

The Catholic Journal

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Good Cheer.

This is the holiday season. This is the season when we are supposed to try and make others happy and make ourselves happy in the doing. For weeks past old and young have had the Yuletide in mind and they have prepared therefor.

Now comes the New Year, the dawn of another twelvemonth. Mayhap it will bring more joy, mayhap it will bring suffering and trial. No matter. We know not what is before us, thanks to the all-wise God who has wisely ordained that we shall not know what is in store for us in the future. Much of the future is in our own hands. If we so order our lives that we are at peace with God and our fellows, then we can face the future bravely. We are assured that whatever comes it is all for the best and thank God for the hope of a bright and immortal future.

If the year just past has not been spent as you would have it, there is no better time to begin over than on New Year's day. No better way to begin the New Year than to be thought of than to receive the Sacrament of the Altar and to resolve to do so at least every month of the coming twelve.

The Catholic Journal thanks all its friends for the loyal support they have given it during 1909 and wishes them a Happy New Year on the opening of 1910.

Why?

Just to keep the point before our readers, the Catholic Journal wishes to ask a few questions in connection with the agitation for free text-books:

Who is back of this agitation for free school-books?

Whence this sudden solicitude on behalf of the poor foreigners who cannot afford to buy books for their children?

Or is the solicitude genuine? Have these foreigners made any demands for free books or claimed they could not pay for them?

Are there not, proportionately, more poor people in the Catholic population of Rochester than in the number outside the Catholic church?

These Catholic poor people pay their share of the expense of maintaining the public schools and also maintain the Catholic schools, including the purchase of text-books for their children.

It is not a fact that if the city votes to furnish free text-books the only ones to profit will be the public schools, the Catholics contributing to support their schools and provide their own text-books while suffering the added expense of supplying free text-books to their public school brothers?

Is it not a fact that to-day indigent pupils are provided with free text-books?

Why not continue in this way? If the parochial schools can be run at a per capita expense of \$6 per pupil and it costs \$25 per capita to maintain the public schools, why far less to show for it, why is it necessary to raise the limit to \$40 per capita even to supply free text-books?

In conclusion:—First, let the

question be tested whether free religious manifestations only; text-books are permissible under that is to say, the ordinance in state law and the city charter by directed exclusively against a friendly action framed up and certain class of manifestations, etc. submitted to the Courts. Then the Governor of Pangasinan let a referendum vote be taken province made reply to this let of the tax payers of the city as to whether they wish text-books board has complied with all the to be provided.

Inasmuch as the chief source of the agitation for free text-books comes from Socialists and the trade unionists, both of whom claim the referendum as one of their cardinal principles, they who by the way is a Catholic, in cannot, in fairness object to this method of determining whether a majority of persons who have further cause for complaint on to foot the bills believe in this the part of ministers or members last move in the direction of state of Protestant churches," says the Northwestern Christian Advocate (Methodist).

The Girl.

Two notable addresses were delivered in connection with the recent corner stone laying of the new Collegiate Institute of the Holy Angels at Fort Lee, New Jersey.

The Rev. E. Burke of Englewood Cliffs, who presided at the exercises, delivered the opening address. After praising the Sisters of Notre Dame for the wonderful success he said:

"The Sages, Carnegies and Rockefellers of our nation seem to be more interested in colleges and universities for young men than in institutions of learning for young women. I would respectfully remind these millionaires that they are placing the cart before the horse in this case. Unless we educate a race of holy and virtuous maidens we shall not have loyal and faithful wives and mothers, and the consequence will be imbecile and degenerate sons unfit for college education. The hand that rocks the cradle still rules the nation."

Dr. James J. Walsh, dean of the Fordham University school of Medicine, said that nothing is the source of more pleasure at the present time than the number of Catholic colleges for girls that are being established all over the country.

"How few even of us Catholics realize," he said, "that whenever in the history of the church there has been a great movement in any new direction of church influence in education, in things social, in charity, even in religion itself, women have always taken a place beside the men in carrying out the movement. Beside every great initiator of a new movement in the church there stands a woman who only a little less than a man and sometimes even to a greater degree is honored for all that is accomplished by the introduction of a new phase of church development."

Biter Bitten

A Rev. Mr. Larson, non-Catholic of course, recently took to task Governor General James F. Smith on the plea that he has been unfair to the Protestants in the Philippines.

It would appear that Mr. Larson has been hoist with his own petard as witness the following:

Manila, June 8, 1908.
My Distinguished Governor:—My attention has been called to a complaint presented by the Rev. Ernest A. Rayner of the Methodist Episcopal church to the provincial board of Pangasinan, against an ordinance adopted by the municipality of Anda, regulating the use of the streets for religious purposes, under the provisions of which said Mr. Rayner, together with 15 other members of his church, was arrested for not having complied with the requirements of said ordinance.

The first section of the ordinance in question says:—"All religious manifestations in the streets and public places in this municipality are hereby strictly forbidden unless a license or permit shall be issued by the municipal President free of all charges."

The illegality of this ordinance is apparent at first glance, inasmuch as the prohibition is limited

The flying machine is not quite complete and the trolley don't run on each line, but if you've a date, on any old street, Why call either 'phone 49?"

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