

The Catholic Journal

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Catholic Schools

Every Catholic parent should read and ponder well the following extracts from a recent pastoral letter sent out by Bishop Colton, of Buffalo: "Higher education is the rallying point of the Catholic people and it finds an echo everywhere in the opening of academies and colleges, so that it will be only a matter of a few years to see the present number of such institutions doubled and tripled. The Catholic laity are rising in the social scale and the demand is for many an education of the minister (Sir F. Villiers) finer than hitherto. Those who should not allow their children to enjoy the parish school, find their conditions so improved that people of that class see their way clear to give their children the advantages in our academic or high school course, and not a few of these again find it possible to send their boys and girls to the colleges. I beg that every Catholic parent or guardian send his children to the parish school, or to one of our other Catholic academies or colleges. Justice to themselves as well as to their children demands this—then we shall soon see the good results in fine boys and girls and noble young men and women, who in the course of time will bring honor to themselves and to their parents, as well as to our holy faith and the Catholic schools, academies and colleges which educated them."

The Catholic Press

Judging from the reports we have read of the gathering held in Columbus last week in connection with the annual convention of the Federation of Catholic Societies, there is hope that the long promised Catholic Press Association may be an assured fact. Much to our regret, the Catholic Journal was not represented but our sympathies are and will be with the cause. We participated in the formation of the first Catholic Press Association many years ago. Although it did not live long, it did inspire us all with fresh courage to work harder and to improve our service. The new organization promises to build up a Catholic news service—something sadly needed—and also to serve its members with Catholic miscellany and other special features which sounds good. As we said in the beginning, we hope that the new organization will prosper and do all that it has set out to do.

Contemptible

Just an inkling of the contemptible tricks to which the bigoted atheists now in charge of official France is gleamed in this paragraph from an exchange: "The meanest atheistical farce yet enacted in France must be credited to the municipality of Villefontaine. It was on the occasion of the first Communion, not having power for prohibiting this popular celebration, the mayor and his deputy found

nothing better to do than to have all the streets tarred the day previous and as if by chance, the work was begun all around the churches. The following day when the little communicants, all in white, in company with their parents, also dressed in their best, tried to reach the church, it was a disaster. Under their feet the tar spouted and splashed, soiling with dark spots the muslin veils, the satin skirts and the varnished slippers, all those simple elegancies which represented so much work and care and economy"

Shoe Pinches Now

As has been predicted in the Catholic press, the non-Catholics who were so enthusiastic over the new Church policy to be pursued in France and Portugal inasmuch as they supposed it was to be applied solely to the Catholics are not so happy now that the full extent and application of the policy is known. This is proven by the following press dispatch: "A meeting of the English, Protestant, Scotch Presbyterian and Irish Roman Catholic churches in Lisbon, Portugal, to consider a grave and difficult situation which has arisen in connection with the new Portuguese Church law. In the absence through illness of the minister (Sir F. Villiers), Sir G. Gaisford, first secretary, presided. He stated that the reason received from the Portuguese government intimating that from June 20 all the foreign churches would be expected to comply with the new law recently introduced by Dr. Alfonso Costa, Minister of Justice. "Compliance with the measure would mean, among other objectionable innovations, that the financial and other affairs of foreign churches would be placed under the complete control of a Portuguese administrative committee."

President Day is to review the Columbus day parade in Boston on October 12th. The night before, the President will be entertained at a banquet at Hotel Somerset at which 600 covers will be laid. The guests of honor will include, besides President Taft, Governor Foss, Senators Lodge and Crane, the mayors of Boston and other New England cities and the national board of directors of the Knights of Columbus. The line of procession will be headed by more than 1,000 fourth degree knights of Bishop Cheverus assembly of Boston, in full regalia, and with a military band. They will be followed by the fourth degree assemblies of the eastern and western section of Massachusetts. The Knights of Columbus of Mason City, Iowa, have presented a set of the Catholic Encyclopedia to the public library at that place. The burlesque houses are starting in with their gaudy advertisements. Pity that new law does not permit their summary destruction. Let us hope and trust the Caronsburg, Pa., picture show catastrophe will not be repeated in Rochester. There is another A. P. A., office in the United States American Society. Of course, it hates the Catholic Church which will keep right on growing.

Was it the fault of the Associated Press or of the secular press that the press despatches about the Catholic Federation in Columbus were so meager? Call and see our line of fine wedding invitations. Prices reasonable and work first-class. 64 North St.

Men Who Never Urveil. There is a wandering tribe of the Sahara called the Tuaregs, a strange people, supposed by some to have descended from the crusaders and distinguished by the wearing of veils, a custom that has occasioned much discussion. The Tuaregs guard their eyes against the glare of the desert by two veils, one rolled round the temples and falling down in front of the eyes, the other reaching from the nostrils to the edge of the clothing, covering the lower part of the face. All manner of learned arguments have been adduced to explain this custom, but hygiene is obviously the only motive. This is shown by the statements of the Tuaregs themselves and by the sobriquet "mouths for files," which they apply to all who do not wear the veils. It is said that the Tuaregs never remove their veils, even at meal-times. Indeed, they are so much a part of their wearers that any one deprived of such covering is unrecognized by his friends and relatives.

"Losing the Drop." "When a man whips out a gun and gets the drop on you there's nothing else to do but throw up your hands and let him have whatever he wants." "That's where you look, yourself," said the man from the southwest. "If a man has the nerve he can face a gun and get away with it—sometimes. I remember seeing in a border satoon an Englishman pull a gun on a Mexican whom he had caught cheating in a game of cards. "You give me back the money you've won from me or I'll blow your head off." "You will!" said the Mexican, looking calmly into the muzzle of the Englishman's revolver. "Well, you won't do it just now, that gun's not loaded." "What's that?" exclaimed the Englishman, turning the revolver toward himself to look into the chamber. And on the instant the Mexican drew a knife and planted it to the hilt in the Englishman's stomach."—New York Times

A Styrian Peasant Superstition. A lawsuit for libel brought by an apothecary in Pollau, in Styria, against a young peasant reveals an extraordinary superstition prevalent among the country people. They believe that apothecaries and doctors have the right to kill at least one man and one woman every year in order to make medicines out of their bodies. An accidental movement of the apothecary at Pollau, Herr Kobersmaier, when giving medicine to a boy named Pota led the latter to believe he was going to be killed. He ran away, but got such a fright that he fell ill. The inhabitants believed his story and boycotted the apothecary, who was at length compelled to prosecute Pota and was sentenced to fourteen days imprisonment, but his parents, who had signed the suit, were acquitted on the ground that they had acted in good faith.—London Standard

One Use of the Eel. It is difficult to exhaust the uses of the eel. Experts in top-whipping produce a special eel skin so admirable in look and taste as to be no means the only victims thereof. There is that affecting passage in Mr. Peppy's diary "April 24, 1903. Up betimes, and with my salt eel went down in the parlor and there got my boy and did beat him till I was fain to take breath two or three times. Yet for all I am afraid it will make the boy never the better, he is grown so hardened in his tricks, which I am sorry for, he being capable of making a brave man and is a boy that I and my wife love very well." "Salt eel" appears to have been a nautical term for a rope's end, and it is not certain that Peppy's instrument of chastigation was actual eel's skin. But the original "salt eel" laid its mark.—London Chronicle

Wild Parrots Are Fighters. Parrots when in their native wilds live in flocks and guard themselves by a complete police system which enables them to marshal their collective force quickly when any animal or bird attacks one of their number. They seem to be disciplined and trained in fighting together, and all other birds and animals are afraid to attack a parrot unless the bird can be caught alone. Even then a shrill call summons the parrot army to the rescue. It is said that in the forests all parrots die of old age and that none is ever killed by birds of prey or other wild animals.

St. Martin and the Dictionary. St. Martin when he divided his cape with a naked beggar at the gate of Amiens gave also two words to the English language. The oratory in which this torn cape was preserved as a sacred banner acquired the name of "chapel" (from the French "chape"), the custodian being termed "chaplain," and thus our English words "chaplain" and "chaplain" are derived.—Westminster Gazette

Occupation. Let every man be occupied, and occupied in the employment of which his nature is capable, and the with the consciousness that he has done his best.—Sydney Smith

Not Much. Jack—Would you like to live your life over again? Tom—And owe twice as much as I do now. No, sir!—Boston Transcript

More Useful. Brille Elect—What would you have thrown instead of rice? Brutal friend—A few grains of common sense.—Judge

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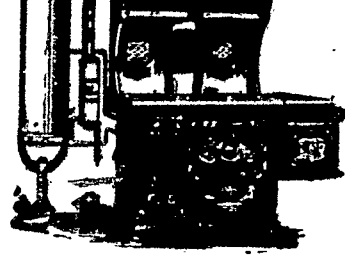
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