

The Catholic Journal

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Report without delay any change of address giving both old and new.
Communications solicited from all Catholics accompanied in every instance by the name of the author. Name of contributor withheld if desired.
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ROCHESTER TELEPHONE 3353
Friday October 5, 1906.

Eighteen Years.

With this issue the Catholic Journal enters upon its eighteenth year of journalistic life.

The years fly quickly. Eighteen years ago the Journal was started in a little room in the Sibley block on Main street east, now known as the Triangle building. Our facilities were meager, our capital small. A Catholic paper in the diocese of Rochester was looked upon as a precarious venture, as almost a failure before it was started.

Perhaps, had its projectors knew all that lay before them, they might not have begun the journey. But they were young and possessed of the courage and rosy vision of youth and in their lexicon appeared no such word as failure.

Dark days there were in plenty. More than once the buoyancy of youth bowed beneath the dreary outlook. Subscriptions were not forthcoming in every mail. On the contrary they did not come, sometimes, in response to urgent personal appeals. Hard headed advertisers could not be made to share our view that the Journal presented the most promising medium in this part of the state to acquaint the people with the merits of their goods.

But there were good friends—we never will forget them—who were not Job's comforters. They refrained from "I told you so." Instead they gave us words of cheer and sounded our praises to the public.

Little by little, we learned the lesson that there is no royal road to newspaper success. That comes only by years of earnest, often thankless effort and entirely upon the paper's merits.

For these many days the Journal has been enshrined in the hearts of a strong, substantial clientele who look upon it as their own paper. This fact is recognized and enables us to give the Catholic public of Rochester diocese a Catholic paper which, if it be not all they could desire, is a compendium of the Catholic news of the week, local and general, edited, printed and published in a manner equalled by no Catholic paper published in this part of the country.

The Journal's circulation has grown steadily, old friends have remained true and new ones are added every week. To all these friends we return our heartfelt thanks and promise to give them even a better paper in the year to come.

Campaign Is On.

While hints and mutterings, here and there, have prepared us during the last few weeks for the campaign of 1906, still the nominations were made only last week.

Some surprises were presented in each of the party conventions. It was supposed that the friends and appointees of Governor Higgins would control the republican convention at Saratoga and nominate the gubernatorial candidate. Instead, President Roosevelt and his friends were in control and they nominated Charles E. Hughes, the New York lawyer who conducted the gas and insurance investigations.

Up in Buffalo the gentlemen who usually control democratic conventions were beaten out of their boots by William Randolph Hearst. William J. Connors of Buffalo, and

Charles F. Murphy of Tammany Hall. Hearst was nominated for governor and the campaign will be managed by Mr. Connors.

In a certain sense both conventions represented defeat of the political bosses. The republicans deposed Odell and the other bosses. The democrats refused to listen to the wishes of August Belmont, Thomas F. Ryan and the wealthy men who have furnished the campaign funds in the past and then demanded favors in the way of protective legislation as their quid pro quo.

Undoubtedly, there are many persons who honestly believe that Mr. Hearst's elevation to the governorship would be a bad thing for the community. There are others who fear Mr. Hughes would perpetuate the power and control of the big corporations upon the governing power.

Rochester has been honored by both parties. John S. Whalen, known far and wide, has been named by the democrats for secretary of state. Merton E. Lewis, who has represented one of the Rochester districts in the state assembly and senate, has been nominated by the republicans for comptroller. Their friends in Rochester will see to it that they poll a large complimentary vote in this city.

Yellow

It is the fashion to sneer at and revile "yellow journalism" as the cause of the present era of sensationalism.

Is it not the effect, the inevitable consequence?

We are living in an age when the staid, the conservative does not appeal to us. Newspapers, printed in the old-fashioned headlines do not appeal to us, they do not arrest our attention. If there are no flaring headlines, we do not read the papers. Magazine articles by Howells are passed over cursorily if not sensationally displayed and advertised.

Even Kipling falls on the blasphemy, jaded by hustle and bustle in the business whirl.

Reading matter must be couched in snappy, terse, out-of-the-ordinary style like that of Alfred Henry Lewis, or Upton Sinclair or William Allen White to arrest attention even, let alone careful perusal.

When magazines like the "Harpers" have had to modify their style to meet the sensational demand, it may well be said that sensationalism in newspaper and magazine fields is an effect rather than a cause.

But this is a sort of yellow journalism and magazine which is a menace to the community. It is the sort which deplores the sensational and pretends that it despises it. All the time, though, it is resorting to the stiletto, rather than the bludgeon or even the Big Stick. Its aims are not to expose the Wrong and extol the Right—although it proudly boasts that as a purpose—but to vilify, insult and scarify all who do not grovel at its feet. Character assassination is its favorite pastime and its ever-present motto is to say nasty things in a pleasant way.

To the intellectual and supposedly refined, this sort of journal caters and they listen to and follow its insidious suggestions.

They are making a mistake. The "high-toned yellow" is a menace to the community, a cancer eating to its vitals.

Far better the open sensational sheet, with its occasional lapses from the elegant diction of Lindley Murray, than the high-toned yellow which elevates itself upon a pedestal and covertly stabs every movement designed to ameliorate the conditions of the people at large.

The Big Stick is being swung everywhere these days.

"There are some automobilists" says the Saturday evening Post, "who run their machines in the face of a frightened team with all that delicate consideration of others which is observed in a drove of swine that scents the snowscent swill as it is poured into the trough." Not an elegant diction, but fairly accurate in description.

A Strong Argument.

A strong argument in favor of educating Catholic boys in Catholic colleges and not in the secular institutions is found in the following, taken from the Saturday Evening Post in whose columns appears the trenchant series of articles from the pen of Wallace Irwin satirizing the didoes that are indulged in by the young pagans attending the secular colleges:—

The "frat" is not just a club—it is a club and something more; and this secret society with its initiations, which are often harmful and always foolish, is silly, and worse than silly—frequently vicious. Boys of college age might be expected to be above the childish desire to wear a pin with Greek letters, indulge in "grips," and cherish "secrets." Yet if this were all the harm in the fraternity system, it would be nothing more than an extension of boyish habits into early manhood. But the secret society idea is essentially undemocratic, un-American and snobbish, and, wherever it gets a hold, it ruins the general social life of the college by dividing into cliques that try to "run things" with a cheap imitation of political methods.

The prime object of the fraternity seems to be to create an aristocracy—to separate the chosen from the outsiders, or "barbs." Of course, the chosen come to regard themselves as the natural leaders, solely fit to control college "society." And sometimes, when the fraternity falls into the hands of a bad crowd, the fraternity-house becomes a den of youthful dissipation, hard to suppress because of the "loyalty" of fraternity members. And now, from the college, the fraternity is being introduced in a baby form into high schools, so that boys in their early teens are getting together in "houses" to smoke cigarettes and indulge in fraternity "secrets."

College faculties should acquire enough sand to suppress bad fraternities and discourage the clique idea in all its forms. One of their jobs, the most important one, is to make men of the youth intrusted to them.

John S. Whalen, John F. O'Brien these sound like Celtic names. They are those of the opposing candidates for secretary of state.

Upton Sinclair's scheme to revive the "community life" with state kitchens, state nurseries and state laundries, is likely to destroy the popularity he achieved with his expose of the beef packers.

Life imprisonment for looting bank directors might not restore to the banks the stolen funds of the depositors but it might act as a deterrent upon future loots.

In a recent magazine article, Joseph Medill Patterson declares that the Jesuits are the most effective foes of Socialism. Possibly, this explains why the society is so bitterly fought in all countries where Socialism has obtained any hold.

A writer in the "Post Express" calls William Travers Jerome "The Man Who Was." Not a bad characterization.

Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., was arrested the other night along with some college-mates for holding up a policeman and taking away his club. Papa had better apply the Big Stick.

Everywhere, the People are applying the toe of their collective boots to the political bosses. It is a healthy sign. Let us hope it will not be a passing spasm.

Charles E. Hughes, candidate for governor, is a candidate for trustee of one of the life insurance companies he investigated. Does this fact convey any significance?

Now let the papers knock and boost, the orators rave and roar, the candidates protest and prevaricate and elucidate. Thank fortune, this will last only four weeks.

Excursion to Niagara Falls.

Sunday, October 7th, the New York Central, "America's Greatest Railroad," will sell excursion tickets to Niagara Falls for \$1.00, good only on fast train from Central Avenue Station 8 a. m., Center Park 8.02, Brown Street 8.03 and Otis 8.09. Returning train will leave Niagara Falls at 6 p. m. Suspension Bridge 6.10 p. m. This excursion will be run via R. W. & O. Division, known as the scenic route to the Falls. The view obtained by passengers while the train is ascending the mountain near Lewiston is grand, and is alone worth the trip. The green water of the Niagara River is seen far below, while in the distance is seen the General Brock Monument, and if the atmosphere is clear the church spires of Toronto, 40 miles away, are plainly discernible.

Reduced Rates to New Orleans. Via the West Shore Railroad, account Knight of Pythias, Supreme Lodge, Biennial Encampment. Tickets to be sold and good going October 12th to 15th inclusive, good returning until October 20th.

Reduced Rates to Atlanta, Ga. By the New York Central Lines, "America's Greatest Railroad," from October 19th to 22d. Particulars may be secured from agents.

Reduced Rate to Memphis, Tenn. Via the West Shore Railroad, account Brotherhood of St. Andrew, International Convention. Tickets to be sold October 15th to 18th inclusive, good returning until October 21st.

Brotherhood of St. Andrew Convention at Memphis, Tenn.

Reduced Rates by the New York Central Lines, "America's Greatest Railroad." Tickets good going October 15th to 18th. Ticket agents will provide particulars.

10-Day Excursion to New York Via West Shore Railroad, Friday, November 2d.

On above date the West Shore Railroad will sell excursion tickets to New York and return at rate of single fare, plus one dollar, \$4.00 from Rochester. Tickets good going in regular trains on date of sale. Good returning in regular trains on or before Sunday, November 11th. Consult West Shore ticket agents for particulars, or address H. Parry, General Agent, Buffalo, N. Y.

Knights of Columbus. Commencing Friday evening, Oct. 5th, the regular meetings of the Council will be held on the First and Third Fridays of the months during winter.

We acknowledge the receipt of an invitation from the Right Reverend Bishop of Detroit to attend the dedication of the Bishop Borgess monument at the Academy grounds Nazareth, Kalamazoo County, Mich., on Oct. 8th.



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