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Friday September 7, 1906.

School Again

Once more the vacation season is ended, once more the youngsters, little and big, will look up their books and pencils and their way to the school-rooms there to begin another year of study in preparation for life's real battle.

Now is the time when habits are formed, character is moulded. As a twig is bent so it will grow and if our children are to grow up manly men and women the school day period must be fraught with firm and healthy training.

But mere brute strength and character is not all to be desired. A manly boy should be clean-hearted and possessed of a vein of sympathy if he is to fill all the space in the world which the Creator intended he should.

A girl must be endowed with more than mere book knowledge if she is to be a perfect woman. She must have a heart, and if she be not taught that she has a soul and that soul be not fed with proper food she will develop into a heartless creature, a mere animal. Healthy bodies are to be sought for, but healthy minds are far more to be preferred.

Our Catholic schools are so arranged that proper food is furnished both for minds, bodies and souls. Our aim is to demonstrate the true meaning of education, to train up perfect, well-balanced men and women.

No Catholic child in Rochester should be found in any other than a Catholic school. No excuse is to be offered for sending a Catholic child elsewhere. Our schools, upon the tests laid down by the State Department of Public Instruction, are equal in all respects to the State schools in point of secular instruction. We know what they do in the way of educating and developing the soul.

Therefore, Catholic children will assemble Monday in their Catholic schools for the session of 1906-1907.

Better Left Out

It may be permissible, even though it offend the taste of some of us, to print in magazines, which no one is compelled to purchase if he does not care to, articles in defense of what has come to be characterized as "race suicide."

But we maintain that to publish in a daily paper, where the subscribers expect to find the current news of the day, such an article is neither good newspaper judgment nor good newspaper ethics.

In a recent issue, the "Evening Times" of this city, published on its editorial page an article from the pen of one who argues bluntly and frankly in favor of child murder, an offense against the laws of God in the first place and against the laws of health in the second place.

While the "Times" publishes the article in question in its regular editorial columns, it is careful to say that it does not reflect "the editorial opinion of this paper but is an educational document." It is noted, however, that the "Times" does not discuss the views contained in the article, neither does it utter one word of disapproval.

We have a great deal of respect for the "Times" for the frankness with which it discusses many topics of public interest. But we hold that

there are certain subjects which it were better to reserve for the technical and professional journals and the one under consideration is important to be handled flippantly by ignorant persons, bent upon breaking down and twisting out of shape the real foundations upon which rest the whole structure of our free government.

Bigotry Rampant

To read of what has happened recently in the village of Williamstown, Pa., one would not believe that Apalism was dead, but only scotched.

The Rev. T. F. X. Dougherty, pastor of the Sacred Heart church in the town, is a lion hearted defender, not only of Holy Mother Church, but also of the rights of American citizens under the law of the land. He forbade the Catholic graduates of the high school to attend a baccalaureate sermon to be preached by a bigoted Protestant minister and before that he very properly rebuked the local school authorities because they insisted on all high school pupils attending religious services, conducted by a Protestant minister and held in a Protestant church.

While the non-Catholics might not have agreed with Father Dougherty, still one would have thought that the matter could have been discussed in an amicable spirit and, if the school authorities had overreached themselves, that mutual concessions might have been made and a harmonious settlement arrived at.

Not so in Williamstown. Various secret societies including, we are sorry to say, the post of the Grand Army of the Republic, met in solemn conclave and demanded of the school board that all Catholic teachers in its employ be dismissed forthwith!

We suppose that these misguided persons had a perfect right to pass such an idiotic set of resolutions. But this is not France and officials are directed both by Federal and State constitutions to make no distinction because of religious belief. A Jew is supposed to have just as much right to aspire to official position as has one with English, Orange-man blood in his veins.

But these school commissioners in Williamstown never had read, apparently, these clauses in the constitution of Pennsylvania:—"No person who acknowledges the being of a God, shall, on account of his religious sentiments, be disqualified to hold any office or place of trust or profit under this Commonwealth;" and "That no religious test ought ever to be required as a qualification for any office of profit or trust in this State, other than a declaration of belief in the existence of God."

The school commissioners promptly acceded to the demands of the bigots and dismissed the Catholic school teachers!

Let us hope that the Williamstown Catholics have spunk enough to pay off the bigoted officials in kind.

A Poetic Blunder.

Alfred Austin is the "poet laureate of England."

His latest poem is entitled "Ave Maria." It purports to tell the tale of a village idiot who was in habit of muttering, in season and out of season, the words "Ave Maria." The idiot died and the poet tells that because he was

"Idiot, soulless, brute from birth, He could not be buried in sacred earth."

The "Catholic Union and Times" may be permitted to finish the tale:

"How, may we ask, is the idiot 'soulless,' as only his imagination is distorted? How is he 'brute from birth,' since he uses human speech? Or does the poet try this trickery to blind us to his own crime of not burying the poor fellow in 'sacred earth'? If he was an idiot from birth, he was certainly baptized, and his baptismal innocence,—persevered in because of his idiocy,—though masked under his hideous deformity led him, robed in white, to glory, and there is not a Catholic church on earth that would not sing laudate over his corpse, as if he were a babe

The grave of the idiot is not for saken, for a mystical lily is miraculously reared therefrom, "round which, behold; Was written by God in veins of gold, Ave Maria."

"This is exquisitely beautiful, and yet the moral of it all is that the cruelty of the Church was rebuked by the benignity of heaven. Away with such false deductions from facts still more false! True poetry deals in truth, and is the very handmaid of art and religion. Mr. Austin, for love of minds and souls, burn this lie, so dangerous because of your good intention to honor the Virgin in verse remarkable for smoothness and strength, with thoughts charming, original and elevating.

Nashville is emulating Rochester's example. Bishop McQuaid has been a valued member of the Park Commission, since its organization. Bishop Byrne has been elected a member of the Nashville Board of Trade.

Says the "Catholic Sun":—"The editor of the Catholic Register of Toronto asserts that Catholics are not sufficiently represented in the Canadian Senate. That editor should locate in this country awhile and note how few there are in the Senate of the United States." Will not the "Sun" enumerate the Catholic members of the United States Senate? Such a list would be of general interest.

Just a word with the gentlemen from New York and Cleveland who control Rochester's street car facilities: Is there not a rule on your books prohibiting smoking in cars, except in four rear seats of open cars? We understand there is. If we are correct, we beg leave to tell you that the rule is violated openly and flagrantly and that we have yet to hear one of your conductors reprove an offender. Neither have we heard a conductor call attention to a violation of the city ordinances in spitting in cars. We believe sanitation and removal of causes of offense to patrons fully as desirable as rapid transit.

Evidently, the Odells, Platts, Hearsts, Roosevelts and the other owners and would-be owners of political machines believe the governorship of New York state is one of their personal assets and that the People have no interest in who is to be their chief executive.

William Jennings Bryan has reason to be proud of the place he has in the hearts of a great part of the American people.

What a mighty lever to compel justice for Holy Mother Church and her children will the Catholic Federation be if it continues in the course mapped out in the recent convention in Buffalo!

If the French bishops follow the lead of Pope Pius X—and who doubts for a minute that they will not?—the French Government will wake up one fine morning to the realization that it has a deal of unproductive church property on its hands. Let no one lay the flattering unction to his soul that the French people are or ever will be Protestants. If they be not Catholics then they will be nothing. If they be nothing, then they will have no use for churches. And where, then, will the Government derive the expected rent for the confiscated churches? Perhaps it would be glad to hand the stolen property back to the original owners.

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State Fair and Ka-Noo-No Carnival, Syracuse, Sept. 8th to 15th. Excursion rates via West Shore Railroad, only \$2.00 for the round trip. Tickets on sale Sept. 8th to 15th and good returning until Sept. 17th. Special low rates on Sept. 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th (\$1.45 round trip, good returning the following day.)

Excursion rates to New York Sept. 9th and 10th via West Shore Railroad. On account of the Independence League Convention, New York City, the West Shore will sell round trip tickets to New York at the low rate of \$8.00, good returning Sept. 9th and 10th, good returning on or before Sept. 14th.

Sunday excursion to Buffalo and Niagara Falls via West Shore Railroad Sunday, Sept. 9th. Only \$1.00 to Buffalo and return, and \$1.00 to Niagara Falls and return, in regular trains and on special train leaving Buffalo 10:30 p. m. returning.

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