
The Mass at the Grotto Yesterday.

St. Bernadette was good to us on the day of her canonization. The Mass at the Grotto drew a goodly crowd, and the rain kindly held off until after the Mass. The slight drizzle, attesting the faith of the worshipers, helped rather than hindered their devotion. The Grotto will mean more to us now that little Bernadette has had the seal of the Church placed on her sanctity.

An Alleged Debate.

We have been asked our opinion on an alleged debate held at Northwestern one day last week before two packed houses. The subject announced was "Can Science Accept God?" The participants were President Frederick C. Grant of Western-Seabury Seminary, Evanston, and Professor Max Otto of the University of Wisconsin. The following bit of dialectics from it has been reported by the newspapers:

"God and science are irreconcilable opposites and they cannot be harmonized any more than ice cream can be improved by frying."

"The entrance of God in a scientific experiment would introduce an uncontrollable variable which would utterly destroy science."

"Nothing in the world is outside science's ken; religion always darkens and never illuminates man's mind."

In answer to these apodictical gems of Doctor Otto, Doctor Grant is alleged to have replied that he agrees with 90 per cent of Professor Otto's argument but added that he was suspicious of a dogmatic spirit invoked to support scientists' hypotheses. He is said to have disagreed with Professor Otto's resume of the history of religion except in one particular. Professor Otto had said that religion emerged with early man. Doctor Grant replied that most scholars now agree that belief in God goes back to the sub-human period.

With this brief resume of the alleged debate we can now give answer to our questioners who want to know what we think about it. The answer is, we don't think about such things. They give us a pain in the neck. We know little about Doctor Grant, and less about Doctor Otto, and what we know is quite enough. And sub-humans don't interest us.

We know a great deal about Senator Marconi, who received the Doctor of Laws degree at Notre Dame last Saturday afternoon. We know that he is without a peer in his own particular field of science, and we know too that he leaves to faith the things that lie outside the field of science. We know further that it does not jar his scientific spirit to believe in God; on the contrary, he sees the hand of God in his work, and confidently believes that he stumbled upon the secrets of radio because God was ready to entrust those secrets to mankind.

And we know a little bit about Father Nieuwland, who last Friday evening was elected to the presidency of the Indiana Academy of Science for the Golden Jubilee Year of that organization. We know that Father Nieuwland was chosen for that honor because he is preeminent in his particular field of chemistry, and has to his credit some of the most important discoveries in that field. We know that his belief in God and his devotion to the priesthood have in no way cramped his style as a chemist. We know further that he is not afraid that God will come in as a variable to destroy the fruits of his researches.

PRAYERS: Deceased - Herbert Kenyon's grandmother; Prof. Wack's mother. Ill - Prof. Pat. Manion's mother; a priest friend (concussion of the brain). Two special intentions
A safe journey for the Marconis in a trip around the world.