DECEMBER 80, 1922

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN A NEW YEAR'S WISH God bless the work that lies before your hand ! God's blessing be on all that you have done For what is fame or gift or treasure.

grand. If His approving smile we have not

God strengthen you when crosses

come to stay, shadows close around your heart and home !

heart and home ! God guide your soul when light seems far away, When all the world's tossed waves are white with foam !

God dower you with kind, consoling

words
For wounded hearts, with gloom and anguish filled,
Soft soothing words to sing like happy birds
With voice prophetic, till the storm is stilled!
and anguish filled,
control of thought and such precision in the use of terms that the successful keeping of his resolution would call and renunciation. But the rewards of steadfastness in his high purpose would of course be correspondingly gravet For no one could exercise

through fear ! This is my wish, the burden of my

God bless you in the dawning of the clear and striking manner the exact thought in the mind of the speaker

year ! -BRIAN O'HIGGINS

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS The ease and light-heartedness with which people talk about making New Year's resolutions force one to conclude that they do not realize the full significance of refinement, and thus make him a what might otherwise be a very salutary practice. From apostolic days the Catholic Church has coun-America seled us to begin each day with a firm resolve to overcome the outstanding weaknesses of our char-acter to avoid the most dangerous pitfalls in our way. Knowing the human heart as none other can know it, she bids us on solemn occasions-such as our birthday or New Year's Day, when our frame of mind is more serious, and therefore more open to Sometimes it is a happy voice ; Sometimes it's very sad. serious, and therefore more open to impressions as to the responsibilities of life—to make special resolutions that will ensure the great business of our existence. As the Old Year is dying and the New Year is fast approaching every good Catholic, looking over the past twelve months, promises himself—sometimes on his traces hefore a luminety. God — to ashamed knees before Almighty God — to undertake to eradicate certain faults in his character and to push certain virtues. We should remem-ber, however, that we can never's expect to keep our New Year's resolutions unless we make them in the presence of God. asking Hint the presence of God, asking Him to bless them, and to give us the courage to carry them out.-Rosary Magazine

I CAN DO ALL THINGS Each new year is a challenge to live a better life. Almost every one accepts the challenge. New resolutions are the order of the

day. "No more drink for me," say one "I always said I could stop when I wanted to, and I can. One more evening of it, and then I quit for good for the New Year.

"I can make good in the New Year," says another. "Somehow I did not quite make the best of my opportunities in the last year.-too many side attractions, I guess. Anyway, I can buckle down if I want to, and in the New Year I am

New Year I am going to be. There will be less gloom around my home. I won't shirk my share of the church work. I'll have a smile and a warm handshake for the other man. I can do it, and I will."

lived an exceedingly original and for dogs. fastidious man who had become so Paler t tired of hearing from his friends Paler than usual, but not at all shy, Jackie went toward the house, with the dog in his arms. He rang the bell, and when a maid answered "familiar quotations" that he took a solemn resolution on New Year's Day to abstain altogether, during it, asked to see the lady of the the coming twelve months, from the conscious use of overworked "Run away, little boy! Mrs. Kerens wouldn't bother with you," the girl told him sharply, and would have shut the door in his face if phrases, threadbare expressions and familiar quotations. What success he had in keeping his perilous re-solve history, unfortunately, does her mistress had not chanced to come into the hall at that moment.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

RESOLUTIONS

And makes me feel so much ashamed

ROWDY

I want to do what's right.

So every day I'll try my best,

had been his Christmas gift.

mean to be all through the year

As good as good can be And listen to the voice inside

That softly speaks to me.

Wholly admirable, however, was the motive which prompted him to take the resolution. For the con-stant effort that is required in order to avoid the meaningless slang of the day the argot of the trades Jackie spied her instantly, and looking up into her face, said earn-estly, "You're the lady of the house, aren't you? I came to see you on business." "Come in," Mrs. Kerens said, amused by Jackie's seriousness. She led him into a small reception of the day, the argot of the trades and professions, or the stock phrases of various social circles, would demand, our New Year's room to the left, and at once Jackie set his dog on the floor, and reachresolver would realize, such watch-fulness over his words, such clearness ing in his pocket produced a very little, very fluffy puppy which he placed on the rug beside the larger of thought and such precision in the use of terms that the successful

dog. "Aren't they cute !" he said admiringly; and looking up at Mrs. Kerens in a most friendly way, he added: "You see, I want to sell them, and I thought maybe you'd like to huy them. They're nice with voice prophetic, thit the storm is stilled!
 in body and in soul, God keep you strong
 To toil for Him, and never fail through fear! like to buy them. They're nice dogs. Dude—he's the big one—he had fleas just once, but I washed him three times and they were all hackneyed, and rejecting every term that did not express in a fresh, gone. Rowdy is the puppy's name. Of course, he doesn't know much yet, but you could teach him; and Dude's smart already. He will or writer-no one, it is plain, could consistently keep up such a practice shake hands, and beg, and do other tricks, too. I'll show you." for a twelve-month without becom-ing in the process a veritable "lord Kneeling on the rug, Jackie coaxed and threatened his pet, until

with great reluctance he quaver-ingly stood on his hind legs and begged for one instant. "See, I begged for one instant. "See, I told you !" Jackie cried, with a little laugh of triumph. strong influence for good among his associates and contemporaries.-

All this while Mrs. Kerens had watched Jackie and his dogs smil-ingly, not saying a word, but now she asked, as seriously as she could. "Why do you think that I might

want to buy two dogs ?" "Well, you see, I looked and didn't see any dogs around; and then this is such a nice big house and has such a nice yard I thought maybe you could afford to pay *money* for dogs," Jackie explained. "I couldn't pay money for them. I found Dude and Rowdy in our our of the darkness of infidelity and the obscure light of partial truth He nourishes us at the bosom money for dogs," Jackie explained. "I couldn't pay money for them. I found Dude and Rowdy in our alley—different days. Besides, this is a pretty house, and I—if I let anybody have them I want to be sure they have a good home. Of course, our house isn't big and pretty, but they get lots of petting, and they have a nice box, all soft inside, just behind the kitchen stove." Two big tears ran over his checks, and he looked steadily away

cheeks, and he looked steadily away from Mrs. Kerens. Mrs. Kerens was tactful enough to see nothing. "Why do you want to sell such nice pets?" she asked, them. But the past is dead. We

Early in the afternoon of the last day of the year Mrs. Grady and Margaret were seated close to the kitchen stove, talking earnestly and very gently. "Didn't I tell you that part?" Jackie asked, brightening a little. "Why that's the important part. My father has been sick for two anxiously, but in a very low tone. The only other fire was in the room above, where Mr. Grady lay ill, so Jackie could not be sent away months, and my big sister is the only one working, and she isn't very big and doesn't make much money, and was curled contentedly on a chair behind the stove, reading the and we owe \$23.10 at the drug store. and we have to get coal with her cheap and gayly illustrated copy of "Jack, the Giant Killer," which pay. I heard mother and my sister talking about it, and they were worried, so I thought I might just as well sell Dude and Rowdy. 1

"It's \$23.10 that we owe at the drug store, and I don't see how we can pay it." Mrs. Grady said. "Twenty-three dollars out of your month's new read here the the second states of haven't anything else except my skates, and they've been mended twice." "I see. I'll be glad to buy the month's pay would leave only thirty dollars, and there's groceries to be dogs, ", What do you want for

bought, and we're almost out of them coal, and if the doctor asks for his "D "Do you think both of them going to make good." "I know I can be a decenter man," says another, "and in this New Yoar I are doctor asks for his or maybe he will stop coming. We haven't paid him a cent so far." "Twenty-three dollars and ten

# THE CATHOLIC RECORD

## 1923

alleviate the suffering which is fore-seen during the coming winter because of the poverty stricken condition of the country. A paetoral letter issued by the Car-dinal orders collections held in all the churches in the diocese for the The beginning of the new year is impressive for those who know the worth of time, and the great work Christian Faith teaches must be done in the brief days allowed us. benefit of the monasteries and other It marks the irrevocable passage of time we call life, and the beginning of a new era that holds for all, unknown religious institutions. The letter states that it is realized that every one is in need at this time but points out that even though nearly and varied experiences. About this everyone is poverty stricken, still future we can of course say noth-ing, save that prayerfully we trust some means must be found to fulfill the obligations of Christian charity to God's guidance to use its days well. We do know the past, howand care for those whose distress in ever, and as we look back on the

greater. The Bishop of Munster has made year just spent, two thoughts struggle for expression : gratitude for God's graciousness in His care a specific appeal to the farmers of his diocese to sell their potatoes directly to the poor and not to the dealers, even though the latter may and concern for us and apprehen-sion at our frequent indifference to the will of God. The old year, given us that we might know, love, and serve God better, suggests in its passing the question whether its days have brought us posers to be willing to pay higher prices Part of the Bishop's letter reads "Poverty is increasing from day to day. There are many suffering and day. There are many suffering and starving. It is the duty of every-one to help. I know that many farmers will help and forego some of their profits for the relief of the poor. Be charitable to the poor days have brought us nearer to God in achievement even as it has in point of time. 'Are we better, are we worse for the year just lived? Sometimes we fear that question, with our memory of failures and infidelity. So much that might have been done for God has been and you will have God's blessing for it. You will not grow poor giving alms. God will repay you seven times over. left undone; so much service that could have been offered our fellow man, neglected; the breaking of many fine resolutions and coarsen-GLORIES OF CATHOLIC

success and every serrow a means to

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GERMAN PRIESTS

HELPED

By Rev. Dr. Whilhelm Baren von Capitaine

The plight of the Catholic clergy

At a recent

in Germany has aroused the charity of the clergy in Holland and steps

CHURCH ing of high ideals; so much earn estness lavished on worldly con cerns; such neglect for the things of God. These thoughts oppress even the good, and it is relief of The late William Winter, noted dramatic critic, once paid this tribute to the Catholic Church, in

soul to repeat with the Psalmist: the New York Tribund "Have mercy upon me, O Lord, according to Thy great mercy." There is consolation, however, in the thought of God's goodness, and the mourt of His merce is four To think of the Catholic Church is to think of the oldest, the most venerable and the most powerful religious institution existing among the memory of His mercy is foun-I am not a churchman of any men. dation for new hope and strivings. He is our Father, who knows us and

kind; that, possibly, is my misfor-ture; but I am conscious of a pro-found obligation of gratitude to loves us in spite of this knowledge. His arm is about us; He holds us that wise, august, austere, yet tenderly human ecclesiastical power up; He guides and protects us; He gives us life, and what a precious which, self-centered amid the vicis situdes of human affairs, and pro vident for men of learning, imagination and sensibility throughout the world, has preserved the literature and art of all the centuries, has made architecture the living symbol of celestial aspirations, and in poetry and in music, has heard and has transmitted the authentic voice of God.

alleviate the suffering which is fore-

letter

'I say that I am not a churchman but I would also say that the best hours of my life have been hours of meditation passed in the glorious cathedrals and among the sublime

So we enter the new year with optimism and hope. If the past can teach us a lesson for the future, we will learn it. If it holds memorecclesiatical ruins of England. have worshipped in Canterbury and York ; in Winchester and Salisbury ; in Lincoln and Durham, in Ely and in Wells. I have stood in Tintern when the green grass and the white them. But the past is dead. We live in the present. We have our daisies were waving in the summer wind, and have looked upon those present work to do and our present gray and russet walls and upon those lovely arched casements-among the most graceful ever deduties to perform; our present cross to carry; our present comforts to lean upon. And so we approach the vised by human art-round which the sheeted ivy droops, and through which the winds of heaven sing a future with bright hearts and high resolve, conscious that all things work unto good; that every failure perpetual requiem. can be made the foundation for

'I have seen the shadows of evening slowly gather and softly fall final peace and conquest. May God bless in the past whatever was happy and good; may God forgive in the past what was weak and bad; over the gaunt tower, the roofless nave, the giant pillars and the shattered arcades of Fountains Abbey, in its sequestered and melancholy solitude, where ancient may God guide and guard the future that the New Year may be Ripon dreams in the spacious and for all haopy and blessed and fruit-ful in every way. — The Missionary. verdant valley of the Skell. I have mused upon Netley, and Kirkstall and Newstead, and Bolton, and Melrose, and Dryburg ; and at a midnight hour I have stood in the grim and gloomy chancel of St. Columba'a cathedral remote in the storm A new oil lamp that gives an swept Hebrides, and looked upward

and heard the

desolate moaning of the



answer. "Seven years!" the couple echoed, "And you with kiddies, too — who would ever think a piano could stay so true to tone all this time.

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#### SEVEN

"No more debts for me," says another. "I can live within my income. I am tired of this getting behind all the time. I can pay as I go, and in the New Year I shall keep out of debt."

And so it goes. With a fine air of determination and seemingly ex-pecting the world to break into applause in advance as though the New Year's record had already been achieved, we turn our backs upon the sorry months that have fled, and with a proud "I can do all things," face the future. Alas! But others there are who also

recognize the errors of the past year and have visions of better things in the year to come, who bravely con-fess their defeats, who wisely admit their weaknesses, and who, without self-importance and self-confidence, face the New Year with great determination, with strong resolution saying firmly to their souls as they set the goal for 1923 :

"I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me !'

LORDS OF LANGUAGE

Shakespeare has been adequately described as "a dramatist of note;

But any day they may refuse us credit t the drug store,' Margaret said fearfully. answered

"They won't do that," Mrs. Grady contradicted, trying to be-lieve what she said. "We have known Mr. Allen for a long time.—

And Jackie's shoes are wearing thin," she added, after a moment. Five minutes earlier Jackie had begun to listen, and now he drew his feet under him, and declared

stoutly, "My shoes are all right. I don't want to be a dude." "They can't be half-soled before next month, so there's no use talking about them," Margaret snapped, speaking crossly, because she was worried; and turning to her mother, she went on, "I'll order five bushels

of coal. That much will last for several days, unless it turns cold. I'll get some groceries, too. We'd better keep the rest of the money

until we see which bills must be paid this month."

Mrs.

Jackie heard no more. Slipping down from his chair he put away "Jack, the Giant Killer," took his cap from its hook behind the door, and after other rather strange preparations, started hurriedly toward the front door, with a frisky,

ugly dog behind him. "Jackie, where are you going ?" his mother called after him.

"I'm just going somewhere," he answered, and was out of hearing before she could tell him not to he lived by writing things to quote." It is also recorded that an other-wise well-read man who chanced to the dog at his heels? across Fifth that great poet's complete works, exclaimed with delighted surprise as he turned the pages: "How ingularly risk this pages: "How he turned the pages: "How singularly rich this author is in familiar quotations!" Rich indeed! He walked more slowly, then, ex-amining one house after another until he reached the largest of them So much so that our daily language is filled with phrases that Shake-grounds. Before this house Jackie peare first coined and many expres- paused for several minutes, eyeing sions of his, once striking and beau- it thoughtfully from roof to base-

tiful, have become by constant use so hackneyed and commonplace, that careful writers now have to avoid them. Once upon a time think she could afford to pay money make thee rich.

I should sa amazingly brilliant, soft white to the cold stars, what they are worth," Mrs. Kerens light, even better than gas or voices of the birds of night mingled electricity, has been tested by the with the Jackie's grimy face fairly beamed. S. Government and 35 leading sea. With awe, with reverence "Mother'll be glad !" he cried; but added wistfully, "You'll be real good to them, won't you ?"

Instead of answering the ques-tion, Mrs. Kerens said : "I have have a very good plan in regard to them. My house is big, but somehow there doesn't seem to be much room in it for dogs, so I am going to ask

to send a lamp on 10 days Free trial, or even give one Free to the first you to keep Dude and Rowdy for me, and-suppose you bring them here once a month to let me see how they are getting along." how they are getting along. Jackie looked up at her with big, puzzled eyes. "But that wouldn't be fair," he objected. "I'd have the dogs and the money, too, and explain how you can get the agency, and without experience or money make \$250 to \$500 monthly.

you wouldn't have anything-except once a month.

It would be fair if I am willing." Mrs. Kerens said so decidedly

that Jackie was satisfied. "And now," she added, "I am going down town in my car. You may come with me, and we'll pay your 'drug-store-bill' and then I'll take

you home. are now being taken for the relief Half an hour later Jackie burst of the German priests. conference of the clergy of the Dutch diocese of Limbourgh it was into the kitchen, where his mother was wearily peeling potatoes. "I paid the bill at the drug store, and

decided to ask the people of Holland to contribute for the financial support of the German priests. paid the bill at the drug store, and here's the receipt—I didn't lose it— and I'm to keep Dude and Rowdy, too !" he cried delightedly. Mrs. Grady stared at him in amazement. "Jackie, what are you talking about ?" she asked. By the time he had explained a second time a little more clearly. It was pointed out at this conference that 1,800 out of the 2,300 priests in the Archdiocese of Cologne alone are in the direst need of aid, many of them living in condia second time a little more clearly, and Mrs. Grady had examined the tions of absolute poverty and many more only a little removed from the receipt as well as she could through her tears, a man knocked at the danger of starvation. Relations between the Dutch and German door and left a large basket of fruit. clergy have always been friendly "Happy New Year to all the Gradys" and in former years the German from Jackie's friend," was written on the card attached to the handle, stipends to the priests of Ho priests were accustomed to send stipends to the priests of Holland

'It sure is a happy New Year !" s. Grady sobbed. — Florence who at that time were less favor-ably situated from a financial point of view than were the priests in

Cardinal Schulte, and the Bishop of Munster have taken steps to A poor man served by thee shall



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