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Inspiring. "Inspiring" is but a mild term to apply to the sessions of the second annual conference held last week of the devoted Sisters whose lives are consecrated to the education of the heads and hearts of the Catholic young of the diocese of Rochester.

The set papers were well read, well phrased; the subjects were handled with grasp and understanding. Their authors were practical women, whose thought was to elevate still higher the already high standard of Catholic education in Rochester.

Bishop McQuaid's address was a source of inspiration and the Sisters felt that praise from him and from his colleague, Coadjutor Bishop Hickey, was praise indeed. Bishop Hickey presided at all the sessions and he helped to draw out valuable suggestions of practical experience in the class-room.

It is too bad that the "Mothers' Clubs" and others who sneer at nuns' teaching could not have been present at every session of the conference. Rochester Catholics have reason to be proud of their schools and of the saintly Sisters who preside over them.

"The Lid Off."

In the preface to his "Annotated Edition of Bacon's Essays" Dr. Whately says: "One may often hear some writers of the 'magical-lantern school' spoken of as possessing wonderful power, even by those who regret that this power is not better employed. 'It is a pity,' we sometimes hear it said, 'that such and such an author does not express in simple, unaffected English such admirable matter as his.' They little think that it is the strangeness and the obscurity of the style that make the power displayed seemed far greater than it is and that much of what they now admire as originality and profound wisdom, would appear, if translated into common language, to be mere common-place matter. Many a work of this description may remind one of the supposed ancient shield which had been found by the antiquary Martinus Scriberus and which he highly prized, intrusted as it was with venerable rust. He mused on the splendid appearance it must have had in its bright newness till, one day, an over-zealous housemaid having scoured off the rust, it turned out to be merely an old pot-lid."

Superintendent Maxwell must have appreciated to the utmost the above, after reading the mercileas analysis of his Atlantic City address made by the "Rochesterian" of The Post-Express.

Georgetown University has set its face against "commercialism in athletics." It has debarred from its ball team every student who plays or who has played "summer ball" in vacation, except on his home team and not for pay.

Are there no financiers who have heard of the Golden Rule? Or do they only know one commandment: "Thou shalt not be found out."

Diplomacy.

In all probability, the world will be treated to a fine example of "Diplomacy" as it has been and still is understood in the courts of Europe as soon as the Japanese-Russian peace commission begins its sessions. Japan may adopt what the pro-Roosevelt press is pleased to term "the Hay brand of diplomacy" but recent utterances, whether inspired or uninspired, on the part of Japanese public men now in this country lend color to the suspicion that the Orientals will back and fill as deftly as the shrewdest of European word-jugglers.

It need surprise nobody if the negotiations in New Hampshire do not result in peace. It would not be wonderful if Russia were sparring for time. No one need be surprised if Japan seeks to exact a heavier indemnity than Russia can accept. All advantage is now with the Japs and it is likely that they believe they can hold all they have gained, whether the rest of the world objects or not. There is every warrant for the suggestion that Japan will not stand by and permit the other countries of Europe to dictate terms as was done to China.

Right here let it be noted that China is seeking to "butt in." She tells the world that she owns Manchuria; that she did not ask Japan to drive Russia out or Russia to fight to stay in. The two powers insisted upon fighting; in so doing, they devastated a large portion of Chinese territory for which one or the other, or both, must settle with China. Just who has inspired this subtly-phrased request, may be set down as a conundrum. May be it comes from the Russians, who would not be sorry to see a new element injected into the negotiations. Then, again, it may come from the "Trade Lord" of Germany, who has no wish to see the Japs become too powerful in the far East and so menace German commercial relations which are on the increase in China and other Asiatic countries.

Possibly, American manufacturers do not care to see Germany grab too much of Asiatic commerce and they might not be sorry if Russia were crippled. But would they be better off with the Japs for competitors? It can be seen, readily, that there are a plenty of topics to occupy the attention of the peace phenipotentiaris for some little time to come.

Governor Douglas of Massachusetts, does not want to run again least it might lead to the Presidency. The governor's naivete is delicious.

Maurice Francis Egan has a "skit" in the "Smart Set" which is complimented by the Boston "Republic." Perhaps, if the versatility professor had known just how much and of what sort of notoriety the periodical was to achieve, he would not have been so ready to sell his contributions to it.

"The 'Smart Set' is well worth reading these days" says a contemporary. It has cost some people enough to read it or to keep from being read about in it than its kindred publications.

An exchange well says: "The reader who follows carefully the weekly journal that is Catholic, sane, well written, illuminatively ethical, is in a much better position than a man who takes a morning plunge into the daily paper." The pity is that more of our people cannot be brought to take this view of a subject that is of so much importance.

The experience of the Doane family one son a Catholic priest and the other an Episcopalian bishop has been duplicated in the Potter family. A sister of Bishop Potter, of the Episcopalian church, has been received into the Catholic church, likewise a daughter of former Governor Levi P. Morton.

Evidently, Tom Lawson knew something about the way they run latter day insurance companies.

25c—Trolley and Dreamland—25c Round trip tickets any part of city to Glen Haven and return, including admission to Dreamland Park. Tickets for sale by all conductors at 25 cents.

Five Minute Sermon

The Parable of the Unjust Steward. With this parable Christ intended to rebuke the avarice of the Pharisees, who made bad use of their worldly goods; and besides, He advises us to make good use of riches, especially when they have been acquired by violating in some manner the law of God and by offending the Divine Majesty.

This man, as you see, had the management of a large estate, and as this was not his, but his master's property, he had no right whatever to do with it as he pleased, to neglect or squander it, and for this reason was he accused of being an unfaithful servant and was dismissed. Now this steward is a figure of ourselves, who art the administrators of the treasures which God, the Author of all good, has confided to our care. Life, health, talent, beauty, nobility, riches, all that we have, are so many trusts that God has placed in our hands, which we are to manage for our benefit, but only in the manner prescribed by Him, and not otherwise. Whenever, therefore, we make a different use of them, we are guilty before God of maladministration and of unfaithfulness, like the servant in the Gospel. Alas! What use have we so far made of so many good things which we have received from God? What have we done with our worldly goods, with our health, with our sense?

The Divine Master said: "Make unto you friends of the mammon of iniquity, that when you shall fail they may receive you into everlasting dwellings." By these words, He commands us, to think of our future wants, and to make friends for ourselves in heaven, by making good use of the worldly goods we possess; that is, by doing works of mercy.

Weekly Church Calendar.

Sunday August 6—Gospel, St. Luke xvi. 1-9—Transfiguration of Our Lord. Monday 7—St. Cajetan, confessor. Tuesday 8—St. Cyriacus & others, martyrs. Wednesday 9—St. Romanus, martyr. Thursday 10—St. Lawrence, martyr. Friday 11—St. Tiburtinus and Susanna, virgin and martyrs. Saturday 12—St. Clare, abbess and virgin.

Forty Hours.

The devotion of the Forty Hours, will be held in the churches of the diocese of Rochester as follows: August 6—McLean.

"That's The Ticket!"

THE GREEN ONE Takes you to Charlotte into Ontario Beach park, by Lake and Bay Transportation Co. boat, the Algona, to Sea Breeze, the new pier, home again all for 45 cents. Can there be any more delightful outing than the trip to either Charlotte or Sea Breeze and across the water by Steamer Algona. All the Lake & Bay R. R. conductors can now furnish you with Green Ticket (Be sure and ask for it). Takes you to the Lake and Park, across to Sea Breeze and home again all for 45 cents. The fare one way by steamer is 15 cents, round trip 25 cents. If you and your friends are planning a picnic outing at Sea Breeze remember to ask the traffic manager of the Rochester R. R. Co. for special rates for an hour's ride on the Algona combined with your outing.

Very low round trip rates to Pacific Coast via Nickel Plate Road. \$69.50 Buffalo to Portland, Seattle or Tacoma and return. Tickets on sale every day. At a small additional cost tickets may be routed through California. Good return limit and stopover privileges. For full particulars, sleeping car reservations, etc., write R. E. Payne, General Agent, 291 Main St., Buffalo, N. Y.

Manitou! Manitou! Manitou! It's a bully cool and refreshing trip.

America's Summer Resorts.

Samuel Johnson says, "A desire of knowledge is the natural feeling of mankind." What you want to know about America's Summer Resorts can be found in the "Four Track Series," a set of small books of travel and education, issued by the Passenger Department of the New York Central Railroad. There are now 41 of these fully illustrated and very convenient little volumes. Taken together they constitute quite an encyclopedia of the health and pleasure resorts of this country, and furnish an amount of information that will be surprising and really very useful even to people who don't wish to travel, but who like to read about lovely places that they would visit if they had the time and means for that purpose.

50 cents Sodus Point excursion by the New York Central every Sunday from State St. Station 8:45 a. m., Brinker place 8:47 a. m. Great big fish are being caught this year, bass, pickerel and perch. Make up a party, family or friends, pack your lunch baskets and spend the day at this pretty resort. You will feel better for it all the week.

Knights of St. John Field Day

The First New York Regiment of the Knights of St. John will hold its annual parade and field day next Wednesday at Sea Breeze. The officers will report to the acting colonel, John P. Smith, dismounted, at 8:15, and the privates are ordered to report a quarter of an hour later. The line will be formed in Andrews street and the column, headed by a band, will march at 8:45 through Main street east, to North street, where the knights will take cars for Sea Breeze. On arriving at Sea Breeze will form for drill in the exercises of dress parade at 3 o'clock. There will be contests for which many valuable prizes are offered.

Cook Opera House.

The Cook Opera House Stock Company will next week offer "The Secret Service Man" a detective drama by Warren Forbes, a Rochester newspaper man, and Owen Davis well known in the theatre world. The play will be given for the first time on any stage. The story is that of a young detective, a secret service man, who fights a terrible Italian secret society. There is not a character in the play, it is said, that is not a careful and realistic bit of drawing. Bertram Lytell will appear in the title role.

Excursion to Olcott Beach

Ever been to Olcott Beach? It's a beautiful place. The New York Central will run an excursion there next Sunday, that is they will sell round trip tickets to Burt Station for \$1.00. At this station change is made to Lockport and Olcott Beach trolley line. Fare on the trolley is only 15c round trip. Train leaves Rochester from State Street Station 8:10 a. m., arriving at Burt 10:46, and on return trip will leave Burt 7:35 p. m., arriving Rochester 9:50 p. m. Patrons therefore have about 8 hours at Olcott Beach.

IXL Hendrick Commercial Training School, 938 Granite Bldg.

We do not offer any scholarship or other so-called inducements which cost more in the end, don't imagine that you will get something for nothing in business training more than anything else. We offer moderate charges, competent teachers and conscientious tutelage. We stand upon our record and promise nothing that we do not perform. The Rochester people know us and our school by this time and we are willing to abide by their verdict.

Lowest round trip rates to Pacific coast points via the Nickel Plate Road. \$69.50 Buffalo to Portland, Seattle or Tacoma and return. On sale daily until September 29th. May be routed through California in one direction at slightly higher rate.

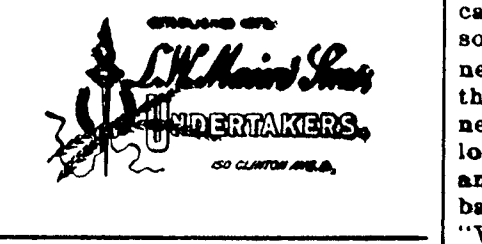
\$75.50 Buffalo to San Francisco or Los Angeles and return. Tickets on sale daily August 6th to 14th inclusive.

Good return limit and stopover privileges. Proportionate rates from points east of Buffalo. Before arranging your trip write R. E. Payne, general agent, 291 Main St., Buffalo, N. Y.

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COMEDY OF A SICK FRIEND

He came in very defiantly, with a set look on his face, like a man who contemplates an unpleasant crisis in his career and yet is trying to persuade himself that he doesn't care a hang anyhow. And to his surprise his little wife ran right up and kissed him.

"Your slippers are by the side of the Morris chair, John," she cried; "dinner will be ready in a minute!"

And then fear frizzled him and discomfited him and he moodily regarded his slippered toes and once more rehearsed the ingenious excuse about a sick friend which he had framed up to deceive his loving wife and to explain the scandalously late hour and condition in which he had returned home the night before.

"Now!" she cried (bringing in the steak and onions). "Now, John!"

And up John got and took his rightful place at the head of the table and solemnly cut the steak and spooned the fried onions.

"John," she began, "last night—this fourth thought: 'Here it comes!' And then aloud: 'It was a sick friend!'" he mumbled (with his mouth full of fried onions).

"John," she continued (as though she had not heard him), "Mrs. Robbins called last night."

"Oh?" he asked, with a sigh of relief, and he clutched with avidity at this frail conversational straw, Robbins, eh? Ah! Mrs. Thomas Robbins! I remember Tommy when he was a boy. I've sat up with him in nearly all his sicknesses," he remarked with emotion (and not without inspiration). "And he's sat up with me! And so Mrs. Robbins called, eh? Well, well!"

"Yes," she said, "And she had her new silk petticoat on."

"Hub!" said he. "I do hate to see a woman showing off!"

"Oh, she wasn't showing off, John," she cried. "I couldn't help but notice them, you know!"

"But she must have shown you the petticoat!" grumbled John.

"No," she replied. "I heard it rustle, and when she sat down I looked—"

And suddenly she became listless. "I see," said John, "that the Russians haven't met the Japanese fleet yet."

"Oh!" she remarked—very listlessly. Whereupon John applied himself to his food stolidly, silently, biting his bread with deliberate precision, formally pointing each little finger into the air as he handled his knife and fork, blinking his eyes as he drank his water and trying to make himself believe that his dear little wife was not looking at him accusingly.

"Did she look well in it?" he inquired (quite husky.)

"Who, John dear?" she asked, and perhaps she sighed the least faint echo of a sigh.

"Mrs. Robbins," he replied (with additional huskiness).

"Oh, fine!" she exclaimed (speaking now with animation). "She had on her gold watch and chain, too! Not half such a nice one as mine, though!"

"And you shall have a new silk dress too!" cried John the gull-stricken John the proud John.

"And you won't stay out late to-night, will you, John?" she coaxed him. "I was so worried last night!"

"A sick friend," began John, mumbly.

"Mrs. Stafford was in to-day," she interrupted him.

"I'll bet that woman made Stafford tell her everything! That's the last time I'll ever go out with a hen-pecked man!"

And then aloud: "Did she tell you?" he stammered.

She smilingly nodded and placed the lobster salad on the table.

"And did she tell you about the policeman too?" insisted John, now determined upon making a clean breast of it. "Yes? And about the cabman? And how he upset hisansom because he smashed Reddy's new plug hat? Yes? And after all this you go ahead and get a nice dinner ready for me—fried onions and lobster salad—and never nag me, and—and—" And once again John banged his fist upon the table.

"While you're about it," he cried, "you just buy yourself a hat and a silk petticoat too!"

Our Treatment of the Chinese.

The coolie, while no more objectionable than a considerable portion of the aliens who come from Europe, may be undesirable. But subjecting high class Chinese, whose friendship would mean much to American interests, to the same restrictions which apply to the lowest coolie is taking a short cut toward crippling our prospects in a country which will one day furnish the world's greatest market.—Detroit Free Press.

PROFUSE AMERICAN TITLES.

Practice is Essentially a Modern One and on the Increase. An American journalist, returning after an absence of some years abroad, comments upon the profuse application of titles which is becoming frequent in this country. The practice is essentially a modern one. Daniel Webster in his lifetime never spoken of as "Senator" Webster, but always as plain "Mr." Webster. Nowadays, however, it is invariably "Senator" this and that; and almost everybody has some kind of a handle to his name. If this kind of thing keeps on we shall end by resting our claims to respect and consideration upon those painfully minute social distinctions which prevail in Germany, where men or women inscribe their names in hotel registers with the addition of such descriptive phrases as "cousin in an apothecary" or "brother-in-law to a corporal."—Boston Herald.

Germs and Traffic. Ever since medical records began it has been recognized that plague follows routes of travel. The great caravan routes in Asia were and are still among the most potent disseminators of the germ. Obviously parasites which infest the human body will be more or less dependent on man's migration for their spread. All quarantine regulations are based on the recognition of this fact.—Exchange.

Russia's Fatal Error. The Russians were beaten because they didn't know how to make the best use of the instruments with which they had been provided. Their government had proceeded in the theory that big ships make a strong navy, and that the human element is a subordinate consideration. It was an error which has frequently been made before, but that it is a fatal one the result of the fighting in the Sea of Japan has once more demonstrated.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Birds as Ship Christeners. When a Japanese ship is about to be launched there is suspended from the bow a huge cage, into which are crowded a score or more of birds. Just as the prow cuts the water the side of the cage is thrown open and the vessel enters her native element with her prow crowned by a living garland of birds, whose free flight through space is emblematic of the spirit of the ship.—Chicago Chronicle.

Land of "Black Snow." A strange phenomenon has been witnessed recently in the snow region about Olre, in the Swiss canton of the Grisons. The wide stretch of snow has suddenly been transformed into a vast sweep of jet black. This is owing to the sudden falling upon the country of enormous swarms of a small black insect, without wings, but provided with two long legs that permit him to move like a grasshopper.

Divorce in England. The number of petitions filed for dissolution of marriages in England and Wales in 1902 was 1050, against 300 in 1901. The annual average number of petitions filed in five years (1898-1902) was 853. The number of petitions filed in 1902 by husbands was 609, by wives, 441; total 1,050.

The Submarine's Tiny Guardians. Three white mice are in each submarine boat and are entered on the payroll of the fleet. These little creatures detect an escape of gasoline more quickly than human beings do, and by their squeals and efforts to escape draw attention to the fact that something is amiss.—London Graphic.

Registering Rain Gage. A German scientific paper describes a new registering rain gage, in which each drop falls on a balanced arm, which dips under it, closes an electric circuit and registers the fall. The number of drops in half a minute indicates the intensity of the shower, and curves of it can be drawn from them.

Electro-Plated Lace. Electro-plated lace may yet be the fashion. A French writer says that a complete set of ecclesiastical vestments has been made at Lyons of these plated laces, and suggests that society people adopt them for ball dresses.

Elaborate Ornamentation. One room at Tsarskoo, the Czar's palace near St. Petersburg, has walls of lapis lazuli and a floor of ebony inlaid with mother of pearl. Another has walls of carved amber, and the walls of a third are laid with beaten gold.

Fashion's Manners. There is no crowd in which rudeness of every kind is so conspicuously displayed as that of a fashionable assembly.—Ambrosia. In the World.

Longevity in Europe. A German statistician notes that the increased longevity in Europe within the last fifty years is more conspicuous among women than men.

Elephant's Costly Meal. An elephant, with a circus, at Dundee, Scotland, put his trunk into the pocket of a farmer the other day, took out a bank note for £20 (\$106) and swallowed it.