

# The Catholic Record.

"Christianus mihi nomen est Catholicus vero Cognomen."—(Christian is my Name, but Catholic my Surname)—St. Pacien, 4th Century.

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### FAMILY PRAYER

We are told by our pastors that family prayer invigorates and safeguards the home. Our fathers believed in it. They realized its value and necessity. In the dark days it was their well-spring of consolation and of strength. Family prayer is as a fragrant rain-fall every evening upon the aridity of the day. It is a sovereign balm that heals the little wounds and refreshes souls touched by the hot winds of passion.

We wonder if we are as one with our fathers on this point. We have our doubts. Doubtless it is still in fashion in some sections, but we fear that in many homes there is so much to do and so many things to claim attention that family prayer is a lost art, and consequently we are in danger of getting a lesser breed of men and women. True, they are more worldly-wise than their forebears, but they have lost in keenness of sight, in appreciation of the fine and noble, in grip of the realities that steady us and, however the winds blow, hedge us around with ample content.

And yet everything that can sanctify the family should be clasped to our heart as a sacred possession. The home is our stronghold. Father and mother have their teacher's diplomas signed by God. They can beautify souls or mar them. But when prayer is said but perfunctorily and the father is busy at his club and the mother is gadding around from show to café, and the boys and girls are having their eye-sight if not their morals ruined by moving pictures, and God is to be supplicated only when we are in danger, the home will never be the nursery of strong men and women.

### OUR WAY

There is what our penny-a-line writers call a revolution as to household lighting in our days. Perhaps that is why the various authorities talk about our own times as an "enlightened age."

But certainly, even in our times, the change is remarkable from the period when—in imitation of the Creation, when the moon was set to rule the night—in houses at least the candle ruled the night with its flickering sceptre of light. The public rooms of great houses and assembly halls were bright with constellations of the best wax candles, but even these when the flame came near the socket would drop hot wax. But in the private, penurious houses—not that we throw at the houses the reproach of poverty, for we think the economy of those old days was better than the reckless bankruptcy of our own days, which is a modern trick by which many don't pay their debts—we remember some quite genteel households when the sitting-room was lighted by two poor "composites" in silver candlesticks, and with silver snuffers in a tray beside them. It is true that in such a room you were surrounded with darkness, and if you played cards or read a book you had to sit in friendly intercourse with these two composites. But after all the little island of light and the great surrounding ocean of darkness left far more room for imagination than the lighting of today, which banishes darkness just as the sun himself does. Then the passages were dark, the lights poor, and in every shadow there was a suggestion. Even in the "gloaming" in those days you had to take a holiday, for it became too dark to read, and you had to wait until the lights came, and that gave one a useful time for quiet thought. It was in these half-lights that those shy flowers, reveries, bloom—much to the benefit of those who entertained those sort of mushroom growths which come up in the dark. But now all that is changed. There are no dark passages, and ghosts have retreated to the churchyards from their pleasant old haunts. As for the rooms, there is no gloaming—no dark, romantic corners. You touch a button and the day comes back with a leap. You turn a tap and apply a match and the eyes are blinded with the glare of gas.

### INHERITED

But all the lights we now enjoy are, after all, inheritances from the past. Coal gas is made from deposits of the ferns and conifers fostered by the sun a thousand centuries ago, and this light, after all these centuries in the grave, is a resurrection. Even the electric light which glows in the filaments in our lamps is the result of energy which was boarded in coal—or energy which raised the water from earth and sea into the high fastnesses. All our night-lights are from the past; although the sun sends us the day in seven minutes, the stars' light is brought from quite old lamps. Indeed, some of these fixed stars may be extinct volcanoes of the sky—they may have passed into blackness centuries ago, and yet they are still shining for us, and decorating our winter nights with the cheery traveller's tale of a ray which has been wandering in space at more than express speed for centuries.

But is not the light that shines upon the world of mind also an inheritance? Is it not the light of memory which is thrown on to-day, and enables us to see the present objects and understand them in the light of a former time? Without memory we would be in a darkness that could be felt. Happily, we forget much. Much that passed through the presence-chamber of perception passes away through the sieve of memory into the oblivion of unconsciousness. These are the dark corners of memory. In these there is nothing but mystery, but with the glow of remembrance we not only recognize ourselves, but there is a world which was and a world which is. But occasionally out of the depths of the unconscious there comes up some old forgotten memory, the peak of a submerged world, the ghost of a dead past.

Now the memory at whose feet we sit, as at the feet of a Gamaliel, is our great teacher for this changing entity self, which is always educating or better still making itself. Every impression that a mind has, either from the outside—or of to-day—or from the inside from the mirror of memory, modifies and educates the mind. The mind is like the candle which the more it burns the more new candle it creates. It is not exhausting the oil in the vessel which feeds the lamp. The more it glows the more it grows. The longer it burns the more it illuminates. So much for light.

### FACTS

1. From the beginning of his Pontificate Benedict XV. has earnestly besought Powers and Rulers that they delay not to bring back to their peoples the blessings of peace.

He ordered public prayers to be offered up in all the churches throughout the world.

2. He has employed his activity on behalf of all whom the War has involved in misery and suffering, especially the military civilian prisoners.

3. On the 8th of December, 1914, Benedict XV., writing to Cardinal Mercier, expresses his grief at the sight of the Belgian nation so dear to him reduced to its present lamentable condition by a most dire and calamitous war. Again, at the Consistory, 22nd Jan., 1915, he records his affection for the Belgian people. He sent help in money and gave his blessing to the Belgian Relief Committees.

4. The new Belgian minister, M. van den Hensel, in presenting his credentials to the Pope, said: "In the midst of its misfortunes Belgium has been deeply touched by the testimonials of lively solicitude and paternal affection which Your Holiness has been pleased to give it."

5. For the Allocation of the 22nd Jan., 1915, His Holiness received the warm thanks of the Belgian Government and King Albert himself. A group of French journalists sent to Cardinal Gasparri on the 6th of May, 1916, an address in which "they thank His Holiness Benedict XV. for having alone among the (neutral) Powers publicly condemned the violation of Belgian neutrality."

His Holiness, and Sir Edward Grey announced this in the House of Commons, was trying to persuade Germany to abandon its war with submarines. He condemned, 16th Oct., 1914, the bombardment of Rheims,

and referred to the sinking of the Lusitania in his famous sentence: "I can imagine no more horrible crime." To our Beloved Italy, the title given by the Pope to his own country, he has given plenteously of his means and influence. To Montenegro, East Prussia, Turkey, for the survivors of the Armenian massacres, to Holland, devastated by floods, he has sent financial aid.

The Holy Father looks upon opposition and defamation of his own person as all in the day's work, and he continues his unceasing activity on behalf of the human family.

[We are indebted for these facts to Rev. Anthony Brennan, C. S. F. C., in his pamphlet "Pope Benedict and the War."]

### PAN-GERMAN PLOT UNMASKED

London Advertiser, October 17

That world peace, after a victorious conclusion of the present war, and frustration of further attempts to promote Pan-Germanism, will depend solely upon the destruction of German rule in Austria-Hungary, and the breaking up of that empire into its competent parts, was the statement made by Bishop M. F. Fallon in an address at the opening meeting of the Normal School last evening.

"We have been accustomed to think of Austria-Hungary as a 'ramshackle empire,' then for the sake of peace let it fall into its competent parts," he said. Opening his address, he said he had been greatly interested in a recent book by a Frenchman, "The Pan-German Plot Unmasked," because it put on paper a thesis with which he had come in contact twenty-five years ago while a student in a place not far from Aix-la-Chapelle, where German students were numerous. Also by an article in the current Nineteenth Century by the distinguished English priest, Dr. William Barry. He desired not only to acknowledge his indebtedness to this book and this article but to call attention to them as worthy of study.

### LOOKED FOR FIGHT

Often he heard them assert that the world would come when Germany would start to conquer the world, and they recognized the great obstacle, not only the great nations, but Great Britain, and were certain that the day must come when the German Empire and the British Empire would be in the throes of war. Frankly, he admitted, that the plans were openly discussed with him, because he was Irish, and therefore supposed to be anti-English and anti-British, quite removed from the facts, and far removed from the truth, but the reason.

"The nations of Britain are at war. Canada is one of those nations, and they must fix clearly in their minds the nature of the peace they desire, or they will not get that peace," he asserted.

### CAIRO IS CENTRE

Claiming that Cairo, not old London, was the strategic centre of the British Empire, he outlined the Pan-German plan and how it would affect the British Empire.

"It looks like a dream, but we know it is a reality," he said, "the German plan made public in 1907 and boasted of in 1911. It aimed to unite three things—Central Europe, the Balkan States and Turkey. In other words, to stretch a line from Hamburg to the Persian Gulf. It is no dream. You can find these facts laid down in the German libraries. That part of Europe, not counting Asia, contained 204,000,000 people, of whom but 77,000,000 were Germans, the central idea being the domination of a vast majority by a small majority. From the population according to standards then in vogue, 13,000,000 soldiers could be raised. With the efforts some of the powers have exerted in the present struggle, 21,000,000 could have been raised and the fact is clear that if this Pan-German plan had been put into execution, there could be no resistance from the rest of the world against that great number of trained soldiers directed by one mind.

### WANT SOUTH AFRICA

"This was not all. The Pan-German plan constantly discussed by the leading papers of Germany included so much of South Africa that there would actually be 100,000,000 people in Germany. Germany had a strip of territory there already, and she aimed at all the British possessions, the French Congo and other territories on both coasts. All this plan is on maps in the German foreign office. What hope would that leave for the rest of the world? What hope would that leave for the British Empire, remembering that Cairo is the strategic centre?"

The campaign in South America he characterized as "even more daring" and "the most amazing example of German audacity and genius." He claimed that she had actually par-

celled Bolivia, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay; that 800,000 Germans were residents of those countries, and by a law introduced in Germany in 1913, still citizens of their fatherland, with all its rights and privileges. They were still exerting a sufficient influence to greatly curtail the war plans of the South American countries who had broken with Germany.

### BUSY IN PORTUGAL

Pan-Germanism aimed also at Portugal and the remnant of her colonial empire; at Holland and Switzerland, which was to come freely or be forced. The United States, Canada and Australia were to be settled at a later date.

The plan had received certain great shocks, the first one being the defeat of the Turks by Italy in Africa; next the second Balkan war, followed by the treaty of Bucharest, the first great blow at pan-Germanism. The Bishop asserted that the blundering of British statesmen and those of the Allies in regard to the war led him to believe that it was more by accident than design. The treaty drove a wedge into middle Europe by which Montenegro, Greece and Rumania were set against the Bulgarians and Turkey. Practically 800,000 soldiers were available from the countries antagonized. Although it left the central European powers still strongly allied, it cut them off from Turkey and broke the continuity of the pan-German plan through Europe.

The final shock was the unrest that developed in the oppressed elements of Austria-Hungary, as a result of the treatment of the people in the Balkans.

### KAISER TO BLAME

"As a result of these three shocks and dread for the future of the German empire," continued the Bishop, "the German emperor, and he alone decided to find some cause for war. It was not safe to defer longer the putting into effect of the pan-German plan. The assassination of Archduke Ferdinand was merely an occasion, not a cause. Using it, the German emperor forced his vassal, the Austrian emperor, for such he was rather than an ally, to send Serbia an ultimatum that no nation could accept without surrendering the last vestige of national honor."

The result of the plan after three years of war he termed appalling. "Pan-Germanism has been realized in nine tenths of its entirety," he asserted. "From Berlin almost to Baghdad the Kaiser's trains run and his soldiers march. These lines that looked so fanciful five years ago to European statesmen are almost the German lines of battle today, and are in almost undisputed sway. It is quite useless to close our eyes to the fact. We can best solve our difficulties by meeting them. The pan-German plan of 1911 is this very day practically realized. The territory controlled by Germany to day stretches from the mouth of the Somme to the extreme end of Greece, and from the Gulf of Riga to the mouth of the Danube. The pan-Germanism must be dealt with as an accomplished fact for the time being."

### FOLLY TO TALK

It was folly to talk of the dismemberment of the German nation, he asserted. It would continue as a power of the highest type. Britain's entry into the War and her control of the seas has saved the situation in its essence, although the pan-German plan had succeeded.

"There was only one thing to be done now—fight through to victory," he said. Whatever else Germany might yield, she would cling to Austria-Hungary and Turkey. There she must be forced, the Bishop asserted. Austria-Hungary was the key-stone of the pan-German arch and must be saved and forty million people, who had a voice, would not be Austrians for twenty-four hours, would be set free and would be a wedge of safety between Germany and Turkey. "Let Germany be a world power of the first rank, but let her mind her own affairs and not attempt to reign in the Balkan states or hold a high hand over Turkey," he said.

Of the 55 to 60 millions of people in the Austria-Hungarian empire, he asserted, only twelve million were Germans. The other peoples were at one time independent and should be now.

### MIGHT BE STRANGE

This view, he said, would perhaps be considered a strange one to be held by a Roman Catholic bishop, but, he asked, Austria-Hungary being a Catholic now, would it be any less Catholic in nine or ten parts?

"When is the old superstition to disappear that Austria-Hungary dictates the papal policy?" he asked. A man of ordinary sense could see what a disaster to the Pope a German victory would be, he said. It would mean the Prussianization of Austria-Hungary. "You say you tell me when or how the Pope could wish to see fifty million Catholics in Austria-Hungary Prussianized? Can you defend the situation that the Pope would desire to place Austria-Hungary in the Prussian power? Ger-

man victory is impossible without that.

### NOT TOUCH MOSLEMS

"Such a plan as pan-Germanism would not touch the Moslem Church, or the national church of Bulgaria. It would strike against the only international church, the Roman Catholic. That is the reason why first of all the Pope is intensely opposed to the very thought of Germany victory. It would set the Roman Catholic Church face to face with one of the gravest crises in its history, and in a condition only slightly stronger than in 1870 it would have to face the greatest power the world has ever known in a new Kulturkampf.

"Therefore, as a Canadian, as a British subject, and as a Roman Catholic, I say that the pan-German plan must be defeated at whatever cost." In a short digression the Bishop referred to his statements made last March about Lloyd George. "When I made that reference I was thinking more of the British Empire than of Ireland," he said. "Those who know me best realize that I was thinking of the British Empire and the lost chance to solidify that great fabric. I think that subsequent facts will bear out my diagnosis of the situation. No sensible man would claim independence for Ireland, but every Englishman should want her freedom."

### THE CARDINAL AND THE PRESIDENT

Washington, Oct. 12.—Cardinal Gibbons wrote President Wilson, in a letter made public here today, that he was trying to "persuade all Americans that they can do the greatest good to themselves and their country by a cheerful and generous performance of their duty as it is pointed out to them by fully constituted authority." The letter was written on the occasion of the recent formation of the League for National Unity, of which Cardinal Gibbons is honorary Chairman.

President Wilson, in reply, thanked the Cardinal for accepting the Chairmanship of the league. The letter to the President follows:

Cardinal's Residence, Baltimore, Oct. 6, 1917.

The President,  
The White House, Washington, D. C.  
My Dear Mr. President:  
In these days of the gravest problems which have ever weighed upon our American Government, our thoughts go out to the Chief Executive, warned by a heartfelt sympathy for the heavy burdens of office which he must bear, and freighted with the unwavering determination of loyal citizens to stand by him in his every effort to bring success to our aims and to achieve those ideals of justice and humanity which compelled our entrance into the War.

Guided as we are by the sublime teachings of Christianity, we have no other course open to us but that of obedience and devotion to our country. Our Divine Lord tells us, "Render to Cesar the things that are Cesar's," and to God the things that are God's," and St. Paul, following the steps of his Master, says: "Let every soul be subject to the higher powers, for there is no authority but from God, and those that are, are ordained by God. Therefore, he who resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God, and they who resist purchase to themselves condemnation."

We wish our people to see, and we are striving to help them to realize, that they owe unswerving loyalty to the rulers whom they have elected to office, and that in doing so they are not acting in a slavish manner, for obedience is not an act of servility we pay to man, but an act of homage we pay to God.

We are working to the end that our countrymen may see the folly and grave disobedience of unjust and ill-tempered criticism of national policies. We are bending our efforts to point out to our fellow men that they in all probability see the present situation from only one angle, whereas the Government sees it from every viewpoint, and is therefore alone in the position to judge of the expediency of national affairs.

In a word, we have been exerting our every effort, and will continue to do so, to persuade all Americans that they can do the greatest good to themselves and their country by a cheerful and generous performance of their duty as it is pointed out to them by lawfully constituted authority.

With sentiments of highest esteem,  
I am, Very faithfully yours,

J. CARDINAL GIBBONS,  
Archbishop of Baltimore.

The President replied as follows:

Oct. 9, 1917.

My Dear Cardinal Gibbons:

May I not express my very deep and sincere appreciation of your letter of Oct. 6? It has brought me cheer and reassurance, and I want you to know how much I appreciate your own action in consenting to preside over the important and influential group of men and women who have so generously undertaken to support the Administration in its

efforts to make the whole character and purpose of this War and of the Government of the United States in the prosecution of it clear to the whole people.

With warmest appreciation and cordial regards,  
Sincerely yours,  
WOODROW WILSON.

### SUPERSTITIONS OLD AND NEW

Everyone is familiar with Munyon of the pompadour and uplifted finger with remedies for nearly everything under the sun and a few other things besides. The Bureau of Chemistry of the United States Government, in accordance with the Pure Food and Drug Act, recently analyzed some of these remedies with really wonderful results. As a consequence a judgment was entered in the United States Courts, which I quote briefly. According to the advertisements, Munyon's Asthma Cure would "permanently cure asthma." The Government chemists analyzed the "cure" and found it to consist of sugar and alcohol. That, however, was at least one ingredient better than the next of his remedies to be analyzed. This was Munyon's Blood Cure. The claims for it were "Munyon's Blood Cure will positively cure all forms of scrofula, erysipelas, salt rheum, eczema, pimples, syphilitic affections, mercurial taints, blotches, liver spots, tetter and all skin diseases." When analyzed by the Government chemists this promising remedy guaranteed to cure nearly all skin affections, and therefore presumed a veritable godsend, was found to consist simply of sugar.

A favorite device has been to connect their remedies with the legends of the healing powers of the saints. Priests' names have been used to give medicines vogue, and as a consequence not long since we had the spectacle of a dear old deaf priest's name, Father John of Lowell, being dragged through the Federal Courts because a remedy said to have been recommended by him was declared to be sold under claims that were false and fraudulent. Over four thousand bottles of Father John's medicine were seized by the Federal authorities on the charge that the product was misbranded. The manufacturers withdrew their answers to the charge, and the court entered a judgment of condemnation and forfeiture with payment of all the cost of the proceedings and the execution of a bond in the sum of five thousand dollars.

How long will the press of this country continue to be partners of the proprietary medicine people? When journalism is ready to admit that it knows how much fraud it has countenanced and encouraged and fostered and really made possible in the past, and refuses to do so for the future, then we shall have all the benefit of this flagrant imposition on our people. In the meantime, at least, we must resent the combination of religious elements that encourages such a fraud on the public. None can afford to take money for helping in the carrying on of a fraud. Without advertising these impositions would be quite impossible. We are our brothers' keepers and are bound to prevent as far as possible impositions of this kind, and never more so than now when the War makes the prevention of wastes of all kinds absolutely incumbent upon all the members of the community.—James J. Walsh, M. D., Ph. D., Sc. D., in the Catholic World.

### A CHAPLAIN IN THE TRENCHES

ANNOUNCED 100 WOUNDED IN THE DARK

Here is one consoling evidence of how well the work of the Catholic chaplains at the front is done, arduous as it is. It is from some jottings by a chaplain given in the London Tablet:

"The Catholic chaplain's work is always arduous, and often requires a good deal of tact. I heard of one colonel telling a chaplain that he could not have the men on Sunday, as they were out to fight and not to pray. Many in high places are oftentimes unbelievers, or agnostics, and only exhibit a want of interest in the spiritual welfare of their men, without actually putting obstacles in the way of Sunday Mass and the Sacraments. Times and places have to be arranged for Mass, men have to be ferreted out and given all particulars, and many disappointments often precede ultimate success. This is not the experience of an individual chaplain. It is the common story; but the work can be done. How well you may judge from this. Among a batch of wounded men some 100 were Catholics of Irish regiments. I went round them, and as it was too dark to distinguish serious wounds from light, I announced all. I asked each how long it was since he had been to the Sacraments, and every single man save one of those I asked had been within the week, and the odd one within the month. What a splendid chaplain they must have had!"—Catholic Bulletin.

### CATHOLIC NOTES

The Rev. Thomas A. Kempis Reilly, of the Dominican Order, Columbus, O., has been appointed professor of Sacred Scripture at the Dominican International College, Rome.

It is announced in a cablegram from Rome that the Very Rev. John J. Cantwell, Vicar General of the archdiocese of San Francisco, Cal., has been appointed Bishop of Los Angeles.

The underground passages in the Roman catacombs have been recently determined to be 580 miles in extent, and to contain 15,000,000 bodies.

The new electric clock of Boston's new custom house is one of the largest electric installations in the country. The dial is twenty-one feet in diameter and the longest hand is thirteen feet six inches long.

A shelter home for boys will be opened at West Randolph and North Desplaines street, Chicago, next month, under the patronage of Archbishop Mundelein and the auspices of La Salle Assembly, Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus.

The President has selected Mr. William Gwyn Gardner, a well-known lawyer, as one of the three commissioners who manage the affairs of the District of Columbia. He is a graduate of Georgetown University and a Knight of Columbus. He is forty-two years of age.

It was proposed to sell the 213-year-old Cathedral of Columbus in Havana, Cuba, and in which were the relics of Columbus, but the proposal aroused such protest that in all probability the government will take it over and convert it into a museum. The Historical Academy of Cuba saved it. The Jesuits built it in 1704.

A stone inkstand at least 100 years old is the latest curiosity to be added to the Memorial Building at Harvard, Vt. It is about two inches square and two inches deep. The bearing of the stone appears to have all been done by hand.

Amongst the prominent non-Catholics who have contributed to the K. of C. Camp Fund, may be mentioned Mr. Bryan and Mr. J. D. Rockefeller, Jr. The former promised to give \$100 a month as long as the War lasts, and the latter gave \$100.

Austin, Texas, has a plant which runs full capacity each day, turning out oakum, which is made from the city garbage, waste paper, old shoes, rags, etc. The new fuel sells at 65¢ a ton and is said to burn as long and to give off as much heat as the best bituminous lump coal, besides relieving the city of all waste material.

At the opening of the Italian War with Germany 120 seminarists were summoned to bear arms from the seminary of Bergamo, North Italy, mostly mountaineers. Ninety of these have fallen in battle. As the Freemasons of Italy are airing their importance, the question is asked: Is there any Masonic institute in Italy that has lost 75% of its members?

Captain William Archer Redmond, son of John Redmond, M. P., Chairman of the Irish Parliamentary party, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Order for gallant conduct at the front on the nights of September 12-13. Capt. Redmond is M. P. for East Tyrone.

When he applied for passports into Mexico at El Paso, Texas, recently, Rev. Gabriel Zepenni was informed by the Mexican consul, G. M. Seguin, that no Catholic clergyman is permitted to enter that country from the United States or from any other country. Seguin said he has instructions from the Carranza Government to refuse passports to priests.

Ten thousand five hundred dollars was the contents of a purse which recently was presented to Archbishop Mundelein, D. D., of Chicago, by the Polish Courts' Representatives' Association of the Catholic Order of Foresters. The purse was presented on the grounds of the Polish Manual Training School for Boys and St. Hedwig's Industrial School for Girls at Niles, Ill., and the money, collected by the Polish Foresters, was their gift to these institutions which are caring for the Catholic dependent children of Polish descent of Chicago.

A small silver crucifix which he wore suspended from his neck probably saved the life of Robert McGuire a railroad watchman in St. Louis a few days ago. Noticing two strange men prowling in the railroad yards, McGuire commanded them to throw up their hands. Instead of obeying, they opened fire at McGuire, one of the shots striking the crucifix, the bullet falling to the ground.

Back to the good old-fashioned and reverential way of praying—on bended knees—is now being advocated by many of the Methodists of New Jersey. At a camp meeting at Pittman, that State, recently, the Rev. E. A. Robinson, former pastor of the Pittman Methodist Church, delivered a sermon in which he urged his hearers to pray on bended knees instead of in a sitting position.