

The Catholic Journal

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Let Us Have No More.

Now that the special Congressional election is over, let us express the wish that we may not have another of its sort in many a day. Vituperation, vilification, mudslinging, bigotry, all were called into full play in the campaign just closed. Ministers, educators, business men entered upon a campaign unparalleled in its bitterness in a spirit of malice for which there seemed to be no occasion. Two men were presented for the suffrages of the people. Both were well-known to most of the electorate, one a trifle more than the other. The question before the people was as to which of the two would make the better representative in Congress. It does seem to us that there was no occasion for the malevolence manifested on one side, at least, during the canvass. And we may be permitted to remark that campaigns of scurrility, of defamation usually defeat the object sought to be attained. It was such a campaign that carried Rochester for Hearst when every paper in the city was for Hughes.

Incubus Gone.

Teachers in the public schools breathe more freely now that one relic of the days of bigotry and annoyance is to retire at the end of the present school year. We have not the pleasure of acquaintance with the retiring supervisor but we are willing to rest our charge upon the testimony of teachers whose word is as good as gold and upon that of parents whose interest in our public schools is as honest and high-minded as any one of those alien place holders who have exploited Rochester's schools for their own selfish, personal pecuniary ends.

Probe to the End.

The Legislature has done well in ordering a full and complete investigation of all legislative corruption, albeit it would have stood better before the public had it acted upon its own volition and not under the lash of Governor Hughes. We doubt that there is much dishonesty in the Legislature of today and we do not see where the public will benefit greatly by an expose of wrong doing of a decade ago. But there is a public hysteria for investigation, exposure and pillory so it is well for the honest legislator that the un-

faithful one be dragged into the spotlight of publicity. And so, to appease public clamor and to facilitate a speedy return to sane and safe public feeling, let the investigation be prompt, searching and conclusive.

Sorry, Perhaps

It is the opinion of the Catholic Journal that Theodore Roosevelt regrets the Vatican incident and also that he will look back upon it as the most tactless blunder of the many he has made. Possibly, the ex-president thought that he would court public admiration from all sides by his announcement of the award will it may be that he fancied American Catholics would applaud him as a man, of sturdy independence. Possibly, he has come to a realization already that he overshoot the mark. If he has not, we feel sure he will before the year is out. Lack of tact does not always stamp a man as a boor but lack of manners and breach of faith quite often injure a man far more than merely to bar him from polite society. The public man who cannot be trusted to keep faith very soon loses caste with the public and when that occurs his career is soon ended. "He whom the gods would destroy they first make mad" has come home to greater men than even Theodore Roosevelt.

More Lies Nailed

Whenever the sensational press correspondents of Europe are hard up for "stuff" they are prone to cook up some fake about the Pope's health, the policy of the Vatican in this or that and cable it to the world at large. Sometimes such barefaced rot is not "cabled" at all but made up out of whole cloth in the office of the sensational paper, with the hope that it never will reach the eyes of any one connected with the Vatican.

Reports that "an American Cardinal" is to be named, followed a few days later by the fact that "foreign influence brutally exorted has side-tracked an American Cardinal" are shining examples of suspecting readers who never see a Catholic paper and hence never learn of its falsity. Since the recent Roosevelt incident Rome a new "Vatican fake" is going the rounds. It is the effect, that Cardinal Merry Val, the Papal Secretary of State, administered the snub to the ex-President because of his activity in the Spanish-American war and gave the Secretary's Spanish father as authority for the statement. Both the Cardinal and his father promptly denied the absurd story but it is still being printed in the don't-care-for-accuracy papers.

In nine cases out of ten the "despatches from Rome" in the secular press may be put down as "not so."

Want \$1,000.

If there are Rochesterians who think they can write on "religion in education" they will be interested in the following announcement sent out from Notre Dame, Ind. The faculty of Notre Dame University has completed the details of the contest for the prize offered by Max Pam, the Chicago attorney, and will be announced during the coming week. Following are the regulations which govern the contest: The sum of \$1,000 has been entrusted to the University of Notre Dame to be offered for the best manuscript dealing practically with the question of religion in education. The contest for this prize is open to all persons in all countries of the world and without regard to age, sex or creed. Manuscripts in foreign languages must be accompanied by an English translation. Manuscripts must contain not fewer than 20,000 words. The theme is "How May the Religious Element in the General

Education of Children and Youths be Most Effectively Promoted?" The term religious in this thesis is understood to involve a code of morals having a divine sanction. Each contestant must sign his manuscript with his pen name and address it to the Max Pam Prize Contest, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame Ind., U. S. A., inclosing for identification a sealed envelope containing his correct name and address in full.

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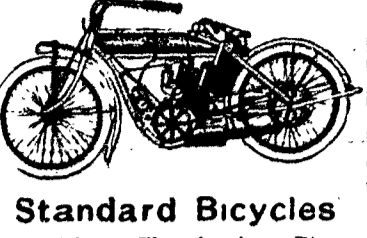
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