Two mighty agents, cooperating ultimate reason for joining it. in their opposite ways to prevent . . . That sort of presence and any such disaster, were already pressure of the Church I believe to entering upon the scene. The first to discover the origin of these people whose duty it is to enforce (from whose article in the Re-Union be universal and ubiquitous today; was the colonization of the empire mysterious fires, they furnish an the speed laws, but who don't do it. Magazine we quoted last week) not only among Anglicans, but by Germanic tribes already far obvious lesson. The continent-wide It is an attitude also to be noticed among Agnostics. I repeat that I advanced beyond savagery, already campaign of insensate bigotry that in legislatures sometimes, when the do not mean that they have no real somewhat tinctured with Roman is fanning into flame religious pre- laws as to speed, and means of constitutional or defended as just," objections; on the contrary, I mean civilization, yet at the same time judice and passion must be relent- bettering them, are under discusthat they have begun really to endowed with intense spirit of lessly stamped out by all good sion.

something else, "the strongest of the empire, but at the risk of and worse. Self-respecting and be. In some communities in death of Miss Genevieve Ward, the all the purely intellectual forces undoing its work of political organ- freedom-loving Protestants there Canada, the most inveterate noted tragedienne, who had thrilled that dragged me towards the ization and reducing it to barbarism. are who have condemned this breakers of the motor laws are the audiences in England and America truth." And this is the miraculous The second was the establishment recrudescence of Protestant bigotry councillors and other officials of the a generation ago with the depth youth of "the old religion." "I of the Roman Church, an institution in unmeasured terms; but this is place. Members of the legislature, and intensity of her art. We were cannot understand how this unearth- capable of holding European society not enough. General condemnation, in some cases, oppose attempts to not then aware that Miss Ward was ly freshness in something so old can together in spite of a political dispossibly be explained, except on integration that was widespread into the consciousness of these because they want to drive fast that she was, and that, as matter the supposition that it is indeed and long-continued. While wave malevolent mischief-makers the themselves. In towns where fifteen of fact, she had suffered much after wave of Germanic coloniza- heinousness of their crime against miles an hour is the legal speed, it during her long life for conscience Chesterton brands as untrue the tion poured over romanized Europe, assumption of rationalist history breaking down old boundary-lines that through the ages orthodoxy and working sudden and astonishhas grown old slowly. It is rather ing changes on the map, setting up heresy that has grown old quickly. | in every quarter baronies, duke-"The Reformation grew old doms, and kingdoms fermenting amazingly quickly. It was the with vigorous political life; while Counter - Reformation that grew for twenty generations this salutary young. . . . I believe that this but wild and dangerous work was renovation, which has certainly going on, there was never a moment happened in our own time, and when the imperial sway of Rome which certainly happened in a time was quite set aside and forgotten, so recent as the Reformation, has there was never a time when union really happened again and again in of some sort was not maintained through the dominion which the This marvellous recovery of youth | Church had established over the and vigor by the Catholic Church European mind. When we duly Chesterton emphasizes and illus- consider this great fact in its trates in the characteristic style relations to what went before and that has for many years arrested what came after, it is hard to find the attention and stimulated the words fit to express the debt of thought of so many in the English- gratitude which modern civilization owes to the Roman Catholic Church. He closes the second article of the When we think of all the work, big with promise of the future, that went on in those centuries which recur; and it is the first fact with modern writers in their ignorance which I have wished to start my used once to set apart and stigmaargument. Its effect on the ques- tize as the 'Dark Ages'; when we tion of the seat of authority and the consider how the seeds of what is limits of communion I may proceed noblest in modern life were then to consider at another time. But, painfully sown upon the soil which for the moment, I am content to imperial Rome had prepared: when recurrent periods of Catholicism on Gregory, a Benedict, a Boniface, an the march; and to draw a more Alfred, a Charlemagne; we feel simple moral from it. The real that there is a sense in which the honor is due to those who were with most brilliant achievements of it when its cause seemed hopeless; pagan antiquity are dwarfed in and no credit, beyond that of comparison with these. Until quite common intelligence, really belongs lately, indeed, the student of history to anyone who has joined it when it has had his attention too narrowly is so evidently the hope of the confined to the ages that have been pre-eminent for literature and art-Many of our readers will doubt- the so-called classical ages-and thus less read the articles in The Catholic his sense of historical perspective World, beginning with the Novem- has been impaired. When Mr. ber issue. Many more will await Freeman uses Gregory of Tours as the publication of the series in book a text-book, he shows that he form. In the meantime, during the realizes how an epoch may be none long evenings of the coming winter the less portentous though it has not may not some wish to familiarize had a Tacitus to describe it, and themselves with the works of this certainly no part of history is more ever looked upon him as a good writer whose influence has been so full of human interest than the friend. His fearless application of great of a generation of readers? troubled period in which the powerthe lessons of history to the needs | We should suggest: The Ball and | ful streams of Teutonic life pouring The Cross; What's Wrong with the into Roman Europe were curbed World; and Orthodoxy. What he in their destructiveness and guided is now writing is the complement to noble ends by the Catholic Church. Out of the interaction between these two mighty agents has come the political system of the

modern world." term "The Dark Ages." Histor- tures much additional light has been created it-the Catholic Church.

IS IT INCENDIARISM?

Though, in the absence of definite

civilization.

MOTORISTS AND PUBLIC SAFETY

BY THE ORSERVER

Perhaps we have cause for surprise that there are not more accidents from motor cars. When we consider that the automobile is a high powered engine, capable of great speed, capable of great destruction, able to deal death in a moment, we must conclude that Providence in many cases takes special care of people who have little care for their own safety or that of others. But there are altogether too many accidents, and the number is increasing. During the present year, the number of deaths from motor car accidents has been larger than in any previous year, since the motor car came into common use. All those accidents are, of course, not due to carelessness on the part of drivers of cars; but the fact is plain enough that by far the greater number of them would not have taken place had the drivers obeyed the law. Unfortunately, only a minority of all those who drive cars have any intention of obeying the speed laws. They disobey, and no harm results at first : but one day the situation which the law was intended to guard against, arises, and the disobedience causes the death or the crippling of a person for whose protection the law was made.

Those who drive autos often retrying to cross a street too close to an auto, or by taking too little notice of the traffic. Sometimes drivers seem to think that when the are at the time driving at a rate of speed greater than the law allows. want to point out that that is a mistake. The law is made not only for the protection of the wise but for the protection of the foolish, so far as the foolish can be protected. It is part of the duty of law-makers to protect, as far as possible, the foolish against the consequences of their own folly.

It does not follow, therefore, that the driver of an auto is free the assumption that a certain numhis car at a speed greater than the law permits, merely because the other person took a chance he should not have taken. One of the The disastrous fire by which the reasons for speed laws is, that some persons will take unnecessary anyone doing these things, there would be very little need for speed

who has seen automobiles and the That the fire in both cases was of | way they are driven that comparaincendiary origin there are apparent- tively few drivers take the speed ly good grounds for believing. Not laws with any great amount of epoch-making work on the Holy three weeks before this last fire, the seriousness. They are commonly University of Montreal suffered a treated as regulations to be loss of \$300,000 due to fire in its main obeyed only in the immediate pres-Pending the investigation which have no cars of their own, and are ity in England in the sixteenth must be held we must suspend willing to embarrass those who must be held we must suspend judgment and comment. But have. This attitude, which is whatever the investigations disclose or even though they fail is also the attitude of a good many. whatever the investigations dis- fairly general amongst motorists, close, or even though they fail is also the attitude of a good many See," says Rev. Spencer Jones country,

is not at all uncommon to see forty sake. or fifty cars go by one after the other at a speed of thirty to fifty IT APPEARS that as a young girl

over and over again. the public.

all cases for a second offence.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

domains by these devoted men.

of blame merely because the Papal jurisdiction over England in formance which distinguished her mediaval times. The Bishop, it is prime. for he is bound to run his auto on true, resisted on occasion what he considered undue demands of the Not only was Miss Ward's life ber of the people he passes amongst Holy See in the matter of taxation. full of vicissitudes but they followed will act foolishly. He is bound to But that he never dreamed of her to the tomb. After the last Bishop in his own Diocese."

it must be borne in mind that it self to read the burial service of Sovereign Pontiff. It was an age of Christian feeling. towards the destruction of Christian civilization, but to resist the encroachments of petty European kings upon the rights of both Church and people. Under such circumstances it is no subject for wonderment that differences of School in Tanjore was recently paid to the work being done for education in India by the Rev. Father Mederlet, director of St. Francis Xavier's Industrial School in Tanjore was recently paid to the work being the second to the work being opinion should from time to time scared of new inventions, or who That the repudiation of this author-'was effected by acts of violence, his efforts that a very large number which cannot be described as of pupils, a very large number of which is the mildest possible way of

the Church he calls attention to were about to refresh and revivify calculated to have just such results, the enforcement as there ought to columns some weeks ago of the tutions.

miles an hour. I know that this is she met and had become engaged to true, because I have seen it happen a Russian nobleman, Count de Guerbel, who married her accord- promptness in which they coordin-Now, this is a serious situation; ing to civil contract, and then in and its gravity is more and more ap- spite of his undertaking to the parent every year. The present year | contrary, refused to go on with the shows a continual stream-killed religious ceremony. The civil maimed, and injured in the wake of contract is a necessary preliminary the automobile. And there is not, in most European countries; but, in a majority of cases, even the especially where either or both it any wonder that the Hierarchy poor excuse of someone being in a parties are Catholics, is always was unwilling that this great power business hurry; for the most of followed by the religious ceremony those killings and woundings have as the law of the Church requires. been caused by mere joy-riders; In Miss Ward's case she sought the and jey-riding is not so important intervention of the Tsar, who in that the pedestrians of every com- response to her appeal ordered the glorious that the Hierarchy came to munity must be put continually on Count to complete the marriage in a full realization of the edge, with the penalty of death church, which was accordingly done. ahead of them if they forget for a But here the bride's romance ended, moment. In a properly regulated for realizing for the first time the fare Council was founded. community, the supposed needs of real character of her husband, she joy-riders should not be allowed to parted with him at the church door, balance for one second the safety of and never saw him again. Nor. although the husband died some The two things needed are a years later, did she ever re-marry proper oversight of the joy-riders but remained to the end of her days as to speed; and, secondly, a sub- Miss Genevieve Ward, and as such stantial penalty, with imprison- is known to two generations of ment for the graver cases, and in playgoers as one of the most stirling actresses of her time.

THERE WAS another romance, "THE BENEDICTINE monks for 910 others embracing a disappointment) (although to herself and to many yearshave been cultivating one of the in the career of this estimable lady. world's finest forests," says the Can- As a young girl she developed adian Forestry Magazine. "It sur- a remarkable singing voice, and rounds an ancient hermitage, about under capable instruction gave fifty miles southeast of Florence, promise of becoming a great mark that children and even grown Italy. This forest is as fine as it operatic star. She had been trained was nearly a thousand years ago, by Rossini himself, and her first though lumber has been taken out appearance in grand opera was of it steadily in great quantities." hailed with enthusiasm. But, sud-This is by no means a solitary in- denly, and without warning she lost stance of the economic value of her voice, and it was then that she foot passenger takes a chance, they religious communities under the turned to the legitimate drama, agis of the Catholic Church. with the results already indicated. During the stormiest periods of Grand opera lost a great artist, but transition in the Middle Ages the drama made a corresponding its material resources no less than greatest triumphs in Francis of its civilization to the monks. Coppee's "La Couronne," a magnif-And right here in Canada exist icent Bacon tragedy in which, at numerous examples of desert the age of seventy, she was wastes being turned into fruitful associated with Sir Johnston Forbes Robinson and Mrs. Patrick Campbell. We doubt, however, if as an THE FAMOUS Bishop Grosseteste is artist she ever reached a higher uists" as an argument against Me-Not," that unforgettable per-

give them a better chance than per-qualifying, far less resisting the Catholic rites had been adminisature and apologetics were enriched by the immortal Apologia. The by the immortal Apologia. The interval and apologetics were enriched by the immortal Apologia. The immortal Apologia are the first and the flowering of Christian civilization in the Middle beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved, it must beginning to see that if Christian civilization is to be saved. "Samuel was to the people of removed to Golders Green where, sympathetic interest we have no Israel as the sun of the people," he by instructions of her relatives or wrote, "even as the Lord Pope is executors, they were cremated, and, to the Universal Church and each what Catholics fail to understand is, that an Anglican clergyman, we would like to depend upon him knowing the deceased lady to have Even in the matter of taxation been a Catholic, took it upon himwas levied for the needs of the the Church of England over her whole Church, and not for the remains—an act as little in keeping individual requirements of the with decorum as with every canon

TRIBUTE TO CATHOLIC EDUCATOR

High tribute to the work being by the Inspector of Schools, Mr. P. R. Acharya.

nected with the school. He is not only popular with his congregation, popular with everybody, with of all castes and creeds. And I believe that he has become an Indian, and if he were to return home to France he would be like a country, for the good of his work and for the good of all of us, he will determine to stay at Tanjore for-ever and ever. It is entirely due to or at a nominal cost.'

ADMIRAL'S CALL TO COOPERATE

NECESSITY OF COORDINATING CATHOLIC EFFORT

The need of coordination of Catholic effort for the purpose of insur-ing proper representation of Cath-olic interests under modern conditions in America, was emphasized by Admiral William S. Benson in an address before the Knights of Columbus of Minneapolis. Referring to the war-time record of the Knights of Columbus and praising their Supreme officers for the ated their activities with the Hierarchy at the time of the formation of the National Catholic War Coun-.cil. he declared that the War served to bring out for the first time the tremendous force of combined Catholic endeavor.

With that service as history, is that functioned so admirably in time of War should not be continued in time of peace?" he asked. "I wonder indeed if it were not the fact that the record made was so organized laity would be to Church and Country, that from out the War Council the National Catholic Wel-

Speaking as President of the National Council of Catholic Men the Admiral continued Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus. imbued I hope with the true purpose of each lesson as taught in each degree of that order, I want to take this opportunity of saying I place my allegiance to the purposes and principles of the Order as second to those of no man within its membership. I do not intend to go into the details of the establishment of the National Council of Catholic Men. I will, however, say that it is only half of one of the five depart. ments of the Welfare Council. am quite sure that I can say in this presence that I would not be a member of the National Council if it had not been brought into being by direct appeal of the Hierarchy to the United States, to rally to their support, and now, knowing as much as I do about it and its purpose, I can honestly American citizen can afford to stand by and not rally to their appeal.

NEED OF ORGANIZATION

After explaining the need imformation of such an organization Europe owed the preservation of gain. Her death recalled one of her time has come when every Catholic Men, the Admiral declared : man worthy of the name in this great country will be by the very force of circumstances compelled to inquire why he is singled out from among his neighbors and penalized and possibly ostracised for his faith and the pity of it all is that too many there are who are unable to give an intelligent reason for their often quoted by Anglican "contin level than as Stephanie in "Forget- men with the full force of truth revealed they will wonder why they were so blind. Excuses they will advance, but you must never lose sight of the fact the Church has no excuse to offer for her existence. and conscience too is a hard master and will not be denied.

"What we must do, and, it is commercial purpose upon which to predicate our faith, let him know that we stand ready to be his neigh as a counsellor and advisor in our personal problems.

"Let us get to know our neighbor and his problem if he has one. Let us get together and survey the civic problems we are called upon to pass in judgment at the ballot box, let us get together for the many reasons that we should, let us break down the icy barrier that too often is built upon a false groundwork due to the simple reason we have not met our neighbor in a formal way. My friends the reasons are as many as the problems of life why we should know our neighbor, why we should know our faith, why we should be interested in good government, and yet keep out of polities as such, but let us by our conduct and rule of life show the men who seek our suffrage that we have only one standard and that a man who seeks our support must be a clean living man, that he must be an honest man.

THE COUNCIL EXPLAINED

Summing up his description of the work and character of the National Council of Catholic Men, Admiral Benson said: "Today the avenue is opened to us with the approval of the Holy Father and the appeal of the American Hierarchy to rally behind them in these days of trial when men are asked to think straight and talk straight, to see to it that we do a man's part in a man's way in solving the difmodern civilization and finally to see to it that the Magna Charta of our liberties shall not be abridged, boys in this locality receive education, the poor and the destitute free, bject."

After noting this challenge of he Church he calls attention to he calls nor cabal of devilish men shall be