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SATURDAY, SEPT. 24, 1904

Bad Judgment

Whether one is inclined to vote with the Republican or the Democratic party; whether one is disposed to support Roosevelt or Parker, he cannot help feeling admiration for the strong, virile and vigorous letter Theodore Roosevelt has written in acceptance of the Republican nomination. It is refreshing to peruse a political document in which the writer expresses positive convictions in clear, unmisgiving language which may be interpreted without the aid of a book of synonyms. Those who oppose the President's political views will not withhold compliment for his terse, hard-hitting style.

Most of the letter is devoted to matters purely political. With these we have no concern. But there is one paragraph which relates to a matter, in a matter not political, and to which we must take exception. It follows:

"During the last five years more has been done for the material and moral well-being of the Filipinos than ever before since the islands first came under the ken of civilized man."

Taken as a whole, this statement is in bad form, and constitutes a direct challenge which might be accepted with telling effect by the President's political opponents, did they possess the nerve; but it looks as though the Democrats desired to evade, as far as possible, discussion of the Philippine question, except in the abstract.

Had the President contented himself with stopping at what had been done for the "material" well-being, no criticism of the good taste of the statement could have been made, although we might be inclined to dispute its accuracy.

But when the President sets up the claim that since American arms conquered the Philippines, more has been done to advance the "moral well-being of the Filipinos than all those who have been in the islands since the Spaniards went there three centuries since, he oversteps what even political prudence would dictate. What ideas of morality have the American soldiers, the American non-Catholic missionaries inculcated in the minds of the Filipinos, that were not instilled by the Catholic missionaries who were there contemporaneously with the Spanish discoverers?

Have the Americans insisted that the Filipinos be honest? The Catholic missionaries taught that centuries ago, and not at the bayonet's point at that. Have the American missionaries given lessons in observance of the Golden Rule? The Catholic missionaries did that several hundred years ago. Have the Americans given education in English? The Catholic missionaries built colleges and endowed them. True, they taught in Spanish; but education is education, whether imparted or gleaned in the English or French language.

We might add other illustrations and examples, but these will suffice to prove that the President has conveyed his ideas awkwardly, even if he is convinced that he is correctly informed as to the scope and character of the moral influences brought into the Philippine Islands by the American army, navy and missionaries.

It may be that we have not construed the President's statement in the sense he wished it to be taken, but read without a knowledge of the writer's inner thoughts. We presume

others have accepted the same view as the JOURNAL.

If our readers are able to construe it differently, or differ as to our criticism, we would be pleased to receive letters or communications thereon, either for publication or for personal perusal only.

Peculiar.

What a queer collection of topics are discussed—topics is the only suitable word to use—by the non-Catholic clergymen of Rochester in their Sunday pulpit talks.

Last Sunday Rev. Charles B. Chapin, of Westminster Presbyterian church, told how "We must emulate the drummer in his knowledge of men. We must be very wise in heart, in method and in time." Not a word about God's influence. "We" the (preachers) will save the man and see that he goes to heaven!

Rev. E. P. Hubbell at Cornhill Methodist church talked on Lincoln, and criticized the economic ideas of a speaker heard here on Labor Day. Not a hint of the Gospel here!

"The active part of the world's work now done by young people" constituted the theme of another non-Catholic clergyman. An interesting topic for a lecture, but not all one would expect in a Sunday sermon.

Rev. S. F. Langford spoke on the evil of profanity. That was nearer to the ideal Sunday sermon topic.

Rev. E. B. O'neal demanded that religion be taught in the schools, but did not formulate a well-defined plan for doing so. He also demanded that the Bible reader be restored to the schools. Of course he means the St. James, not the Douay version. But would that be fair to the Catholics? Would that not be "sectarian instruction," and therefore unconstitutional in this State?

Truly it may well be said that in the average Protestant churches the preacher's pulpit utterances are on every subject under the sun except "Christ and Him crucified."

The Reason

It is a source of regret that our non-Catholic friends are compelled to admit that their churches are losing their influence with the masses. Even if we do not share their tenets of theology, we concede that a person who lives up to the faith that is in him is a more useful member of a community than the unbeliever. Perhaps it were better to state the proposition this way: A person who believes and practices some form of Christian religion, as well as he or she knows how, is better off than he or she who practices or believes in none.

The "Universalist Leader," in a recent issue, openly admits that the churches (non-Catholic) are losing their influence. Our contemporary says: "The church is in decadence; it has lost its place of influence; its pews are deserted, its treasury depleted, and instead of shaping life it is begging the privilege to live; instead of supplying the needs of man it cries out for man to come to its rescue. The current of life is sweeping away from the church and not toward it, and we must consider the cause."

What is the cause? We think the "Leader" comes pretty near it when it says: "The church has become a social center, a lectureship, a school, a college, a literary society, a place of amusement, a bazaar, a library, an institution of philanthropy, a nursery, a kindergarten, a soup kitchen, an employment bureau, or a political caucus. That is, the church has abandoned its own peculiar field to which it was dedicated, that of divine worship, and entered other fields for which it is wholly unfitted and where it comes into a competition which is its undoing."

The Catholic church has become even stronger in the New World than it is in many of the so-called Catholic countries of Europe, because her priests never cease to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Catholic church is the church of Christ, nothing more, nothing less. Her doors are open to all who care to follow Christ. That is why Her influence increases instead of waning, as is the case with non-Catholic sects.

These are the days when, having returned from their vacation, people are taking a needed rest.

Blessing the Graves.

Next Sunday the annual ceremony of "blessing the graves" will take place at Holy Sepulcher cemetery. Every Catholic, whether he or she has loved ones reposing in that "city of the dead" should make an effort to be present and say a prayer for the repose of the souls of those who are buried there.

Death comes sooner or later to all of us and when we are gone we would wish others to pray for us.

Do to others as you would they would do to you.

Bishop McQuaid Addresses L. C. B. A.

Continued from the first page.

machinations of a few, who, since the convention, have left their own organizations to ventilate their disappointment before the newspaper public. Thus they have chosen to manifest their disloyalty to the association.

It is just when such troubles arise that the loyal members of the association gather more unitedly around its cause, and should there be need of correction or improvement in the future, it will be for the parties most interested, to bring it about.

Every one that proves disloyal and seeks to disrupt the organization will bear watching. Hoping that God will continue to bless the association and give its members grace to live in Christian peace and harmony.

Very sincerely in Christ,
B. J. McQUAID,
Supreme Spiritual Adviser, L. C. B. A.

Five Minute Sermon

Jesus Cures the Man Sick of the Palsy.

It was the city of Capernaum, on the west bank of the river Jordan, a little before it flows into the Sea of Tiberias, also called the Lake of Gennesareth and the Sea of Galilee. This was a rich commercial city, and the emporium of all Judea on account of its great population, its extensive trade and the concourse of strangers.

The home of Jesus was Nazareth, but St. John Chrysostom and many others are of the opinion that He cherished a special affection for Capernaum, so that St. Matthew called it His city. In Capernaum there was a house where Christ was accustomed to meet with His apostles, and in this city He began to preach the kingdom of God, to correct the prevailing vices, to teach virtue, and worked many astounding miracles.

He healed the paralytic mentioned in the Gospel. He restored sight to two blind persons, and healed the deaf and dumb man who was possessed by the devil, of which mention is made in the Gospel for the third Sunday in Lent. He also cured the servant of the centurion, the woman who was suffering from a loss of blood, and the son of Regulus, who was dying of fever. Besides these He recalled to life the daughter of Jairus.

We are to learn from this that when we are sick our first thought should be to place ourselves in the grace of God, thus healing our soul first, because diseases are very often a punishment of sins committed; hence a cure can scarcely be hoped for if the cause has not first been removed by repentance.

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Quarterly Report of the ALLIANCE BANK

At the close of business on the 8th day of Sept. 1904.

Resources

Loans and Discounts	\$3,253,369 06
Overdrafts	4,306 51
Due from Trust Companies, Banks, Bankers and Brokers	\$180,257 72
Due from approved Reserve Agents	600,630 78
Banking House and Lot	750,888 50
Mortgage- Owned	100,000 00
Stocks and Bonds	23,755 63
Specie	1,451,084 09
U. S. Legal Tender and Circulating Notes of National Banks	\$ 95,613 65
123,368 00	
Cash Items, viz: Bills and Checks for the next day's exchanges	25,061 55
Other items carried as cash	12,928 03
	256,971 23
	\$6,442,975 02

Liabilities

Capital stock paid in, in cash	\$275,000 00
Surplus Fund	125,000 00
Undivided Profits, less current expenses and taxes paid	79,464 68
Due depositors	\$5,603,697 77
Due Trust Companies, Banks, Bankers, Brokers and Savings Banks	359,796 57
Deposits	\$5,963,494 34
Unpaid dividends	16 00
	\$6,442,975 02

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