

The Catholic Journal

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The First Congress

Fruits of the proposition that a 'Holy Name Congress' of the United States be held in some of the central cities are becoming apparent. According to the 'Holy Name Journal', the first Congress of the organizations is to be held in Baltimore on October 16 and 17.

No 'Soul-Snatching'

Over in Pennsylvania, where the 'blue laws' against anything favoring of Catholic practice are still fairly strenuous, the courts have dealt a body blow to 'soul-snatching' of young children by agents of so-called 'non-sectarian institutions' which are, in reality, non-Catholic affairs.

The St. Vincent de Paul officers procured evidence of the child's birth and baptism in the parish church of the parents, of the funerals of both father and mother from the Catholic church.

legally, but also unnecessary besides being a mere subterfuge. This is a righteous decision and should prove a splendid precedent for future use when bigots try similar tactics as they do very frequently.

Scathing!

Some belated bigot has been circulating in New Orleans a tract containing anti-Jesuit calumnies that are hoary with age. In the course of a recent public address Archbishop Blenk denounced the author of the tract in the following scathing terms: 'Whoever the author of that tract is, I pronounce him to be a monster of iniquity and lying and creator of the most hideous calumny that can be produced. I want to brand him in public, and I assume responsibility for it.'

Bids have been opened for the construction of the proposed magnificent memorial statue to Christopher Columbus on the plaza of the new Union station in Washington. It will cost upwards of \$60,000 and is to be dedicated by the Knights of Columbus in May, 1912.

The Summer school at Cliff Haven appears to be a popular Catholic educational aid.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Alderman of Oregon was the principal speaker at a recent session of the Catholic teachers' institute in Portland. He said very frankly that he regarded the Catholic schools as a very important part of the Oregon educational system.

The date for the next meeting of the Archbishops of the Church in America has been advanced from November to October 15, in order to permit them to take part in the golden jubilee of Cardinal Gibbons.

The first Japanese in America to enter the Jesuit order is Francis Masui, of Spokane, Wash. He left Spokane on July 15 for Los Gatos, Cal., where he will enter the Jesuit novitiate as a lay Brother. Masui was converted in that city six years ago. He is twenty-four years of age and his home is in Japan where his parents reside.

In accordance with the project to celebrate the fourth centenary of the erection of the Diocese of San Juan, Porto Rico, the committee on organization has already initiated the work of restoration of the Cathedral. Extensive repairs are contemplated comprising interior decoration and painting of exterior, installation of a new system of electric light, tiling of parts of the floor and placing of new stained-glass windows.

The American Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia has obtained by purchase the correspondence of the late Dr. John Gilmory Shea, Catholic historian. There are nearly twenty-five hundred letters and documents, which cover a period of fifty years. Comprised in the collection are autographic letters from prelates, priests, and distinguished historians and writers, thus making the correspondence of historical value to the society and enabling it to be helpful in compiling the Catholic chapter in the history of our country.

Be sure and attend Mass while on your vacation.

Father Lessard of St. Ambrose church, Quebec, fainted just after his Bishop had finished dedicating the fine new church edifice which had been erected through the earnest efforts of the zealous priest. He died within the hour.

Woe is His. First—My wife is my boss. I shall not deny.

Second—She maketh me to lie down behind the bed when swell company comes, and she leadeth me behind her up Main street.

Third—She restoreth my pocketbook after she has spent all of its contents for stylish skirts and theater tickets, and she leadeth me up the main aisle at church for her new hat's sake.

Fourth—Yea, though I walk more than half the night through dark rooms with a crying baby I will get no rest, for she is behind me; her broomstick and her hatpin they do everything else but comfort me.

Fifth—She prepareth a cold snack for me, then maketh a bee line for an aid society supper. She anointeth my head with the rolling pin occasionally. My arms runneth over with the bundles before she is half done with her shopping.

Sixth—Surely her dressmaker's and milliner's bills shall follow me all the days of her life, and I will dwell in the house of my wife forever.—Ulrich (Mo.) Herald.

Signaling at Sea. The custom of signaling at sea by means of various colored flags is very ancient, and the method seems to have been brought to a degree of development bordering very closely on perfection.

Many people have been astonished at the length of messages conveyed in a few moments and with the use of but half a dozen flags in various combinations, and when the extent of the language and the complexity of many necessary messages are considered the eighteen flags in the signal flag locker seem very inadequate. However, it must be remembered that the signal code utilizes a sort of shorthand, and many long messages, known to be of frequent occurrence, have been contracted to a single showing of flags to a given combination. The number of flags hoisted when a signal is made never exceeds four. With the eighteen flags of various colors, using four for each signal, no fewer than 78,342 combinations can be made.

An English Ghost. A Westmoreland ghost used to haunt the shores of Windermere where the Lowthers from time immemorial have been lords of the lake—the 'Water of Claife'. One tempestuous night in pre-reformation times a cry was heard across the water by the ferryman at the Nab Inn—'A boat! The ferryman, against all his cronies' persuasions at the Inn, set out. After many hours he reached the Nab again, his boat dragged down by some unseen weight and himself with hair on end, a raving lunatic. Soon he died, and every stormy night his wraith was heard in agitated shrieks across from Claife till at last the resident monk of Furness was sought in his retreat on Ladyholm and persuaded to 'lay' the unhappy spirit, which he duly did. Harriet Martineau and others tell the tale.—London Chronicle.

The Weaker Sex. The young woman had spent a busy day. She had browbeaten fourteen sales people, bullied a floorwalker, argued victoriously with a milliner, laid down the law to a modiste, nipped in the bud a taxi chauffeur's attempt to over-charge her, made a street car conductor stop the car in the middle of a block for her, discharged her maid and engaged another and her wise refusal to allow herself to be imposed upon.

Yet she did not smile that evening when a young man begged 'Let me be your protector through life'—Life.

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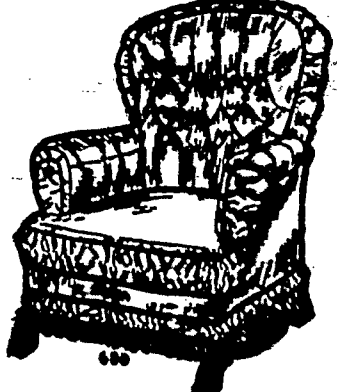
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