The Catholic Journal

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AT
60 North St., Rochester N. Y.
BY THE
CATHOLIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING COMPANY

If paper is not received Saturday notify the office.
Report without any delay change of address giving both old and new.
Communications solicited from all Catholics accompanied in every instance by the name of the author. Name of contributor withheld if desired.
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Per Year, in Advance $1.00

Entered at second class mail matter

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Friday, July 28 1911

Somewhat Hypocritical

The New York Sun calls attention to the fact that all the ceremonial used in the coronation of King George and Queen Mary breathes Catholicity, beginning with Westminister Abbey, originally a Catholic edifice, down through "altar" "chalice", "anointed holy oil" and so on to the end.

But now listen to the oath taken:

"The Archbishop—Will you to the utmost of your power maintain the laws of God, the true profession of the Gospel, and the Protestant Reformed Religion established by law? And will maintain and preserve inviolably the settlement of the Church of England and the doctrine, worship, discipline and government thereof as by law established in England? And will you preserve unto the Bishops and clergy of England, and to the churches there committed to their charge all such rights and privileges as by law do or shall appertain to them or any of them?

"The King—All this I promise to do."

To be sure, the oath was modified greatly because King George refused to take the olden one. But it need hardly be remarked that in olden days Kings of England were not required to take any such oath. In point of fact, King George is the only Protestant in England who is not permitted to choose his religion for himself!

The Legislature

Probably the general public is as glad as the legislators that the long session of the Legislature has ended, temporarily at least. It has been a long, tiresome session. Possibly, the heated term added to the discomfort of the legislators and to the general lack of public interest in the doings of the Legislature. Very likely the continual harping of the press on "Tammany and Murphy control of the Legislature and Governor Dix" has impelled a measure of popular distrust of the Legislature and a suspicion of its work.

Nevertheless, the Legislature of 1911, has done much work and placed some real constructive legislation upon the statute books. While some of this legislation was of what might be styled a partisan type, it must be recalled that the people last fall voted dissatisfaction with existing laws, conditions and officials and for a change in all three. Much of the 1911 legislation was in fulfillment of the party platform of the dominant party which was indorsed by the popular vote last fall. More of the 1911 legislation was put through to insure the entry into office of officials in sympathy with these platforms and policies. The methods adopted to put through this partisan legislation may have been arbitary but the adherents of the opposite party have pursued identically similar tactics in the past and while two wrongs never make a right in morals, in politics the rule has been construed differently.

If administered honestly by honest officials, the new policy of "conservation of States natural resources" will mark an important epoch in New York State's history as it will add millions of dollars to our material wealth besides furnishing employment to thousands of workmen and helping to diminish our tax burdens.

Up-to-date Eh?

Former President Charles W. Eliot, of Harvard, has formulated what he calls "an up-to-date Declaration of Independence." It follows:

1. The national resources of this country, including the public health, are not to be sacrificed to secure immediate profits to a few individuals or corporations today.

2. More money should be spent on public education, so that new generations may become quick to deduce error.

3. Every citizen in a free state has an inalienable right to that amount of employment which will yield for him and his family a decent livelihood.

4. Every worker has a right to be insured against personal losses due to acute sickness, injuries and old age.

5. Every man has a right to the normal pleasures and employments of life and the leisure to enjoy them.

6. Land and all instruments of production and distribution of products should belong to society as a whole.

7. Every journeyman in one and the same trade should receive the same wages. The hours of labor during a day should be the same in all occupations.

8. Methods of neighborhood buying and selling similar to those now successful in Denmark should be put into practice.

While most of these specifications are general in terms and agreed to as desirable in theory, No. 2 is a queer one. Is the present system of education with its religion-less curriculum likely to train the student to detect error?" Truth is of Divine origin and the student who is taught, by indirection at least, lack of respect for the Diety, is apt to esteem Truth at below par. In fact, he may very easily mistake Error for Truth.

Other demands by Dr. Eliot are not bad in theory but, are unworkable in practice except in small and exclusive communities.

Cowardly

While New York state now has a good law, as far as it goes, to punish husbands who desert their wives and families, in that the offense now constitutes a felony and hence is punishable by a term in State prision we are inclined to think California has a better in that provision is made for the support of the deserted ones. In New York state the deserted wife and family suffer doubly, in the loss of the head of a family and consequent deprivation of his support of those dependent upon him. In California, under its new law, the recreant husband is put at hard labor. While the State keeps him under its surveillance by night his wife receives $1.50 per day for every day her spouse labors for the State.

Why is not this the better way?

Was it a coincidence that adjournment of the Legislature and the cool wave hit up about the same time?

A cable from Nimes, France says:—"For flying the Papal flag on the occasion of a Joan of Arc festival here, the Bishop of Nimes was fined. A youth in the court room who cried 'Long Live the Pope' and 'Long Live the King' was sentenced to one day's imprisonment. "And they do claim France is free a country.

To Retain Friends.

An exchange gives this timely advice:—

A thoughtful, kind answer is is almost omnipotent. It not only makes a friend still more friendly, but it subdues the wildest passion and the deepest prejudice of the greatest enemy. The cowardly become brave under its inspiring influence, and the brave are nerved by it to nobler deeds and mightier exploits. And yet, though it is so soothing, enchanting, and potential, it costs the utterer nothing. This, therefore, is the right way to answer; and were it universally adopted, many a tear would be unshed, many a passion be unprovoked, and many a friend be retained.

Father Bresnihan's paper on the Carnegie Foundation and its plan for pensioning teachers has aroused a great deal of discussion and the end is not yet.

The man who is ready to believe any sort of slander against you is not the sort of a man one wants for a friend. On the other hand, if you are ready to believe any sort of story about your neighbor, you are no great friend of his.

There are still a few among our non-Catholic neighbors who are ready to swallow the old yarn that the Pope is against all personal liberty of Catholics in America. These individuals will be very lonesome before long.

Christian charity is a virtue too often misunderstood and too often honored more in the breach than in the observance.

What a fine record for July? All previous performances in the weather line eclipsed! The record breaker for heat and cold!

Our Democratic brethern do seem a trifle afraid of each other in Rochester, to be sure.

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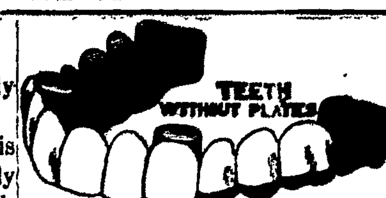

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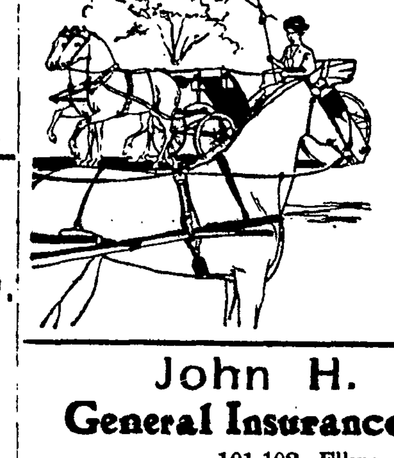
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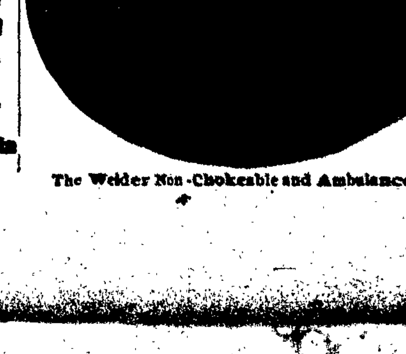
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