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France. There, again, it may not. But the possibility will bear close watch.

Briand.

So an avowed Socialist is to be premier of France! How does this appeal to the ignorant and the bigots who argued that the Combes anti-religion law was to be the forerunner of unreserved success and extreme tolerance for the French Republic? Whether these care to avow or believe it, Socialism is warfare upon Religion of every type personified. Elevating a Diaboli-Socialist to the head of the League and second place in the Government is tantamount to announcing the French Republic is against Religion, officially. Squirm as the Briand followers may, there is no escape from this explanation.

Ad Multes Annos.

The Catholic Journal extends hearty congratulations to his Eminence, Cardinal Gibbons, whose seventy-sixth birthday occurred on July 23rd.

Ordained a priest in 1861, Cardinal Gibbons is nearing the golden jubilee of his ordination. He is still in fine health and may easily live to see that celebration.

The secular Post Express, of Rochester, paid this splendid tribute to the Cardinal on his birthday:-

"In good health, in happiness, and with a fitting pride in the success of his life work, Cardinal Gibbons began his seventy-sixth year last Friday. He was born in Baltimore, July 23, 1834. At an early age his parents took him to his former home in Ireland, where he was educated. He returned to America in 1848, received a course in theology, became a priest, June 30, 1861, became private secretary to Archbishop Spalding and chancellor of the archdiocese of Baltimore, was appointed coadjutor archbishop and succeeded to the see October 3, 1877, was nominated cardinal and was invested with the insignia June 30, 1886. He is a man of remarkable intellectual attainments, of great executive ability, and eminent piety, and on many notable occasions has shown a splendid Americanism."

China.

It is becoming evident that the Taft administration is to be much more of a diplomatic, much less a gallery-play government than the Roosevelt regime.

Possibly, this is foreshadowed by the appointment of a Chicago business man, Charles R. Crane, to be minister to China. But it really began when Philander Knox was put into the Cabinet and Elihu Root was made United States senator for New York State. Both Knox and Root are eminently practical men and think it of more consequence to the nation to encourage trade and commerce with this country and foreign lands than to curry favor with the aristocracy of England and Germany. Both these countries are commercial rivals of the United States and their endeavors are to lull us into security with honeyed talk about our supremacy and, incidentally, to annex some of our spare change as dowers for our daughters who exchange gold for coronets and place at court.

Russia may not be so well as England but she would like alliance with the United States, and is willing to buy from us and, in return, permit us to extend our commerce in her direction. China may not be so progressive as Japan but she bodes no serious injury to our Eastern commerce, and does not think to assert herself as our equal, if not our superior.

The fact that the Taft administration has forced a share in Chinese loans to come may mean a Russo-Chinese combination with the United States to give battle to the Anglo-Japanese alliance.

Let an exchange of pronounced secular mind, describe Briand:-

"We cannot feel surprised at the announcement that both Conservative senators and the Radicals, who dominate the party of the Republican majority, object to the selection of a Socialist as the head of the French government. There is, indeed, a wide chasm between Radicalism and Socialism. The Radical may be an advanced Reformer, but the Socialist aims at abolishing private property, and destroying individual liberty. M. Jaures, a member of the Chamber, has offered to support M. Briand. Nevertheless, it is possible that a latter's ministry will fail to command a majority. His period of office is almost certain to be very short-lived.

M. Briand has some ability. Like many other advocates who seek popularity by demagogic appeals to the populace, he professes to believe in the fallacies of what the French call 'collectivism' - another name for Socialism. He has written a work entitled, 'La Separation des Eglises et de l'Etat.' But as the head of French ministry just now, he is in most undesirable

Education.

Judging from the accounts given in the press despatches and in the Catholic exchanges, the recent convention of the National Educational Association held in Boston was a gratifying success and much good cannot fail to result to the cause of Catholic Education.

One of the strong resolutions adopted was as follows: Whereas, Our Holy Father, Pius X, beholding the wreck and ruin which their false ideas of education are bringing upon those nations who have debased and disgraced their once glorious ideals, and realizing as he does that the root of the whole malady is the pagan ideal animating society, calls out to the whole world a warning - the warning of a father for the welfare of his children: and Whereas, His fatherly warning is accentuated and emphasized by the laws enacted by our spiritual leaders, the archbishops and bishops of the country assembled in the third plenary council of Baltimore, on the subject of secondary and higher education, hence be it

Resolved That we solemnly reiterate our purpose expressed in the resolutions of the fifth annual meeting of the association 'to make every effort not only to strengthen our present splendid parish school system, but also to make every effort to maintain in all vigor and to multiply, wherever necessary, our academies, high schools, colleges and universities, which are coming to be more and more recognized as the only ordinary safeguards of faith for a period of life, most in need of such aid, the only protection of that lofty citizenship which the Church has ever cherished.

State Council of C. M. B. A. The New York State Council of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association will hold its annual convention in Rochester on Saturday next. Several hundred delegates and visitors will be welcomed by the 3,000 local members of the order. The Central Council has appointed the following committees:

Convention Joseph A. Wells, chairman; James E. Martin, secretary; Charles J. Chism, treasurer. Executive Charles P. Meade, chairman; Joseph Froelicher, Francis Lavery, Edmund Marschewicz, James E. Martin, Joseph A. Wells, Charles J. Chism, William L. Peas-

Badges James E. Martin and Edmund Marschewicz. Parade Joseph Froelicher, chairman; John Straesser, Anthony Strauss, John J. Jager, Edmund Marschewicz and William Nolan. The convention will open at Cathedral Hall on Frank Street at 10 o'clock on Saturday morning. Mayor H. H. Edgerton will extend to the delegates the welcome of the city.

After their return from solemn high mass in the Cathedral where the official church welcome will be extended by Bishop Thomas F. Hickey, Hon. Thomas F. Mac Avoy of New York, grand president of the order, will respond to the Mayor's address. There will be a street parade on Saturday night in which the members of the state council and the Rochester members will join. Members of the 3,000 local members are expected to turn out. The Rochester regiment of the Knights of St. John, under command of Colonel Frank J. Schwab, will act as escort. Branch 12 of St. Bridget's parish, one of the oldest in Rochester will have the right of line. The parade will be headed by the 5th Regiment Band. This will be the line of the March Form at West Avenue canal, bridge to Main Street West to Main Street East, to Clinton Avenue South, to Convention Hall. Here a class initiation of 500 candidates will take place. The headquarters of the convention will be at the Hotel Eggleston.

This will be the first time in many years that the state council has met in Rochester and every effort will be made to give the visitors a good impression of the city. To Build a 'Masters' Home in Wayland. No real estate transaction of greater interest to Catholics in this vicinity has taken place in some time than the purchase of a piece of land by the Nazareth Convent and Academy from the Rosenkrantz estate in Wayland. A plot of almost five acres has been bought for the grounds of a home for Sisters of St. Joseph a teaching order. It stands 1,400 or 1,500 feet above sea level. Though removed from the center of the village, it is within the corporation supplied with electric light and entitled to the privileges of the water supply which is excellent as well as fire protection. It is one block from St. Joseph's Catholic church.

Bishop at Genesee Lake. St. Margaret's Chapel at McPherson's Point, Genesee Lake was thronged at the regular service at 10:30 o'clock Sunday morning, when Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, D. D. officiated at high mass. At the close of the services the Bishop preached. The remainder of the day he spent at Camp Rita and expressed his satisfaction with the condition of the chapel. Although the seating capacity of the latter has been greatly enlarged during the winter, it did not suffice to accommodate the crowds which came to hear the Bishop.

Genesee. The dedication services of the new pipe organ at St. Mary's Church, installed during this month took place Monday evening of this week. Every seat in the church being filled with people who had come to listen to the new instrument. Solemn Mass was sung with the following priests taking part: Very Rev. Jas. J. Hartley, D. D., rector of St. Bernard's Seminary, Rochester, celebrant; Rev. John H. O'Brien of St. Augustine's Church, Rochester, deacon; Rev. Michael J. Krieg, of Oakta, sub-deacon; Rev. George J. Jones of Sonyea, master of ceremonies. The following priests were in the sanctuary: Rev. J. A. Moran, O. S. A., of Villanova College, Pa.; Rev. Owen P. Farron of Avon, Rev. Joseph Gefell of Wayland, Rev. Wm. P. Ryan of the Cathedral, Rochester. Following was the program: Prelude, Andante Grazioso, H. Smart, Miss Helen J. Dwyer; "Domine ad adjuvandum," Millard; "Dixit Dominus," Ps. 109, Millard; "Laudate Pauci," Ps. 112, Est; "Laudate Dominum," Ps. 116, Millard; Capitulum, or Little Chapter, by Sub-Deacon; Hymn, "Cujus Animam" and "Indamatus," from "Stabat Mater," Rossini; "Magnificat," Luke 1, Est; Sermon by Rev. William P. Ryan; Interlude 1. "Intermezzo"

Mignon, A. Thomas, 2. "Song of Pilgrims," E. Batiste, Professor Thas Stupp, "O Salutaris," Chorus, Dougness; "Tantum Ergo," Quartette, Rossi, Benediction of Blessed Sacrament, "Gloria in Excelsis" from 12th Mass, Mozart; Recessional, "Festival March," Tittens, Professor Stupp.

The music was of the highest order, the solos by Miss Koeman and Mrs. O'Leary, and Mr. Hoffman and Mr. Klunbertans, were exceptionally well rendered. The chorus numbers showed fine effect of careful training by their director, M. L. Hughes. The playing of Prof. Stupp showed a perfect mastery over the instrument, and his selections were greatly enjoyed by all, and he is certainly one of the best organists that has been in Genesee in some time. The following are the singers from Rochester, who assisted St. Mary's Church Choir:

Soprano, Miss Pearl Keenan, Miss May G. Hughes, Miss Arnelia Zege-witz, alto, Mrs. W. E. J. O'Leary, Miss Alice N. Hughes, tenor, Mr. John G. Klunbertanz, Mr. Richard Finnessy, Mr. A. L. Hughes, basso, Mr. Frank M. Hoffman, Mr. Joseph L. Vogt, Mr. M. L. Hughes. The sermon by Rev. Wm. P. Ryan of the Cathedral of Rochester, was delivered in a masterly manner, and was attentively listened to by the large congregation from the open to the close. Father Ryan is no stranger to the people of St. Mary's Church, as he has delivered several sermons in it before, and the congregation is always glad to hear

Auburn, N. Y. The many friends of Mrs. Henry White were grieved to learn of her death which occurred at the family home during the week past. Her funeral was held on Monday at the St. Aloysius Church.

The regular services for the first Friday of the month will take place each of the churches on Thursday and Friday of next week. Auburn Council, Knights of Columbus held a meeting on Thursday night, at which time much important business was transacted by the members. The annual outing of the council will take place next month. The committee having the affair in charge promises to dispense anything ever given by the order. The ball team is making a great showing in the games that they have played in this city. Many out of town games are being arranged for with councils of other cities. The assessments that have been levied on the different churches of the city for the building of the new Orphan Asylum have been received in this city. The several churches of the city are enjoying the summer services on Sundays.

Baker Theatre. Commencing with the Monday matinee August 2d, Bert Lytell and his company will inaugurate his eighth successful week at the Baker Theatre with an elaborate production of that rural classic, "David Harum," in which William H. Crane made such a pronounced hit. Mr. Westcott's story is so very well known and the character of the quaint old banker and horse trader of Homeville is so familiar to everyone that it is hardly necessary to go into the details of the story. It is sufficient to say that the play follows closely the details of the book. The character of "David Harum" has not been robbed of a single one of his attributes, he has not once been placed in an incongruous position, and every line in the book that could be used has been incorporated in the play.

The usual matinees will be played on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Mr. Lytell takes pleasure in announcing the engagement of Miss Ida Adair, well and favorably known here to local theatergoers. Miss Adair will play the leading roles and will make her first appearance here Monday, August 9th, in "The Frisky Mrs. Johnson," one of the greatest successes which Amelia Bingham ever had.

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