

The Catholic Journal

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Friday, Aug. 25, 1911

Schools To Open

In a few days our Catholic schools will reopen for the 1911-12 terms. Our schools do as good work in the purely secular branches of study as do the educational institutions maintained at public expense.

While some of our non-Catholic friends may sneer at our attitude, it is a fact that the maintenance of the Catholic schools depends to the benefit of these same non-Catholics as the Catholic schools are operated at far less per capita of expense per pupil than are the public schools.

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Instead of the Catholic schools coming in for condemnation at the hands of non-Catholics, the latter should be thankful, from merely the monetary standpoint that we choose to maintain our own educational system.

Right Example

One bigoted correspondent of a New York paper, commenting on the refusal of Episcopal clergymen to perform the wedding of John Jacob Astor and his latest girl-affinity, urges that ministers be restrained from performing marriage ceremonies and that that be made legally a purely civil ceremony.

Judge Gibbons is a member of Leo XIII council, Knights of Columbus, and was the first Catholic ever elevated to the bench in Cook county by the Republican party.

Good Logic

A recent court decision, if upheld in higher courts, by the Supreme court of Iowa may have far-reaching effects in future determination of industrial disputes.

The street railway company in Des Moines discharged a conductor in violation of a clause in its contract with employees that none was to be discharged except

after a hearing. A strike was ordered upon refusal of the company to reinstate the discharged man or to give him a hearing. Public opinion favored arbitration but the company refused, saying there was nothing to arbitrate. Then the city authorities took a hand. They appealed to the courts for annulment of the company's franchise on the ground that it was not furnishing the service to the public which the company bound itself to give or forfeit its charter.

This action emphasizes a point often made by the Catholic Journal, this is that there is a third party to all industrial disputes: the public at large and that third party is of paramount importance. It is of little difference, often, to the public what enters into controversy between employer and employee. What the public wants and has a right to demand is service by quasi-public corporations and the public is coming to insist upon its rights.

A True Priest

While there are many who have done likewise, the death of Rev. John A. Wagner, of Phoenixville, Pa., brought to light the fact that during his lifetime the dead priest gave away his entire fortune in private benevolences. At least, \$125,000 is credited to him and how much more never will be known, although as he ever was averse to publicity in his charities.

Some cancelled notes found in his desk shows that Father Wagner gave away \$40,000 in the last year of his life. This did not include his donations of nearly \$20,000 to two Catholic churches in Phoenixville.

During his life, he erected five churches in the various parts of United States at his own expense and this week, according to the desire of the dead priest, though not expressed in his will, the executor, Rev. Anthony Wagner, a brother of Champaign, Ill., turned over to the Catholic Church Extension society a fund large enough for the erection of churches and schools in Baton Rouge, La.; Elk Park, N. C.; Johnson City, Tenn.; Warren, Ark., and Las Vegas, N. M.

Truly, Father Wagner was a true follower of Christ!

Recognized As King

As a sort of protest against the recent decision of the French court of Cassation that it is a crime to display the Papal banner as the flag of a sovereign, several of the French journals have copied from the German official State organ in 1872 the following note:

"On the occasion of the jubilee of the Pope the Emperor of Germany sent to Rome as Ambassador Extraordinary the General Baron Loe, who, addressing His Holiness, said: 'I pray your Holiness to accept these gifts as proof of friendship from sovereign to sovereign.' Some Italian newspapers tried to minimize the act and the words of the Ambassador as devoid of political significance, whereupon the German Government issued the following official note: 'Germany approached the Pope principally because he is King, recognized as such by the Prussian Government, which has accredited an Ambassador near his sacred person. The Emperor approached the Pope as sovereign, a dignity that history and the law of nations recognize in him for centuries.'"

To-day is all we can call our own, so let us live as though it were the last on earth.

It is reported that thirty-six G. A. R. men were killed in a wreck in Manchester Friday.

Now is a good time to subscribe for a Catholic paper:—when the children are re-entering school.

Let us go slow before copying English laws or conditions in the United States.

The Catholic Club of New York has over 1,500 resident and non-resident members. Its library numbers over 35,000 volumes.

Woman and Banking. The cashier of a bank which has many women depositors, in speaking of these customers, said that the stock stories about overdrawing accounts and ignorance as to bank methods had become pointless. Whatever may have been the case before, women give banks no more trouble now than men. "The woman who insists on drawing money when her balance has been exhausted because there are still blank checks in her book has disappeared, and in her place we have a woman who wants interest on her money and who knows what 'call money' means," said the cashier. Referring to the 'old kind,' he added "One day we had a real case. A woman rushed in, said she had just figured up her account and found she was \$500 short. Husband away—no other money—what could she do? She had brought jewelry to leave as collateral security till returned, and then we looked up the quarter and found she had over \$900 to her credit."—New York Tribune

A Dance Without a Smile. They have a singular kind of dance conducted on the greens of country villages in Russia. The dancers stand apart, a knot of young men here, a knot of maidens there, each sex by itself and silent as a crowd of mutes. A piper breaks into a tune. A youth pulls off his cap and challenges his girl with a wave and a bow. If the girl is willing she waves her handkerchief in token of assent. The youth advances, takes a corner of the handkerchief in his hand and leads his lassie round and round. No word is spoken, and no laugh is heard. Still with cords and rib with braids, the girl moves lively by herself, going round and round and never allowing her partner to touch her hand. The pipe goes droning on for hours in the same sad key and measure, and the prize of merit in this "circling," as the dance is called, is given by spectators to the lassie who in all that summer revelry has never spoken and never smiled.

Wanted More Converts. Southey in his life of Wesley relates the following whimsical incident. He states that some of the opponents of these religionists in the excess of zeal against enthusiasm took up a whole wagon load of Methodists and carried them before a justice. When they were asked what these persons had done there was an awkward silence. At last one of the Methodists said, "Why, they pretend to be better than other people, and besides, they pray from morning till night." The magistrate asked if they had done nothing else. "Yes, sir," an old man said. "And please your worship, they have converted my wife. Till she went among them she had such a tongue and now she is as quiet as a lamb." "Carry them back," said the magistrate, "and let them convert all the souls in the town."

Bottomless Tarpon Springs. The great body of water which gave the name to Tarpon Springs, Fla., is classed by all of the old citizens as bottomless. The center appears to be a hole curbed with jagged rocks. Sometimes the weight has lodged and then dropped on to the extent of the sounding line afterward. Many citizens say that they know the depth to be in excess of 700, 800 and 900 feet. Once when a depth of 200 feet was reached an obstruction was encountered, then it was dislodged, dropped on farther, and the line broke. A very heavy weight has to be used on account of the depth, and when divers are sent down in the springs, as they have been recently, they report the same great jagged hole, which, so far as they can find out, is without bottom. The spring is supposed to be the principal outlet of that beautiful Lake Butler which lies just a mile east of the town. Tidewater comes up into the spring, and it has acquired the name because it was the playground of the silvered king of fish, the tarpon.—Manufacturers' Record.

Preferred to Be a Quack. A quack at a fair near Paris was driving a roaring trade selling nostrums, drawing teeth and beguiling the crowd in the usual ways, says the British Medical Journal. The letter of the French law against unqualified practice is very strong, though owing to the indifference of the magistrates it is not strictly carried out. This, however, was a particularly flagrant case, and the police felt compelled to intervene. The quack was therefore accused by the guardians of the law, taken to a tent at the back of his stand and requested to show his diploma. To the stupefaction of the gentlemen he exhibited a perfectly authentic degree of doctor of medicine of the University of Paris. They were profuse in their apologies, which the doctor cut short with an urgent entreaty that they should say nothing about what they had seen, "for," he said, "if the people know that I am a qualified doctor I shall have no more customers."



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The 49th School Year at the Rochester Business Institute Opens Tuesday, September 5th. This School is open all year, like a business house, and practically every week during the entire twelve months some students enter and other graduate.

The annual attendance at the Rochester Business Institute is rapidly approaching the thousand-mark. Last year 721 students enrolled from New York State alone. There were sixteen other States and foreign countries represented.

The R. B. I. office force is a busy one these days, registering students and adjusting courses in advance of the fall term opening. Prospective students are advised to make the preliminary arrangements before September 5th, if possible. Office hours from 8.30 a. m. to 5 p. m. daily, Saturday afternoons excepted. Callers welcomed and waited upon promptly. Where personal interviews are impossible or inconvenient, registrations can be arranged by telephone or correspondence. An extra force of assistants will be on duty September 5th.

There is unusually active demand for R. B. I. graduates for good business positions. Over 90 requests of this kind have been received so far this month, the majority of them coming from Rochester, but New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Providence, Syracuse, and other cities are represented in these August calls. The total number of such requests in 1910 was 1,204. These facts and figures, taken from our employment records, are submitted for the consideration of young men and women of Rochester and vicinity. Call at our office, 5th floor, Y. M. C. A. Building, and we will give further particulars. A postal card will bring our Catalogue in the next mail.

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