

The Carmelite News

Published by the St. Mary's College Building and Missionary Fund

WHITEFRIARS
FAVERSHAM
KENT



FEBRUARY
NUMBER
1961

THE '21 CLUB'

In New York there is a secret society called the '21 Club.' Its membership is restricted to twenty-one. They are a mixture of Jews and Atheists, all dedicated to the destruction of Christianity and of Catholicism in particular. They are all very wealthy men. They meet in secret and decide how best to conduct their campaign while, at the same time, hiding their hand. They don't go in for direct action; they simply encourage and promote any movement that shows antagonism to established Christianity.

For instance, through their influence divorce has become a natural thing to accept on the films. There is nothing remarkable about it any longer. It is so common that it hardly provides news unless the parties are important people. Then perhaps there will be an author who writes a book with a bias against Christianity and its traditions. They can subsidise a book like that and put substantial money into the hands of the author. They can subsidise publications; they can even directly subsidise speakers and lecturers and immature scientists whose object is to prove that God doesn't exist and that science is supreme.

These men are dedicated men. They set about their work with the same zeal as a missionary of Christianity. They do not object to the spread of Islam, although it is a religion; or of Judaism, or indeed of any form of lunatic Christianity provided that the main pillars and support of Christian belief are undermined, the Vatican and the priesthood. Members of the '21 Club' are just as much concerned

about the destruction of Anglicanism, Episcopalianism and other established forms of Christianity because these devotions are well organised and powerful, but their principle hatred is the Catholic Church and all that it implies.

It is no use asking who these men are? Where they live? Where they meet or what they decide? They are a secret society dedicated to the destruction of belief in the Christian God.

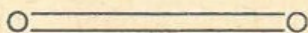
For practically all my priestly life I have been dedicated to the raising of funds for the education of Carmelite priests who, in their turn, will become missionaries of the Christian faith, the bearers of light into dark places, to spread the knowledge of Our Lady where yet she is not known. To help people to understand the folly of the cross.

So, I am starting a '21 Club' of our own. I wonder how many people who read the 'Carmelite News'—and over half a million people read it or come across it as it is passed from hand to hand. It goes into the most unlikely places and provokes correspondence from the most unlikely people.

Well I am starting a '21 Club.' Membership will be restricted to 21 and each member is invited to subscribe £1,000. This can be done in a lump sum or in instalments, but don't complicate our book-keeping. We are not equipped as an office to deal with the instalment system, but if you adopt this system we can give you a card to show how much you have paid towards the ultimate end. It can be paid all at once or over the years.

We make no promises to those who will do this except to grant them Letters of Affiliation to the Carmelite Order by which they will share in all the good works done by members of the Order, both women and men, all

over the world wherever Carmelites exist. I have agreed with the General of the Order on this matter. He will give me Letters of Affiliation for all those who join the '21 Club.' Now let's see what happens !



Dear Reverend Sir,

For Some years I have been intrigued by the continuous stream of advertisements thanking St. Jude in the very down-to-earth Press such as The Daily Telegraph. This, coupled with an experience of my own of about a year ago, decided me, an agnostic, to 'follow St. Jude,' ie, to find out all about him. Following a false supposition, that he was a Cornish saint, I went to that county, and drew a blank. Strangely enough, a monk at Buckfastleigh could tell me nothing about him. However, in a bookshop in Exeter an assistant told me she believed that there was a shrine to St. Jude at Faversham, Kent. I immediately went there; but as there was no one about, I came away as knowledgeable as I arrived. I had already heard that he was one of The Twelve. And then, an Irish nurse in a London hospital told me he was otherwise known as Thaddeus. And that, at the moment, is the sum total of my knowledge.

I do not intend writing 'a life' of St. Jude. I do intend, however, writing a book which I hope to call 'Meet My Friend, St. Jude.' The meat of this book will be (with their consent, of course) information supplied to me by people who have publicly thanked St. Jude in such papers as The Telegraph. And for that purpose I am now advertising in that paper inviting them to write me.

Generally though, it is highly desirable that I know everything it is possible to know about the life of St. Jude; and it is in this aspect of the task that you may be able to help me. Can you tell me where I can get this information ?

Finally may I add that I am, and no doubt shall remain, an agnostic; and my book when completed will be offered in the normal way to a normal firm of publishers. It will, I trust, be

as simple and sincere as its title, 'Meet My Friend, St. Jude.'

Meantime, if you can supply me with any information called for in paragraph three of this letter, I shall be most grateful.

Yours faithfully,
J.E.K.

Dear Father Lynch,

re: prospective 'Meet My Friend, St. Jude.'

I need hardly state how very grateful I am for the very prompt and considerable assistance which you have given me; and I do apologise for taking up so much of your time in typing me such a long letter, time which I guiltily feel could have been so much better employed than in assisting such as myself. I will not, therefore, look to any further time-taking assistance from you (I do feel rather guilty about this); but with the help of all the literature you have sent me and your notes, and the other endeavours which are now in motion, and the help of St. Jude himself, proceed, however laboriously, to turn that 'prospective' above into published.

Meantime, I would like to assure you that St. Jude as I know him is a quiet, simple-minded man with a deep compassion. One who eschewed all self-advertising, all publicity, all beating of the big drum. One who was there before the captains and the kings came, and remains there after they have gone. Quiet, simple, deeply compassionate.

Others have, obviously, found him so; and others as agnostic as I am. Perhaps even pagan. For years I have been dumbfounded by their advertisements in the pagan Press, publicly tendering their thanks and rendering their homage. And I have been intrigued, immensely intrigued. I am sure that many, possibly very many,

among these advertisers know nothing at all about the St. Jude they are thanking except, as I did, that others have found occasion to thank him publicly in the columns of the Press. And it is the stories of these pagans—unbelievers—let's call them what we will—who have publicly thanked St. Jude that I am primarily after to justify 'Meet My Friend, St. Jude.' And I have, and am, taking steps to get in touch with such people at this moment.

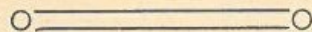
I have an unusual feeling about this self-imposed task of mine. I feel that this should be a quiet, simple book introducing a quiet simple man; and with the hope that, here and there, someone may fugitively pick it up, someone who may at that moment need a quiet, compassionate, and capable friend. That would be its justification. But as I see it, it must be ob-

jective (ie: by a dumbfounded unbeliever such as myself), testified to by unbelievers, and published as a commercial enterprise in competition with everything published in the normal way of competitive business.

And once again, may I sincerely thank you for the very considerable assistance you have given me. And as I feel sure your interest in St. Jude is far greater than mine, I am taking it for granted that you will wish to know anything of interest which may come my way. Consequently, from time to time I may write you again hereon.

Meantime, you may use my letters in anyway you wish maintaining, as you suggest, the anonymity of initials.

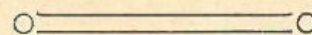
Yours very sincerely,
J.E.K.



THE HILLS

We are a long family, nine brothers and four sisters. The eldest of all was called Bridget. She was a farmer's wife but she had a head of a Chancellor of the Exchequer. She always prepared for the worst and sometimes she lived to see good come instead. She wanted to be buried in the old family graveyard at Killavaney in the County Wicklow. The church and graveyard is on a little eminence surrounded by the

ring of the Wicklow Hills. It is a wonderful place! She found a plot just beside the boundary wall looking out over the valley and away to the green hills. She said to me before she died, 'If God doesn't let me into heaven I can get up and sit on my tombstone and look at the hills.' That is an instance of how hills affect one's life here and hereafter. If you are born on a hill you can never forget it.



TAILPIECE

I used to think that Thomas Moore was a bad poet. I could hardly read him when I was a student. I thought that he was a sentimentalist, the white haired boy of the post Victorian drawing-rooms, the sugar pill that went with the harp and the tinkling piano.

Maybe it was because I got tired hearing 'Sweet vale of Avoca,' 'The Lakes of Killarney' and other favourites.

I was born in the County Wicklow and I never could see anything

romantic in 'the meeting of the waters.' But lately I have been reading him again and I realise that there is more in him than I suspected. At times he is intolerable, but there are times when he can grasp a moment of life and express it in a poetical form that is unforgettable.

Here is a picture of old age—of humanity cast upon the beach of time. I am not sure that I am quoting him accurately because it is an old edition of his poems that I am using.

WHAT A PICTURE OF OLD AGE!

The heart may grow old but the memory lingers. The body may decline but the mind lives on.

I saw from the beach, when the morning was shining,
A barque o'er the waters move gloriously on;
I came when the sun o'er that beach was declining,
The barque was still there but the waters were gone.

And such is the fate of our life's early promise,

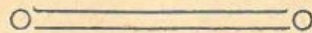
So passing the Spring-tide of joy we have known;

Each wave, that we danced on at morning, ebbs from us,

And leaves us, at eve, on the bleak shore alone.

Give me back—give me back—the wild freshness of morning—

Her clouds and her tears—are worth evening's best light.



THANKS

Grateful thanks to St. Jude for a special favour received.

Maeve Judge.

Thanks to the Sacred Heart, Divine Infant of Prague, Our Lady for favours received. M.A.C., Leeds, 11.

Thanks to St. Jude, St. Theresa, Blessed Martin for favours received.

E. Hughes, Co. Down.

Thanks St. Jude, Sacred Heart, Holy Souls. P. Holding, Sheffield.

Grateful thanks to St. Jude, and Holy Souls. G. Sutton.

Thanks to St. Jude for prayers answered. M. Needham.

Thanks St. Jude for favours received. C. E. Quinn.

Grateful thanks to Our Lady.

H.Y., Bury, Lancs.

Thanks to St. Jude for successful transaction. C. Tarquin.

Thanks to the Infant Jesus of Prague and St. Jude for favours received. R. MacDonald.

Grateful thanks to Divine Infant of Prague for favour received.

M.M., Co. Fermanagh.

Many thanks to St. Jude and Child Jesus of Prague for favours received.

T. O'Neill, London.

Further Thanks held over.

OUR COMING NOVENAS

OUR LADY OF LOURDES	-	-	-	Feb. 3rd — Feb. 11th
ST. JOSEPH and ST. JUDE	-	-	-	March 9th — March 19th
OUR LADY OF SORROWS	-	-	-	March 15th — March 23rd

OUR BURSES

	Already acknowledged			Increase		
The St. Jude Burse No. 2	£1,002 13 6	now	£1,032 13 6	
Holy Child of Prague Burse	60 0 0		70 0 0	
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Burse	27 10 0		30 10 0	
Our Lady of Lourdes Burse	18 10 0		20 10 0	
Immaculate Conception B.V.M. Burse	65 10 0		74 10 0	
Little Flower Burse	28 0 0		36 0 0	
Sacred Heart Burse	22 0 0		25 0 0	
St. Anthony Burse	25 0 0		28 0 0	
St. Joseph Burse	21 0 0		24 0 0	
St. Kilian's Burse	12 0 0		14 0 0	

We wish all our members a very happy New Year.

Our Lady keep you! Yours in Carmel

M. E. Lynch O.T.