# BOY

#### A MATTER OF SUPREME IMPORTANCE TREATED BY AN EXPERT

v. John J. O'Gorman, D. C. L., P. P., Chaplain Ottawa Boys' Club It is obvious to the careful observer, that while the principal activity of us Knights of Columbus as far as the general public is concerned, during the past eight years, War Work, our principal activity during the next period of years will be Boy Work. The programme was promulgated at last it was necessary that parents should summer's supreme Convention and organize and unite their efforts, so though its application will neces-sarily vary according to local circumstances, the policy there outlined will be carried out all over North America. I am not now munity does a little of this, but North America. I am not now referring to the Columbian Squires leaves the greater part of it to religious and philanthropic instituwe have already a number, but rather to another allied form of Boy the Roys' Club, which certain the Roys' Club, which certains the aged, the Magdalenes, tainly comes under our general orphans, the aged, the Magdalenes programme. Where a Catholic the lepers and all other unfortuprogramme. Where a Catholic clubhouse already exists and can be converted to this use, where Catholic priests are already engaged in work of this nature and seek our work of this nature and the seek our work of this nature and this nature and the seek our work of this nature and the seek our work do, it appears to me, is to utilize this club house and cooperate unselfishly with their fellow Catholics, whether priests or laymen, who are fishly with their fellow Catholics, whether priests or laymen, who are engaged or interested in this work.

It is the Knights of Columbus in Ontario, for example, is only too in the Surenite of the Comparation of Columbus in Ontario, for example, is only too in the Surenite of the Comparation of Columbus in Ontario, for example, is only too in the Surenite of Columbus in Ontario, for example, is only too desire ought to be that the boy should benefit, and that it ought to should benefit, and that it ought to should benefit, and that it ought to the two leading cities of the two leading cities of the Toronto and Ottawa, is should benefit, and that it ought to be immaterial to them whether or not they have a big K. of C. flag flying from the flag post of the building. The War Work of the Canadian Knights of Columbus was done in cooperation with the Cath-lie Army Chaplains who controlled the confession should spur us on olic Army Chaplains who controlled | public confession should spur us on the whole work overseas, and was conducted under the incorporated "Our children have more power." conducted under the incorporated name of the Catholic Army Huts.

"Our children have more powerful ful means of divine grace at their full credit from the Canadian people for their share in the work of the Catholic Army Huts. In this will be somewhat different in each city, there will be sufficient underlying similarity to make it important that the experience of all should be made available for each. It may, therefore, be of general interest to show how the Boy Club problem was presented and solved in the capital of the Dominion of Canada

#### OTTAWA ORGANIZES The Ontario State Convention met

in Ottawa, June 5-6, 1928, and Brother Barnabas, F. S. C., appealed to the Knights assembled to undertake Boy Work along scientific lines. A group of Ottawa priests and lay-men, nearly all of whom were Knights of Columbus, immediately et outto start a Boys' Club. It took exactly fifteen days to organize a society, secure free of cost, subject only to mortgage of \$15,000, from spective of language or creed, and we believe this to be an essential feature as it shows that we are working for the whole community, the Board of Directors is limited to feature as it shows that we are working for the whole community, the Board of Directors is limited to members of the Catholic faith which is likewise an essential feature if the club is to remain under Catholic "The On June 21st, at an open control. On June 21st, at an open meeting of which the present writer happened to be chairman, the Ottawa Boys' Club was introduced to the public. The chairman said: "This club is to be a Catholic counterpart to the Y. M. C. A. and is for boys irrespective of racial origin or religion. Catholics of Ottawa should support this work. Ottawa should support this work even as they support St. Patrick's Orphans Home. The Boys' Club cannot be self supporting any more than schools are self supporting. Like the school, the Boys' Club which has a capable and professional Boys' Leader in charge of it, as this club will have, is an educational factor in the community."

# BROTHER BARNABAS SPEAKS

The boy problem was then presented to the people of Ottawa by Brother Barnabas, now the Executive Secretary, Boys' Life Bureau, Knights of Columbus Supreme Council. It is worth while reproducing his speed as it is a state. ducing his appeal as it is a state-ment of principles universally true. Brother Barnabas did not have a manuscript with him but I reproduced his ideas in my own words for the press as follows:

"One of the problems the growth in population of cities has occasioned is the education of the boys and youths outside of school hours. From six to sixteen years of age children and adolescents attend school 1,000 hours a year or scarcely three hours a day. During their school hours they are well looked after. During the same ten year period most boys have 1,000, 2,000 or 3,000 hours a year for recreation. During the hours of recreation, which on an average are over twice as numerous as the hours of school, the majority of our boys are not properly looked after. Just as parents are not able to devote 1,000 hours a year to give their child a school education, they are not able to devote 1,000, 2,000 or 3,000 hours a year to supervise and direct into the most helpful and useful

THE KNIGHT AND THE activities the recreation of their of Ontario and an efficient profe

'The former problem, that of education during school hours, parents solve with the cooperation of the State by building schools and club is no handing over the children to the school teachers, who are representatives of the parents, and their name, assume responsibility for the children during school hcurs. The latter task, that of supervising and guiding, and educating children and adolescents during their hours of recreation, is one which, in cities, parents on the whole, are unable to perform alone. Therefore, just as to provide schools also to provide efficient and permanent guidance of boys during their

Yet the Canadian Knights received disposal and receive a longer and more accurate religious instruction than others and yet, among our underprivileged boys at least, matter of cooperation as regards proportion of juvenile delinquents Boy Work, while local circumstances is greater. Why? Largely because during the recreation time of our children, which is necessarily as long as the time given to religious and school education, we Catholics by our lack of organized effort have allowed them to be over exposed to influences and environments which in many cases undermine the Christian character which, with the help of divine grace has been so carefully formed. The street corner, the vacant lot, the companion at play, exercise nearly as great an influence for the formation or deterioration of character as the home, the school and the church. Nor must we imagine that the comparatively small proportion of the population which constitutes the juvenile delinquent class are the boys who suffer. How many of our boys who are never guilty of any offence against the laws of the only to mortgage of \$15,000, from St. Patrick's Literary and Scientific Society, an excellent Clubhouse worth \$75,000, obtain the approval of the Archbishop and choose the Board of Directors. While the advantages of the Club are open to all boys of the city of Ottawa irrespective of language or greed, and at the successful pupils of the Church and progressive citizens of our native land, abandon all ambition, drift into blind alley accupations, lose or fail to acquire a taste for literature, art or science, a taste for literature, art or science, the community and to spread the

> The remedy of this leakage and following resolution wastage is systematic guidance of the boys outside of school hours. A large number of Catholic parishes all over North America have built and equipped boys' clubs. In most places the clubs finally have proved failures. On the other hand, the Protestant Y. M. C. A. conducts a chain of clubs all over America which, despite the fact that religiously they are unsatisfactory. which, despite the fact that religiously they are unsatisfactory to Catholics, offer such other advantages that there are more Catholic boys frequenting the Y. M. C. A. than frequenting Catholic Clubs. The Y. M. C. A. succeeded first, because each Y. M. C. A. building had a trained secretary, who had this as his profession in life, and gave all his time to the work; secondly, because the Y. M. C. A. organized its supporters so well organized its supporters so well that they contributed generous and

consistent support."
Brother Barnabas stressed strongy this double need of trained eadership and permanency of organization, without which no Catholic Boys' Club could hope for success. There was an opportunity for Ottawa to give a lead to Canadian Catholics in the question of Boys' Clubs, not merely because it was the Capital, but also because it possessed a vigorous society which had, in St. Patrick's Hall, a ship all ready for its voyage waiting only for the arrival of its pilot who would take it out of port. That pilot must be a professional boy leader, otherwise the ship, laden with the most precious of all car-goes, the red-blooded Canadian boy, might drift onto the rocks. He complimented the Ottawa Boys' Club for its willingness to help also non-Catholic boys, for it is a characteristic both of Catholicity and of charity, that they were no

sional supervisor, highly recom-mended by Brother Barnabas, was from Montreal in the club is now a member of the Boys' Club Federation (International) whose headquarters are in New York City. It is already a success.

BISHOP CONROY'S APPEAL Though sixteen of the twentyfour directors of the Ottawa Boys' Club were members of Ottawa Council Knights of Columbus, and five others belonged to other Councils of the Order, the Knights as a body had not yet officially lent their co-operation. It was felt that it Ottawa Council, K. of C. and the was wiser first of all to undertake equally generous and unselfish coan educational campaign in favor of boy work and let the Club develop Chateau Laurier on February the The

#### MAKING BOYS INTO MEN

"No one who heard the address of Roman Catholic Bishop of Ogdensburg before the Ottawa Knights of Columbus on Saturday which he made out for a greater effort on the part of all to mould the character of boys. A broad-gauged prelate who would not circumscribe the boys work within the limits of creed, and himself one of Club boys without any way

showing realization of the problem.

Already there are several worthy bureau, vocational guidance, clean and active organizations making the and active organizations making the care of boys a special endeavor, and and friendship of 15 voluntary lead-

"It is a work in which there is room the challenge that has thundered down the centuries: 'Am I my brother's keeper?'

# OTTAWA COUNCIL ACTS

clared that it was the duty of us Knights of Columbus as citizens and share to the care, training and development of the youth of our land," and that "experience has taught that trained leaders are as necessary for the boys in their recreation and play as for their guidance and mental development in the work of the school room,"

Whereas Parther Rangha, you

Whereas Brother Barnabas, now the Executive Secretary, Boys' Life Bureau, Knights of Columbus Supreme Council, having urged the formation of Boys' Clubs at the Ontario State Convention held in Ottawa, June 5-6, 1923, a group of Catholics of this city, acted on his advice, organized the Ottawa Boys' Club, secured possession of St. Patrick's Hall as a clubhouse and obtained the services of an efficient professional boy leader in Whereas Brother Barnabas, now efficient professional boy leader in Mr. Fred McCann,

Mr. Fred McCann,
Whereas the Ottawa Boys' Club,
incorporated by letters patent and
approved of by the Archbishop
of Ottawa, who appointed the
Chaplain to the Board of Directors,
and by the five English speaking
parish priests of Ottawa, who are
members of that Board has already

Knights of Columbus Ottawa Boys' Club, while welcom-

without thereby incurring any legal obligation, pledges itself to do its as share towards helping the Directors of the Ottawa Boys' Club to maintain and develop that institution; tain and develop that institution; to be further resolved that a helping the soldier; they can and helping the soldier. by the Grand Knight and shall hold office during the tenure of his office or till their successors be appointed; And that a copy of this resolution be given to the press.

### THE OTTAWA BOYS CLUB

operation of the Catholic Women's League and the Catholic Girls' Club for a few months till all could see guarantee the future of the Ottawa what it was like. When five months Boys' Club. The advantages which had passed, it was decided that it will accrue to the boys of Ottawa was time for the Knights to get behind the movement. The case for many organizations already helping the Boys' Club was presented to Ottawa Council, the premier Council of the Province of Ontario, by Right Reverend J. H. Conroy, hours of play—it is recognized that D. D., Bishop of Ogdensburg, at a no city is fully equipped unless it public luncheon held in the possesses one or more Boys Clubs. non-parochial professionally Chateau Laurier on February the 28rd, 1924. The impression caused by Bishop Conroy's address may be accurately estimated from the following editorial of the Ottawa Evening Journal, one of the leading Canadian dailies.

MAKING BOYS INTO MEN

The non-parcchial professionally conducted Boys' Club has come to stay and Bishop Conroy in his recent lecture here denounced with episcopal frankness the narrow-minded short-sighted parochialism which would stand in its way. Such a club in no way interferes with those parish activities which also provide supervised recreation, such as the parochial skating rink, hockey and base-ball teams, Boy Scout troop, and whatever religious and social could be other than impressed with its force, with the compelling case this work. In a city the size of Ottawa there is room for and need of all. Already the Ottawa Boys' Club has reduced Catholic juvenile delinquency. Whole gangs have been transformed into enthusiastic the most salient figures in the boy movement in the United States, what he said, while directed particularly to Catholics, yet carried a ticularly to Catholics, yet carried a re being helped to become ambiguity. message for all in the community.

Briefly, that message was that under the changed conditions of the home, under the changed social

are being neighed to become animal tious citizens of the community. Catholic boys are no longer tempted to go to the Y. M. C. A. either for a winter club or for a summer and economic conditions that modern industrialism and modern tendencies have imposed, the work of safeguarding the boy, of guiding him through the pitfalls of youth into a good and useful citizen, is among shower baths, billiards, game room, shower baths, shower b good and useful citizen, is among the greatest of challenges to all peoples.

"Ottawa, fortunately enough, is now the Knights of Columbus, ers, house visiting, supervision of expert boy worker and a summer showed of how much they are capa-ble, are setting themselves to the be introduced. About 10% of the cost of this club is borne by the boys for all. It is a work that is wider than creeds; and with co-operation. with a shunning of sectional and racial and class distinction, with hearty co-operation between all the organizations concerned, a great work can undoubtedly be achieved. Certainly there could be no finer, no nobler task to arrest the attention of good citizens. For, in the last analysis, it is but to answer the last analysis, it is but to answer the last analysis, it is but to answer the last analysis.

# THE KNIGHT AND THE BOY

While the advantages of such a Three days after the Bishop of since it is a most useful auxiliary to Ogdensburg had made his moving appeal, Ottawa Council Knights of Columbus passed unanimously the Columbus passed unanimously t of A Whereas the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal, August 7-9, 1928, delight the Knights of Columbus at meeting in Montreal (Montreal comes a big brother to a boy helps himself as much as his little friend Undoubtedly we have here an application of the words of Our Lord cation of the words of Our Lord preserved for us by St. Paul: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." When an organization halts in the work of helping others it begins to go into dry rot. This decay has already begun in some councils of our order. The Knights of Columbus cannot hold their place in the nation worder. in the nation merely as a Fraternal Benefit Society. Providing its mem-bers with insurance and social entertainment and adding thereto merely occasional philanthropic, educational and religious activities, will not justify its existence nor prevent its disintegration. The general public, accustomed to the war-work of the Knights of Columbus and observing that every mushroom club takes as its motto ice" and rushes into the limelight to proclaim how much it is unselfishly doing for the community at large the general public rightly expects of the Knights of Columbus some peace work not unworthy to com-pare with their war activities. A large army, when a war is over, if large army, when a war is over, if there be no further work for it to parish priests of Ottawa, who are do, must demobilize. The Knights members of that Board, has already of Columbus, over three quarters of during the five months of its exist-ence proved its worth and its need, any rate, finished their war work; whereas of the 24 Directors of the Ottawa Boys' Club two thirds are members of Ottawa Council, kinghts of Columbus

And whereas the Directors of the Ottawa Boys' Club, while welcoming the support of every charitably principles of Charity, Unity, Fra-inclined citizen of Ottawa, for the ternity and Patriotism, one which the hours of recreation, cho on an average are over twice numerous as the hours of school, majority of our boys are not perly looked after. Just as ents are not able to devote 1,000 res a year to give their child a collection, they are not able evote 1,000, 2,000 or 3,000 hours are to supervise and direct into most helpful and useful the follocity and of charity, that they were not respector of persons.

THE CLUB OFENS

As a result of that meeting it was agreed to open the Ottawa Boys' Club on October 1st, 1923. Letters patent of incorporation were granted by the Government of the Province of them personal sacri-charter, open to all boys of this city irrespective of racial origin or religion, have invited the official and permanent co-operation of the Montreal, namely the care, training and development of the youth of our land outside the home, church, and the schoolhouse. It is as worthy a crusade as ever any knight of old embarked on. Popes for centuries

society in helping the boy. Already at the request and within the sight of the Vicar of Christ they are doing this work in Rome. They must where requested by eccl tical authority, do it all over North America. Great as was the sol-dier's need during the War and its This generous and unselfish act of aftermath, still greater is the boy's need today. Magnificent as was the achievement of the Knights in helping the soldier to carry on, still more wonderful will be their how much good can be done by one charity in assisting boys to become Christian citizens. Let the Knight and the Boy be henceforth insepar-

### CREATED KNIGHT COMMANDER

His Royal Highness Prince Alphonse de Bourbon, Hereditary Grand Master of the Order, has created Mr. Louis H. Wetmore, a Knight Commander of the Constan-Hereditary tinian Order of St. George. This is the oldest and one of the most exclusive decorations in Europe, as there are but two hundred lay Knights in the world, of whom five are kings. Nine Cardinals of the Church wear the Grand Cross of the Constantinian Order, including Their Eminences Pietro Cardinal Gasparri, Papal Secretary of State, Raphael Cardinal Merry del Val, Secretary of State under His Holiness the late Pius X., and Victor Cardinal Ranuzzi dei Bianchi, Cardinal Protector of the Order. Mr. Wetmore is the first American

layman to receive this great honor. Mr. Louis Hoffman Wetmore is a former editor of The New York Times, and has written and lectured extensively on literary, sociological and religious subjects? Two years ago at the request of Bishop Michael J. Fallon, of London, Ontario, he gave a series of lectures throughout English speaking Canada, including lectures in Toronto, Hamilton, London, St. Thomas, Windsor, Chatham, etc. Mr. Wetmore comes from one of the oldest American families, being a direct descendant of Cotton Mather, the seventeenth century Puritan leader of Massachusetts, and of Increase Mather, first President of Harvard University. For many years the Wetmore family have been well known in New York, Newport, and Southampton society Mr. Wetmore was received into the Church in 1913, and was confirmed in Rome in 1914 by His Eminence Cardinal Gasparri in the Cardinal's private chapel attached to his apartments. He is Secretary of the National Catholic Converts League of the United States and engaged

The Constantinian Order of St. George was founded by the Emperor Constantin after the battle of the Milvian Bridge in 312 A. D., and had its origin in a group of Knights who guarded the first Christian Em-peror's standard in battle. The Knights of the Order recaptured in 615 A. D. the True Cross from the King of Persia when that barbarian monarch carried the precious relic off from Jerusalem into Persia. Thus the possession of the True Cross among Catholics is due Such progress in learning that he stantinian Knights distinguished themselves greatly during the At the age of seventy-five he was Crusades, and in 1453 at the fall of Constantinople before the Turks, noted book is called the "Climax, or the Grand Master and many of the most distinguished members of the Order fell in defense of the Imperial City. The seat of the Order was then transferred to Naples, Italy, and after the extinction of the Greek Imperial line, the Grand Mastership of the Order passed, with the permission of the Popes, first to the Farnese family and then to the family of the Bourbons. Twenty Popes have proclaimed in Bulls and Encyclicals the virtues and valor of the Constantinian Knights to the Catholic world, and the Order has been granted many honors and favors and precedences by the various Sovereign Pontiffs. In the Basilica of Santa Croce in Rome there is a gorgeous Chapel built by the Constantinian Knights at the request of Pope Pius X. in which the services of the Order are often celebrated.

in many other Catholic activities.

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# WEEKLY CALENDAR

lives and writings of the Saints. Ladder of Perfection.

Monday, March 81 .- St. Benjamin, deacon and martyr, suffered in Persia during persecution under Varanes, the grandson of Sapor III. He was thrust into prison for a year and then released and commanded not to speak again of religion. When he disregarded this command,

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#### he was subjected to horrible tortures and executed in the year 424.

Tuesday, April 1.—St. Hugh, Bishop of Grenoble, from the cradle appeared to be a child of benedic-tion. He resigned his bishopric and entered an austere abbey but was never able to obtain permission from the Holy See that he might die in solitude. He died in 1182.

Wednesday, April 2.—St. Francis of Paula, left his home in Calabri to live as a hermit. He founded the "Minims," so called to indicate that they were the least of monastic orders. Their members observed a perpetual Lenten fast. St. Francis worked many miracles and died at the age of ninety-one on Good Friday in 1507.

Thursday, April 3.-St. Richard of Chichester, refused wealth and a brilliant marriage to study for the priesthood at Oxford. Later he became Chancellor of the University of Oxford and was also Chancellor of the diocese of Canterbury. Elected Bishop of Chichester in spite of the King's opposition, the Saint

governed his see with great wisdom and brought about reform. He died 10 00 in 1253 while preaching a Crusade against the Saracens. Friday, April 4.—St. Isidore, Archbishop, was born of a ducal family at Carthagena in Spain. He

succeeded his brother Leander as Archbishop of Seville and successfully fought against the Arian
beresy. He died at Seville in 636
and was declared a Doctor of the Catholic Church within sixteen years of his death.

Saturday, April 5.—St. Vincent Ferrer, the "Angel of Judgment." At the point of death because of grief over the schism that was afflicting the Church he was miraculously recalled and told to go forth and convert sinners. For twenty-one years he preached throughout Europe and converted thousands. He died in Vannes in Brittany in 1419.

If it be consoling to be much in the thoughts of a revered earthly friend, what must it be to occupy the thoughts of One, better than the best, more loving than the most oving human relative? An earthly father writes to his son in a distant land. "You are never absent from my thought." Such, too, is the comforting declaration of our Father in heaven. The humblest and lowliest of His children on earth can say, "I am poor and needy, yet the Lord thinketh upon me."—Macduff.

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