

The Catholic Journal

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AT 88 Cortland Street, Rochester, N. Y.

CATHOLIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING COMPANY

If paper is not received... Report without any delay change of address...

Subscription Rates For Year, in Advance \$1.00

Entered at second class mail matter ROCHESTER TELEPHONE 2353

Friday, April 23, 1909.

Worth While.

That banquet of the Holy Name Society of the Immaculate Conception parish last Monday night must have been an object lesson to the public of Rochester, Catholics as well as non-Catholics.

Nearly 1,000 men marching from their meeting place to the banquet hall would have been an event even in a presidential campaign.

How much more remarkable in days of peace and when not even the zest of a municipal campaign added excuse for the demonstration!

What did these men march for? To show that they are not afraid to have it known of all men that they are Christians, that they believe in decent speech that they reverence the Deity and that they are proud to be known as Catholic men.

Moreover it was a tribute to and a vote of confidence in their pastor, their spiritual guide, for the courage he has displayed, for the Faith and the shrewdness he has manifested in confounding those who would malign the church.

Say not that the Catholic church is deteriorating so far as the quality of her adherents is concerned. They are proud of their faith. Sneers and jibes but make them stronger in their adherence, and, as the days roll on, ever her enemies are forced to concede that she is the only effective barrier remaining intact against the on-slaught of Socialism upon the Republic.

Battle On.

It is perfectly plain, to the most superficial observer, that the politicians in Albany have screwed their courage up to the point where they mean to give serious battle to Governor Hughes. Every one of his cherished reforms have been beaten or sidetracked by the Legislature of 1909.

Men who were disposed to let Governor Hughes have his way in everything two and three years ago are now declaring their absolute refusal to accept even the meanest suggestion of the Governor.

Whereas a year ago the Governor was acclaimed as a great man, the best asset of his party, when the exigencies of a great natural campaign demanded today he is sneered at as a parlor Socialist, a dreamer, a disciple of Utopianism, an impractical politician, a man to be coddled but not to be feared.

Is this because there is a Taft at the helm in Washington, a Knox as premier of the Cabinet, a Root in the Senate?

Is the "Soft pedal" to be put on all along the line?

It will be an interesting struggle. The Governor appears to have a measure of popular acclaim, but it must be borne in mind that Bryan always has drawn great crowds but his opponent had the votes.

Rochester needs no state prison in her midst Governor Hughes.

Wisconsin.

Out in Wisconsin; where the Catholics and Lutherans ever have been stalwart upholders of parental rights as against State paternalism, they are not afraid to grapple with the problem of state support of parental or parochial schools.

Assemblyman Domachowski of Milwaukee introduced a joint resolution a few days ago providing for the submission to the voters of the state of a constitutional amendment authorizing state aid to parochial schools.

The resolution provides that provision shall be made by law for the distribution of the income of the school fund among the several towns and cities of the state for the support of common schools therein in some just proportion to the number of children and youth resident therein between the ages of 4 and 20 years, provided that the state may appropriate and make provision for the distribution annually in aid of parochial schools of such sum or sums in such just proportion as the legislature may provide.

The movement will be watched with considerable interest throughout the entire country.

Name of God.

It will be recalled that one of the acts of Theodore Roosevelt which he was forced to retract was that directing the Government mint to leave off coins the motto "In God We Trust."

The reformer president explained that in view of the almost universal lack of reverence for the Deity manifested in official life in the United States, it seemed like a mockery to declare that as a Nation we trust in God.

While there was a measure of truth in the ex-president's reasoning, the mighty protest which went up made it manifest that a goodly portion of our people have a wish to be considered Christians, and Mr. Roosevelt bowed to it to the extent of rescinding his order.

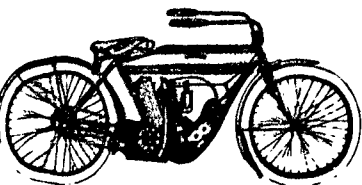
Possibly as a corollary to this incident comes the action of Senator Richardson of Delaware who by request has introduced a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, "acknowledging the Deity in this foundation document of the government."

The resolution follows: Whereas, said acknowledging of the Deity is reasonably desired by many citizens of this country, and is in the interest of the highest and vital truth, morality and fitness; therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein) that the following prefix be proposed to the Legislatures of the several states as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States as part of the Constitution of the United States as part of the Constitution, namely: The preamble to the Constitution shall begin with the words and sentence, "In the name of God."

Says "Church Progress" "Someone out East has started an article on the rounds of the Catholic press which states that Father Odenbach, S.J., of Cleveland, and Father Guicheteau, S.P.M., of New York, have the distinction of being the only priest astronomers in America. A number of our contemporaries, we note, have reproduced the statement without correction. Without detracting from the merits of the clergyman mentioned, we could add many others to the list, but shall content ourselves by merely standing up for St. Louis and calling attention to the reputation and published works of Rev. M. S. Brennan.

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Among the officers of the German navy are five admirals, seven vice admirals, sixteen rear admirals, sixty-two captains of ship, twenty-five of frigate and 111 of corvette. The ships of the navy consist of nineteen battleships, eight coast defence ships, twelve armored gunboats, ten armored cruisers, twenty-nine torpedo cruisers, seven ordinary gunboats, fifteen training ships and special service vessels, and nine harbor ships. Of these there are in commission the battleships, four coast defence ships, one armored gunboat, seven armored cruisers, nineteen protected cruisers, six ordinary gunboats, eleven training ships, and eight special service vessels.—London Engineer.

Lack of Horses in Japan. One reason given for the excessive reliance on manual labor in Japan is the absence of grass in the country. All hay has to be imported, and, naturally, horse-keep is very expensive. Under the old conditions of Japan's existence the banishment of the horse was a matter of small importance. But with the necessity of maintaining a huge army on European principles the circumstances constitutes a serious drawback. Cavalry and mounted infantry cannot be dispensed with, and yet the Japanese have provided them only with extreme difficulty.—Exchange.

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