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Congratulations

The Catholic Journal extends heartiest congratulations to Rt. Rev. Joseph H. Conroy upon his elevation to be coadjutor bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg. Bishop Conroy was consecrated in the Ogdensburg Cathedral on Wednesday of this week by his Eminence, Cardinal Farley. The sermon was preached by Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Hickey of Rochester, a classmate of Bishop Conroy at the old archdiocesan seminary in Troy, if we mistake not. Fathers Gleeson, O'Neil and other priests of the Rochester Diocese were also with the new Bishop at Troy. If ever an honor was richly deserved, it is that which has come to Mgr. Conroy. He has been a zealous priest ever since his ordination. He has labored earnestly for the salvation of souls, especially among the young members of his flock. His voice and pen have ever been enlisted to uphold our Faith to advance the cause of Holy Mother Church.

For years Father Conroy was a Catholic editor in Ogdensburg. Our acquaintance with him dates back to 1890 when the first convention of Catholic editors was held in Cincinnati. Father Conroy was there and his vigorous personality stamped itself upon the deliberations of the body. Even then he was a marked leader, albeit, one of the most retiring of men.

Long life and still higher honors constitute the wishes of the Catholic Journal for Bishop Conroy.

Good Reading

One of the requisites nowadays for the man or woman, young or old, who would mingle with his fellows is ability to converse intelligently. One must be informed. Not all of us can inform ourselves on current topics at first hand or by personal experience. We must learn second hand, from others or by reading.
If we would be well informed by reading, we must exercise care in what we read. We must be sure our source of information is accurate and correct. Newspapers will not do. They furnish a basis, a smattering of information. To specialize, one must consult magazines bearing on a particular topic or books along that line.
If we would keep abreast of the times in Catholic progress and achievement, if we want to be well informed on matters pertaining to our Faith and Church, and who does not? the daily press will not suffice. It is general in its scope, not specific. To obtain accurate information and knowledge of Catholic matters one must consult Catholic books must read Catholic papers and magazines. This is absolutely essential in these days when so much interest is taken in Catholic matters and even in non-Catholic circles at that. The Catholic cannot afford to be a dummerhead. He must read his own papers and magazines and books.

A Plain Lesson

From the mass of conflicting testimony given before the Senate committee which is investigating the Titanic disaster, certain facts stand forth clearly. They are:—

1. That the Titanic carried lifeboats sufficient to accommodate not one third of the passengers carried.
2. That the lookouts were not provided with marine glasses.
3. That the wireless system should be under the jurisdiction, exclusively of the Federal Government.
4. That wireless operators held back the news until they could sell it for profit to themselves and to the wireless company.

In explanation of point No. 1, it is stated the Titanic carried the requisite number of lifeboats required by British laws. This number was fixed years ago when ships were smaller and has not been changed with the advent of the big transatlantic floating palaces. The law should be amended at once and doubtless will be.

The other points, possibly, cannot be covered without joint action by the United States and Great Britain, but it seems probable that the United States Government can enact laws forbidding the clearance of ships from American ports that are not provided with life saving accommodations sufficient to care for every passenger booked for passage. We cannot afford to take any chances when human life is at stake. Perhaps, another Titanic disaster will not occur in many years, but there is no guarantee that it will not. And it is always easier to prevent than cure.

Disgusting

The spectacle now presented of a former president of the Republic and the incumbent of the office touring the country breathing accusation insinuation and invective against each other would be amusing were it not so serious. The spectacle is no longer an interchange of compliments and otherwise between the two principals. It is a national disgrace. The president of the United States, in his eagerness to succeed himself for another term, has entered the arena to exchange billingsgate with one of the cleverest and most unscrupulous word-painters the country has ever produced. Mr. Roosevelt has evidently decided to throw dignity to the winds. Is it necessary, is it decent, for the President to descend to the same level? Must the Presidency of the country be degraded just to satisfy politicians who are behind Mr. Taft in the campaign for renomination?

We are told that President Taft was compelled to take the course he has taken. Who compelled him? In our judgment, he would have done better to maintain dignified silence and left his defense to other members of his party. The people would have taken care of Mr. Roosevelt. And it is the people who will have the last say in any event.
We do not believe the American people relish the spectacle of their President bandying billingsgate in the hustlings.

Is it to be spring now, or must we wait?

Were it not for the Catholic Church Socialism would be far more aggressive than it is.

The month of May is peculiarly our Lady's season. May is one of the joyous seasons of the Blessed Mother.

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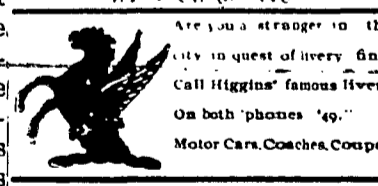
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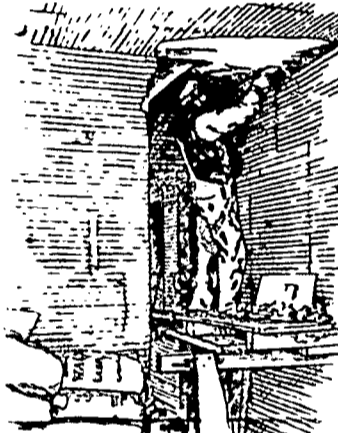


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