

# The Catholic Journal

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## Read A Catholic Paper.

It would not seem necessary to call upon Catholics in this day and age to read a Catholic paper. They see, or should see, how the secular press caters to atheistic tendencies, how it panders to vicious notions, how it dwells upon the seamy instead of the bright side of life itself. They should note how the secular press misrepresents matters of religion, especially pertaining to Catholicity.

How can any one be informed on Catholic matters, especially as to the march of progress in the Church, unless he reads a Catholic paper? And how can one read a Catholic paper unless he subscribes for one? How many libraries or reading rooms subscribe to Catholic papers or magazines or carry Catholic books on their shelves?

Writing to a contemporary, Rev. Wm. A. Wachtler puts it well in these sentences:

How do we account for this indifference on the part of even good, practical Catholics? They feel hurt when they realize the injustices done to the Church, but they do not understand that they are called upon to act. They are convinced "that the Church, as Christ founded it, will last till the end of time," hence their indifference. They forgot the other words of Christ: "He that is not with Me, is against Me; and he that gathereth not with Me, scattereth." A Archbishop Ireland sizes up the situation, when he says: "The Catholic who is not a reader of a Catholic journal is without zeal for the growth of Catholic life in his own mind and heart, without zeal in providing himself with arms to defend before the world his Catholic belief; the Catholic parent who does not put into the hands of his child a Catholic paper is sadly neglectful of his obligation to use every means to educate his child into the fulness of Catholic life and Catholic spirit."

## Church In Holland

"When Catholic statistics of other lands are placed before us," says the "Catholic News", we often get quite a surprise, so strong is the Church in places where the American Catholic believes it to be weak. Thus, the notion prevails that nearly all Hollanders are Protestants. But let us see what the figures of religion in that country reveal. The hierarchy of Holland was established in 1852. Today about 2,000,000 of Holland's population of 6,000,000 are Catholics. The kingdom has 2,400 secular priests, 140 religious houses; 510 convents; 105 Catholic newspapers; 730 private Catholic schools caring for defense of Catholic truth; and 28 mission houses supplying missionaries for Brazil, Borneo, East Indies, Porto Rico, the Philippines, and the Dutch West Indies. The growth of Catholicity in Holland in a half century has been one of the marvels of the Church.

## Good Advice

Rev. Dr. Whelan, while giving a retreat to the Knights of Columbus in Cleveland recently in one of his discourses strongly recommended the daily reading of one chapter in the New Testament as very conducive to knowledge and piety. Such a practice would be beneficial to all and would impart a better knowledge of the teachings and of the life of Christ and make our Catholic people more conversant with the precepts of the Gospel and fit them better to give a reason for the faith that is in them.

"Take and read," was the command given by the mysterious voice to St. Augustine. His priesthood and of the silver obedience to that command led him into the church and to the sanctity. It would be well if all our Catholic people would listen attentively and closely, a similar command spoken to them. Even as a piece of literature the New Testament is recommended by all writers as a perfect model. Those who are not acquainted with its contents must plead to a great amount of ignorance.

## How It Came To Pass

It was in the days of Daniel O'Connell, not over sixty years ago, that a certain English member of Parliament presented a bill providing for a change in the word "Christmas." In England for centuries the word Mass was held in abomination by conscientious Protestant bigots. This man wanted Christmas altered to Christide so that the objectionable portion "mas" should no longer offend English ears. The name of the zealous member, who had never before introduced a bill, was Thomas Massey.

When the bill came up for consideration, Mr. O'Connell submitted an amendment to the effect that, since the word Christmas was to be changed to Christide, it would be only right, just and proper to make a similar and corresponding change in the name of the author of the bill. "This," said Mr. O'Connell, "will enable us in the future to call our friend Thotide Tidey-Tidey."

## First Rate Decision

We note with pleasure that the City authorities are to enforce the anti-spitting ordinance, also the ordinance that street sweeping must be done at an hour that will not interfere with the pedestrians.

Spitting is a filthy habit, at best, and it is dangerous to health and to clothes. Many a person has his or her clothing fouled if not ruined by trailing in a pool of filth left there by an equally careless and nasty person. It entails no great hardship to step to the side of the street and expectorate on the car floor or in a house, there would seem no fit punishment to inflict. Dirty persons, they are and should be brought up with a round turn. Persons who are clean in their personal habits should not have to suffer for the lapses of those who are just the opposite. There is no need, no excuse for spitters upon the sidewalks, in the cars, inside public or private buildings. As for the sweeping complaint there would seem to be no excuse for waiting until pedestrians are stirred before sweeping out stores. And if such be necessary, there

should be no permission to sweep the refuse out upon the streets. Receptacles are easy to procure and they sweepings may be set aside until the city refuse wagon comes along.

Cleanliness can and must be exacted from a municipality as well as for private citizens.

The editor of the Catholic Journal acknowledges the receipt of an invitation from The Catholic Club of the city of New York to attend a reception to His Eminence James Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore, in commemoration of the Golden Jubilee of his ordination to the sacred office of priest of the Holy Roman Church. The club house 120 Central Pk. South, on Wednesday evening, May 10th.

Is another column, reference is made to Bible reading. This proves that the Catholic Church does not forbid her children to read the Scriptures.

Is it to be reciprocity or not?

President Taft is some traveler as they say, but even he was not equal to the strain of his recent entertainment in New York city.

"Locked doors" have helped to increase the death rate in several recent fires. The law forbids this. Whoever is responsible for the violation of law should be punished severely.

Spring hats for both men and women are weird and wonderful creations.

Well, Rochester banks seem to have escaped the clutches of the near captains of high finance.

Rochester C. M. B. A. men are hard at work increasing the membership of the order in preparation to celebrate its thirty-fifth anniversary which occurs in July of this year.

## Corpus Christi

Br. 139, C. M. B. A., will receive holy communion in a body at the 7 o'clock mass on Sunday. Sunday is communion day for all the boys of the parish. The pew rent for the quarter is due next Sunday. The Rosary Society will have a mass on Thursday morning for all the deceased members of the society.

The funeral of Miss Catherine Hayes took place from this church on Monday morning at 9 o'clock. She leaves four brothers, John D., Daniel, Michael and Jeremiah Sullivan.

Br. 139, will hold their regular meeting on Tuesday at 8 o'clock. The retreat that is being held this week for the men, has been largely attended. It will close on Sunday. A large number received holy communion during the week.

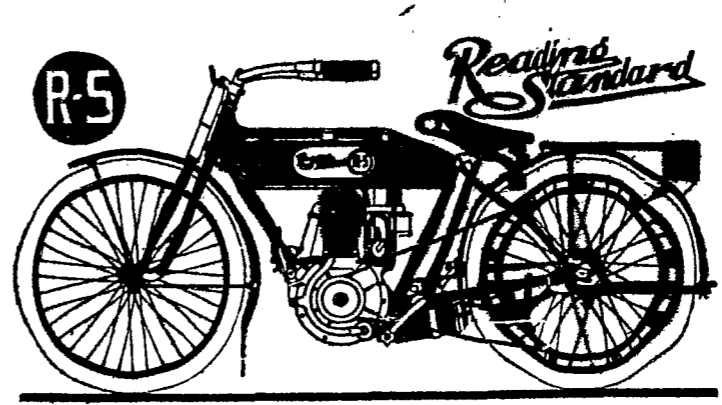
Branch 251, L. C. B. A., will hold their meeting on Wednesday evening. Arrangements are being made to celebrate the 15th anniversary at this meeting.

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