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Righteous Stand.

While President Roosevelt's message may not suit all classes, there is one portion which Catholics can appreciate and applaud.
 It is that urging action looking toward the lessening of the divorce evil. In his remarks the President makes these points, which deserve to be posted in red letters all over the land:
 "Surely there is nothing so vitally essential to the welfare of the nation, nothing around which the nation should so bend itself to throw every safeguard, as the home life of the average citizen. The change would be good from every standpoint. In particular it would be good because it would confer on the Congress the power at once to deal radically and efficiently with polygamy; and this should be done whether or not marriage and divorce are dealt with. It is neither safe nor proper to leave the question of polygamy to be dealt with by the several states. Power to deal with it should be conferred on the national government."

When home ties are loosened, when men and women cease to regard a worthy family life, with all its duties fully performed, and all its responsibilities lived up to, as the life best worth living, then evil days are for the commonwealth are at hand. There are regions in our land, and classes of our population, where the birth rate has sunk below the death rate. Surely it should need no demonstration to show that wilful sterility is, from the standpoint of the human race, the one sin for which the penalty is national death, race death, a sin for which there is no atonement; a sin which is the more dreadful exactly in proportion as the men and women guilty thereof are in other respects, in character and bodily and mental powers, those whom for the sake of the state it would be well to see the fathers and mothers of many healthy children well brought up in homes made happy by their presence. No man, no woman, can shirk the primary duties of life, whether for love of ease and pleasure, or for any other cause, and retain his or her self-respect."

Good Boys.

Michael Delehanty, of Albany, once prominent in state politics and several of whose sons are now filling prominent positions in the political and business world, died recently, and when his will was offered for probate it revealed a rare picture of filial love and happy family life.
 The main portion of Mr. Delehanty's estate was bequeathed to his unmarried daughters, the sons joining in the request for such disposition. As the Associated Press dispatch well says the following clause in the will is out of the ordinary in these dollar-chasing days:
 "Such disposition of my estate is made at the earnest request of the remainder of my children, who, through their great unselfishness and love for their unmarried sisters, desire to have them provided for as well as my means will permit, against any future contingency which may arise in their lives. For this spirit of magnanimity, may God bless them and theirs."

Suppressed.

There was one happening in connection with President Roosevelt's record-breaking trip to Panama which the secular press suppressed.
 When the President visited Porto Rico, he was received at Ponce by a delegation of Catholics, headed by Rev. P. Vega, Vicar of Ponce, who delivered in English an address of welcome in behalf of Very Rev. P. Ferris, Administrator-Apostolic, the secular and regular clergy and the 200,000 Catholics of the island.
 In reply the President paid a high tribute to Archbishop Bleak, former

bishop of Porto Rico, stating that his administration was an influence for good, and expressed himself pleased at his reception by the Porto Rican Catholics.

Is This Excelled?

In a report recently submitted, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, the organization which has charge of Catholic Church missions, states that during 1906 it disbursed the sum of \$1,211,171.13, and that the expenses of distributing this great sum amounted to only \$20,000, while expense of publications were \$69,482.86.

We do not believe that the missionary organization of any one of the non-Catholic denominations can show any such record. As a rule, the proportion of expense to distribution is much larger. In addition, the missionary organizations maintain expensive office buildings and exceedingly expensive publication houses. These items eat up a large portion of the contributions before any missionaries are dispatched to their field of labors. Then, again, the families of the missionaries have to be maintained. This is avoided in the case of the celibate Catholic missionaries.

It is interesting to recall, in this connection, the fact that the fair to raise funds for the Home for the Aged, held in Rochester a few years ago, surprised the good citizens of Rochester by the cost of administration in comparison to the sum realized. Our recollection is that the expenses were a trifle over two per cent.

Fairs run for charitable by non-Catholic organizations cost pretty nearly half of the gross receipts. A natural inference is that there is a precious little "graft" permitted or employed in Catholic charities.

Editorial Notes.

If what Clinton Howard says about a conspiracy to ruin his character be true, the guilty persons should be behind the bars. They are equally guilty with "Black Hand" and kindred conspirators.

Richmond Catholics are in enjoyment of a magnificent new Cathedral, the gift of Thomas Fortune Ryan.

While the Society for the Prevention of Corrupt Practices in Elections is about to be organized, why not investigate the expenditures for the recent election made by the several party committees? Some of the figures

sworn to by the party managers are of a size that cause suspicion as to whether such enormous sums represent legitimate election expenses.

President Roosevelt does well in recommending that the Porto Ricans be admitted to American citizenship. Even if they be Catholics, in the main, they have been brought into the American nation and should be entitled to all the privileges accorded to American citizens.

A great fuss is being raised because a hundred or so adult men are not permitted to attend the primary schools of San Francisco. To say nothing of the bad effect this might have upon the morals of the American boys and girls called upon to attend these same schools, the precedent is bad. If Japanese adults, why not adults of all nationalities? A separate school has been established for these Japanese. Such procedure is followed in dealing with the negro children in the South. These are American citizens, yet the President raises no voice of protest!

So Dr. Crapsey is to lecture all over the country. That is the course usually followed in these days.

We extend congratulations to William J. Carey on his election as Grand Knight of Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus, and to the council on its wisdom in selecting a Catholic young man who is a credit to the faith he professes. The council cannot help but thrive under his leadership during the coming year.

Rev. Dr. Van Allen, of the Advent Protestant Episcopal Church of Boston, characterizes Christian Science as "A gigantic bunco scheme."

Associated Press dispatches continue to depict the French Government as lenient in the enforcement of the new laws to bring the Church under the thumb of the civil law. "Lent, lenient, lenient!" If the New York State government proposed to take to itself the property belonging to the Baptist Church in Rochester and then coolly announced that the congregations in future could use it for service a year at a time, if their applications were approved, and that Aldermen Mooney, Kenealy and Ribstein would be the authority to decide whether the brand of ethics preached therein was for the best interests of the republic, we wonder whether the papers would think the government lenient!

McCurdy & Norwell Co.

The Daylight Store.

Santa Claus Now Assumes the Role of a Magician

From time immemorial Saint Nicholas has been the personification of the "glad hand." But who would have dreamed of associating him with sleight of hand? His quickness and dexterity in scaling roofs and descending chimneys are proverbial. But Santa in the role of Wizard is something new. Since his last appearance, however, he has acquired new accomplishments. He is now not only the "Children's Patron Saint" but a skillful magician. Having attained proficiency in that direction, what could be more natural than that he should delight in displaying it? So we are humoring him, while charming his admirers, by allotting him window space in which to perform his wondrous tricks? Rabbits, Guinea pigs and canaries figure in the entertainment. Three performances daily—10:30 A. M. and 2:30 and 4:30 P. M. Between the acts, as it were, Santa will hold a reception in his headquarters in our Toy Store, when he will present little tots with picture books and bigger children with Xmas souvenirs.

Our Toy Store Santa Claus Headquarters

The toy that "goes" and demonstrates some principle of applied science may unfold the natural bent of a boy's mind. Watt's, for want of mechanical toys, played with a tea kettle and found out a steam engine. The study of anything educates—for better or worse—and what seems only pastime may lead to important discoveries. Any top that "goes" or any toy to work with is an ideal gift for the boy. That's why we show such a large line of them—by far the largest you've ever seen here.

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