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THE CATHOLIC PRESS

One of the most interesting papers read at the Catholic conference in Frimbourg was that of Father Columban, C. P., St. Joseph's Paris, on "The Catholic Aspect of Modern Journalism." Father Columban, who is a native of Gortnahoe, Thurles, said that the progress of journalism is one of the marvels of the century. Following various improvements of the printing press, the cheap production of newspapers has placed them within the reach of the masses, and consequently has added considerably to their influence in moulding the thoughts and inspiring the actions of the people. Now more than ever the necessity exists of obtaining speedy, reliable and extensive information of the affairs of nations, whether political, commercial or scientific, and the newspaper is the medium by which this information is acquired. A comparison of the news sheets offered to the public one hundred years ago with those which are published to-day is sufficient to demonstrate the marvellous change for the better and the astonishing strides which journalism has made.

With reference to the position of the Catholic press amongst the world's daily newspapers, Father Columban said that Catholic representation in the journalistic sphere is not what any lover of truth would wish it to be, for the leading journals almost without exception are controlled by those who do not believe in the Catholic church, and who consequently cannot be expected to be sincerely favorable to its interests. In every country there should be at least one Catholic daily paper certainly equal to and if possible greater in worth than any similar publication in the hands of non-Catholics. The journal to which I allude should not be exclusively religious. It should be a strong competitor with its contemporaries in the supply of all branches of news, save that class of information which right reason and religion tell us is noxious to the people. The Catholic cannot reliably look for safe guidance to the leading papers of the time in matters relating to theology, philosophy, history, art and science. For it is the natural outcome that non-Catholic writers should enunciate false principles and argue illogically when treating subjects broaching on the true religion.

In every country Catholicity has virulent enemies, who do not scruple to calumniate the bridge of Christ and to spread their falsehoods through the medium of the press, and literature of an imaginative and poisonous nature is spread broadcast with the most lamentable consequences, threatening the ruin of youth and the demoralization of the people. The doings of those who still despise the church and seek to crush her should be reported to public opinion. The

affairs of the church should be correctly and extensively chronicled in every land. The working of foreign missions and the difficulties and hardships of those who preach the gospel in distant lands should be brought under the notice of the Catholic world at large. Accurate information from the centre of Christendom should be circulated wherever the cross is set up. And in the doing of these things and many others it is within the scope of the press to take an active and powerful part.

Any movement for rendering the Catholic press more efficient and up-to-date cannot fail to do service to the Catholic cause, to place a weapon in the hands of those who profess the true religion which will tell with effect upon the sowers of discord in the religious life of the nations, and help to preserve and sustain amongst mankind a healthier tone of thought and action, raise the standard of literature and promote the temporal and spiritual well-being of the human race.

It will be some time before there is a Catholic daily in the United States or until there is a secular daily that will even approach the standard set by Father Columban. Sensational journals are the rule and publishers, instead of trying to discourage public taste in this direction, seem bent upon encouraging it. The only antidote offered is the Catholic press which is trying, in its feeble way, to elevate public taste and present clean reading matter. The clergy and laity should assist Catholic publishers by subscribing for Catholic papers and encouraging others to do likewise. If there was more of this liberal spirit the Catholic press will be what it should be, the most powerful aid to the Catholic pulpit.

GREEK QUESTION SETTLED

The Greek question has been solved with a temporary result at least, and its settlement brings additional lustre to a long string of diplomatic trophies dangling round the history of Lord Salisbury. Again he has proved himself more than a match for his rivals, and showed himself entitled to the sobriquet of the "Richelieu" of modern European politics. Those who would rob him of due credit, make claim that success was won by an abject surrender to Germany, but facts will not warrant such an accusation. He has neither been outwitted nor coerced, he has simply played his hand so as to win the greatest amount possible for his government under the limitations placed upon the game by policy and circumstances. First, last and always England has sounded the necessity of the Thessaly remaining under the blue and white flag of Hellenes. Salisbury has gained this point, and accordingly is happy, and England rejoices in his happiness.

Henceforth Greek finances will be managed by an international commission consisting of the six leading powers. Authority will be given this commission to guarantee the payment of the interest on existing Greek bonds, as well as upon new financial obligations of the Hellenic kingdom. Of course, the adopting of this plan will lead to the immediate evacuation of Thessaly by the Turks; but at the same time it will make Greece an Egypt of the Khedive Ismail's time. Or in other words, Greece becomes an assignor in national bankruptcy, and a revenue farm managed for and by a committee of her creditors. Egypt was brought to this sad pass through the extravagance of her ruler; Greece, by a generous response to an urgent cry of humanity. Had Greece, like the other countries of Europe, turned a deaf ear to the Cretan cries for assistance against the depredations and ravishments of the sanguinary Turk, she would not now be tasting the wormwood and gall of bitter defeat and abject humiliation.

The extinction of Greece as a factor in European politics will tend to make the strife for supremacy in the East more bitter and more intense than ever before. The despotic sway of tyranny is no longer alleviated in the East by a single government fostering anything capable of serving as an apology for liberty. Turkish rule is a hissing name and byword throughout the realms of civilization; Russian rule is synonymous the world over for

the grinding of the poor for the amelioration of royalty; while Austria—bad though it is—its name is mercy compared to the other two.

Though sad to see the mother of civilization, the patroness of art, the fosterer of letters and science, fall from the proud position of a free and independent government to the servile condition of a dependency, still in a pecuniary sense it may be better for the people. Greece has long suffered financial mismanagement, and from public coffers palace cliques and favored politicians have amassed immense fortunes at the expense of the people. If the commission can better these things, it will offer one atonement for its existence and afford a solace in material progress for the loss of national glory.

THE RAINES LAW

Senator John Raines has been telling the papers that there will be no more amendments presented to his famous liquor tax law at next winter's session of the legislature. It will be remembered that the senator gave forth the ultimatum in 1895, when he introduced the bill, that it would be passed just as he had written it, without the addition or omission of a single line or letter. He did not have his way then or last winter when the measure was vitally changed. It is by no means certain that he will be allowed to be the sole arbiter of excise legislation next winter.

It is very evident that the senator thinks his measure is as near perfect as it can well be, but the public at large knows better and so do the politicians. One of the most potent arguments urged in favor of the original passage of the Raines bill was that it would put a stop to Sunday liquor selling. Any one of average intelligence knows that it is easier to sell now than ever before. It may be that the selling is not so public, but that is all the virtue that can be claimed in this respect. It is now carried on openly in hotels, bona fide and otherwise. This is one of the exceedingly bad features of the law. Another is its fracture of personal liberty. Rich and poor should enjoy the same privileges in this country. They do not do under the Raines law. It is not necessary to enter into an argument to prove this assertion.

From a common sense standpoint, THE JOURNAL is inclined to agree with the following from a valued secular exchange:

"Since Noah landed on Mt. Ararat—and even before that—man has had a weakness for the wine cup, and no law can fortify that weakness unless it can transform human nature. Law or no law, Sunday and every other day men will drink if they please, and it is useless for reformers to hug the delusive fancy of an opposite opinion. Every man of common sense knows this to be a fact, and every man of common sense knows that any law tending to change this condition of affairs cannot and will not be enforced. Knowing this, what is the use of incorporating into any law, provisions of which are possessed of an impossibility of enforcement? They are a negative force, they are begetters of disrespect for the law, they are the producers of bad reactions upon public sentiment."

Of course excise laws always have, and always will be, intricate and delicate subjects. They cannot be otherwise, with such diversified public opinions on the theme. Their shoals and breakers have caused the wrecking of more political careers than any other one class of legislation. Will history repeat itself in the career of Mr. Raines, or will an antithesis ensue? Perhaps the approaching election in New York city will decide, as the liquor law promises to be the great bone of contention.

There must be no clashing between city and county authorities in the ferreting out and punishing of the miscreants who have been perpetrating a carnival of crime and tarnishing the fair reputation of Monroe county. The taxpayers pay the salaries and fees of both, and have a right to demand from both their best efforts for the safety of their homes and property.

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The Boston Republic of last week says: "Bishop McQuaid of Rochester is coming back to this country from the other side of the ocean on the same steamer that is bringing hither the Anglican Bishop Talbot of the English diocese of Rochester. Probably the two prelates will indulge in some pleasantries over the similarity in the names of their respective sees; but Bishop McQuaid has the advantage, for the English Rochester was a Catholic see in the olden time, before the Anglicans stole it from the Catholics, and according to Rome's recent decision, Dr. Talbot's orders lack the essential quality of validity." This will be news for Rochesterians, and especially Bishop McQuaid, who has not visited Europe for several years.

If report be true, the sugar trust has a surplus of something like \$35,000,000 in the treasury. How much of this can be credited up to the friendly tariff laws of Congress?

THE GOSPELS

GOSPEL, St. Luke viii. 11-16—At that time "Jesus went into a city that is called Naim, and there went with Him His disciples and a great multitude. And when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold a dead man was carried out, the only son of his mother and she was a widow, and a great multitude of the city was with her. When the Lord had seen, being moved with mercy toward her, He said to her, Weep not. And He came near and touched the bier. And they that carried it stood still. And He said: Young man, I say to thee, arise. And he that was dead sat up and began to speak. And He gave him to his mother. And there came a great fear on them all, and they glorified God, saying: A great prophet has risen up among us, and God hath visited His people."

What are we to learn from this Gospel?

Let us learn to weep with the Church over the unhappy death of so many of our brethren who are the slaves of sin, and to pray with her that the Divine Mercy may recall them to life. Let us learn to beg Jesus to come to meet us in His great charity, as He did the dead young man of Naim, when we have had the misfortune to fall into mortal sin. Lastly, let us learn to thank God for all He has done for us, either by resuscitating us when we were in a state of sin, or by preserving us from what might again cause our spiritual death.

Weekly Church Calendar

Sunday, Sept. 19—Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost.—Seven Doctors of the B. V. M. SS. Januarius (Bishop) and companions, martyrs. Less. Judith xii. 12-25. Gosp. John xiv. 25-27; Last Gospel. Luke vii. 11-16. Monday, 20—SS. Eustace and companions, martyrs. Vignol St. Matthew. Tuesday, 21—St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist. Wednesday, 22—St. Thomas of Villanova, Bishop and Confessor. SS. Maurice and Companions, martyrs. Thursday, 23—St. Linus, Pope and martyr. St. Thecla, Virgin and martyr. Friday, 24—Our Lady of Ransom. Saturday, 25—Feria.

Indianapolis, Ind., and return, only \$12.50 from Buffalo, via Nickle Plate Road, account Christian Churches National Convention. Tickets sold Oct. 13th, 14th, and 18th, good returning until Oct. 23rd. Call on your nearest ticket agent, or address F. J. Moore, Gen'l Agent, 23 Exchange street, Buffalo, N. Y. 108 s15

Try Our Lehigh Valley Coal. Wise buyers buy good coal from Jacob S. Haight. Yard and office West avenue, city line. Phone, 594-A. Postoffice, Lincoln park.

A PREMIUM FREE. We will give one of our handsome premium pictures of "The Crucifixion," size 17x24, beautifully colored in artistic shades, free to any person that secures one subscription to THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL, payment to be made in advance. This is an easy method of securing one of these beautiful pictures free of charge, and you should take advantage of this opportunity before they are all gone. The subscriber is also entitled to the premium.

OUR AGENT.

Mr. C. A. Hudson will call on our city subscribers who are in arrears next week. We trust they will be prepared to pay him. Ripans Tabules cure bad breath.

CATHOLIC SOCIETIES.

What is Transpiring in the Different Fraternities—Current Calendars.

Knights of Columbus.

At a preliminary meeting held in Geneva, Sunday, fifty-four gentlemen signed the list for the formation of a new council. It is expected to institute the new council early in October.

A new council will be instituted in Oneonta on Sunday, Sept. 26th. John S. Whalen of Norwich, N. Y., brother of Grand Knight James L. Whalen of Rochester council, is the organizer.

In one month eight new councils have been instituted in New York, five in Massachusetts, two each in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and one each in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Illinois, Maine and Vermont.

New Jersey has councils awaiting institution in Morrisown, New Brunswick and Trenton, and in Pennsylvania councils are in process of formation in Germantown, West Philadelphia, Scranton, Wilkesbarre, Allentown and Bethlehem.

Lafayette council of Brooklyn, N. Y., has appointed a committee to enroll every desirable man in the district from which the council is recruited. It is to be known as the hustling committee and three hustlers constitute its membership, Messrs. McMahon, Ford and McGinn.

John McAnaney, past grand knight of Quincy, Mass., council, is to be married shortly to Miss Mary E. Webb in St. John's church, Quincy.

The councils of the Brooklyn, N. Y., district will participate in the union exemplification of the minor degrees on Sept. 22. Aurora Grata building has been engaged for the meeting. It is proposed to call a meeting of the ritualistic officers of all the councils to discuss the arrangements for the evening. Fred J. O'Brien of America council, the organist, has volunteered his services as musical director, and a rehearsal of the chorists of the various councils will be held in the near future.

At a meeting of Council No. 178 of the Knights of Columbus, held Wednesday evening, a committee consisting of J. Henry Howe, Thomas J. Neville and Robert J. Lennon reported the following memorial of James C. Barry, who was a trustee of the council, and the report was adopted by the council.

Your committee to whom authority was given to convey some formal expression of the K. of C. respecting the death of their late brother, James C. Barry, would respectfully submit for your approval the following memoranda:

The K. of C. council, No. 178, duly assembled in their hall, take this occasion to give faint expression to their sorrow at the unexpected death of one of their late members; and in doing so they wish to bear testimony to the personal loss each member of this council feels over his demise.

His was one of those rare characters formed in such a mold, so sensitive and of so fine a nature as to imperceptibly attract and win the favor of every man with whom he came in contact. Unassuming in his actions, considerate of the opinions and acts of his fellows, charitable in his judgments, yet his thorough experience in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his associates, his advice was appreciated as that of the judgment of a prudent and judicious man.

Early in life he entered into business activities, and with a single purpose born of an honest heart, combined with great tact, he soon commanded that success which almost always follows such a career. The unwavering attention which he paid to the practical affairs of life; the diligent effort to accomplish the noblest purposes, enabled him to advance in the commercial world and gain an honorable position in the business community.

Contented in mind, and happy in the knowledge that those who were nearest and dearest, around whom he had thrown the circle of his protection and guidance would not suffer for the material things of life, he was at all times ready to pass into the great unknown with the consolation that he would leave to his dear ones that most precious of all bequests, an honored name.

Among his associates, and particularly in this organization, he was a considerate, unselfish and ambitious worker in carrying out the enforcement of its purposes; supplanting its principles and illustrating in his daily life the moral foundation upon which the structure of the Knights of Columbus rests. In this, as in every walk of life, he acted with devotion and earnestness to the cause, and exemplified fully one of the precepts of the order: He "lived for those he loved, and the good that he could do."

Mong & Shafer's Fur Repair Department Give to patrons the greatest satisfaction. Work is not hastily put together, but expert fur sewers use their best skill and judgment.

The ladies comprising the County Board of the D. of E. will on next Tuesday evening hold a grand reception and ball in the rooms of Auxiliary No. 5, over 82 State street. Dancing will be preceded by a choice programme by entertainers possessing musical, vocal and dramatic ability. Music will be furnished by Prof. Mills and orchestra, thereby assuring choice music for dancing. The hall will undoubtedly be packed to the doors.

A branch of the C. M. B. A., to be known as Holy Cross Order, No. 209, was organized at Charlotte Tuesday evening under the direction of C. M. Bayer of Rochester branch, No. 81. The branch starts in with 22 charter members and the following officers: Spiritual adviser, Rev. William Payne; chancellor, P. M. Schwartz; president, J. M. Keenan; first vice-president, Lawrence Sexton; second vice-president, Leo M. Whelehan; recording secretary, Peter Boylan; assistant secretary, Joseph E. Fleming; financial secretary, Thomas E. Kinsella; treasurer, James F. Fleming; marshal, Fred C. Murray; guard, O. Aslan; trustees, J. J. Mahon, F. J. Farnam, E. F. Feeley, J. J. Byrnes, S. R. Finucane.

The visitors from Rochester branches who assisted at the installation were E. J. Ernst, Charles Maloy, Charles M. Bayer, E. J. Sercu, John Kernan, Charles Maid, F. Vance, A. J. Cormier. At the close of the ceremonies the members of the new branch and their visiting friends sat down to a banquet in Columbia hall.

Branch 196, C. M. B. A., have completed arrangements for the lawn fete with which it is proposed to celebrate the first anniversary of the institution of the organization. It will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, September 22d and 23d in George Bantel's vacant lot at the corner of Lake and Lexington avenues. Three tents will be erected, one for dancing, one for refreshments and the other for checking wheels and wraps. The grounds will be lighted by electricity. Mayor Warner has consented to open the fete.

The following resolutions were adopted at the last meeting of Div. 7, A. O. H.

Again we are called upon to mourn the loss of a brother. Almighty God has been pleased to take from among us in the prime of his manhood, our much esteemed and beloved brother, Jas. C. Barry.

We mourn his death because he was endeared to us by fraternal union, by his gentle manner, his kind words and charitable acts as a brother. With the bereaved family we join in mourning the loss of the benign husband and father, and we tender to them our most sincere sympathy, but in the height of our sorrow we must not stop, let us follow him in the spirit of charity, and in prayer beseech the most amiable Jesus to meet him with the sentence of the most Supreme Judge in favor of the just. Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of the Lord. Now be it

Resolved, That this testimony of our sorrow be spread on the minutes of the meeting printed in the CATHOLIC JOURNAL, and a copy sent to the family in their bereavement.

J. S. LAWLER, W. T. CONNOR, J. G. MERRIHAN, Committee.

Society Calendars.

C. M. B. A.

Monday—23, 134
Wednesday—34, 88, 117, 131.
Thursday—80.
Friday—87.

C. R. & B. A.

Monday—88.
Wednesday—23, 66.
Thursday—44, 56.
Friday—39.

D. O. F. E.

Tuesday—5, 6.
Friday—3.

A. O. H.

Monday—2.
Tuesday—5.
Wednesday—3.
Thursday—1, 7.

C. W. B. L.

Tuesday—50.

Mong & Shafer's "Special" Hat

Is a winner this season; its very excellent quality and stylish lines meet the popular favor.

Springfield, Ill.

and return, \$16.75 from Buffalo via Nickle Plate Road, account Sovereign Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F. Tickets sold Sept. 18 and 19th, good to return until Sept. 27th.

Call on your nearest ticket agent for information, or address F. J. Moore, Gen'l Agent, Nickle Plate Road, 23 Exchange St. Buffalo, N. Y. s18

There's no question about it. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best blood purifier. This is proven by its wonderful cures of blood diseases.

Special Excursion Rates, Buffalo to Columbus, Ohio, and return, only \$6.45 via Nickle Plate Road, account National Encampment, Union Veteran Legion. Tickets sold Sept 21st and 22nd, good to return until Oct. 11th.

For information, call on your nearest ticket agent, or address F. J. Moore, Gen'l Agent, Nickle Plate Road, 23 Exchange St., Buffalo, N. Y. s18

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