

The Catholic Journal

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Friday July 18, 1913.

No Vacations

For the last six weeks one has read in the daily press items like the following:—Rev. Mr. Blank has left for Maine to enjoy his annual vacation.

Occasionally, the item is varied by the announcement that Blank church will be closed for a few weeks and then that, during the absence of the pastor, services will be held under the direction of a supply or by laymen.

Needless to say, none of these announcements refer to Catholic priests or churches. Sometimes the pastor has a brief vacation, but even then the church is not closed and services are not suspended.

It is this fact that, in part, accounts for the great hold on the masses had by the Catholic church. It realizes that the soul must be cared for just as much in the hot summer months as in spring, fall and winter.

The Catholic Church never takes a vacation any more than Satan never relaxes his war upon religion.

Mercenary

If there is one set of persons more than another who are to be despised it is the mercenary wretches who are willing to sell their pen and brains for a price.

A writer in the Boston Pilot well characterizes this type when he says—

"When religious prejudice was a creed; when party spirit was hot, it was only natural that men were carried away by hate and obstinate dislike, and believed anything against the enemy. To-day both are anachronism, yet for a paltry wage certain writers pander to the appetites of the ignorant and unthinking. And they do it, knowing that they are not telling the truth.

So the posing and grimacing go on from day to day. Men write magazine articles and books for this side or that, exactly as a contractor builds a house without care of the use to which it will be put when finished.

other books that flatly contradict what they have written before, and all this without regard to the truth defamed, the characters smirched or the harm done.

The only line to take concerning all this trash is to pass it over in silent disgust. There is one thing against which honest people everywhere should be on their guard, the menace of hired and conscienceless scribblers. No matter how many degrees they write after their names, or the wide advertising a sensational press gives them, or the blatant effrontery of their very pose; they are mercenaries and their word is worth no more than the promises printed as cure-all, or the ante-election bombast of a demagogue.

Despicable.

Both at Washington and Albany have we been reading for the last month or so about almost incredible depths of human infamy. The Mulhall tale described how he and others corrupted legislators, or claimed they did, how trusted labor leaders were said to have betrayed their colleagues and benefactors for a price. It develops that Mulhall sold his infamous revelations to a great New York newspaper which is playing them up in first page scare heads in a frenzied effort to blacken the reputations of all national legislators.

The Albany tale is also replete with blackmail. While one is impelled to concede that Justice Cohalan has not handled himself with all the delicacy inherent in a man who is chosen to sit upon the Supreme court bench nevertheless his accuser stands revealed as such a contemptible character, such a specimen blackmailer, such a despicable person, that the justice's conduct is greatly mitigated. It is extremely doubtful if even an indictment, let alone a conviction by a trial jury ever would have been found against Daniel F. Cohalan upon the testimony taken before the judiciary committee of the New York state legislature.

And then, it develops that the same paper which bought and printed the Mulhall stuff purchased the story against Justice Cohalan and agreed to retain its author in a sort of mythical employment for three years if he made the charges strong enough. Evidently Joseph Pulitzer's heirs are not as shrewd business men or newspaper men as was their parent. Are we to regard these latest exhibitions as specimens of the average journalism which is to be turned out by the Pulitzer College of Journalism?

It is not considered good form to criticize a host's hospitality while still in the latter's home. That is all we have to say of Thomas B. Mill's criticism of Rochester's treatment of last week's convention.

This city is not likely to welcome many big conventions for the next year or so unless their sponsors do as was done by the Knights of Columbus when they raised every penny needed for their state Council within the confines of their own membership.

The Canadian census shows that the membership of the Catholic Church in the Dominion is greater than that of all other denominations.

Evidently, there are still improvements which should be made in the service of the Rochester Railway Company.

What has become of the direct primary flurry? Has it passed entirely?

Bishop McQuaid was consecrated the first bishop of Rochester July 12, 1868.

Does your neighbor subscribe for the Catholic Journal? If not ask him to take it.

Waste

A Sunday magazine the other day printed an instructive object lesson in the cost of high living. It purports to detail the enormous amount of money which American transatlantic globe trotters pour into the coffers of steamship companies, foreign hotels, foreign railroads, foreign curio fakirs, waiters, porters, cabmen and so on. The total reaches the vast amount of \$500,000,000 a year!

Just think it over and figure out if this vast sum does not account for some of the cost of high living in the United States. Those who spend this sum must get it somewhere. It comes from profits, receipts rather, from trade or revenue from investments. In order for these yearly runs abroad of the spenders of half a billion dollars each year, prices have to be boosted. Were all that money withheld from foreign circulation; it is possible that the spenders thereof would not be so greedy for profits and prices might not be inflated "out of sight," as the slang phrase has it, at least so far out that the average citizen might be able to reach them.

If prices were not boosted so high, it is within the bounds of imagination that larger expenditures might result with corresponding benefit to more persons than now enjoy them. Also such a condition might very well spell better feeling all around and help as well to tone down the feeling of resentment abroad toward holders of great wealth who make too lavish a display thereof and flaunt the evidence of their prosperity unblushingly in the faces of their less fortunate fellows.

Instead of pensioning dependent widowed mothers the city of Havre, France, has recently opened an apartment house for them. Some old buildings were rearranged so as to provide sixteen three room apartments with running water, gas, toilet rooms and laundry. A widow is permitted to occupy an apartment for 90 cents a month until her financial condition improves or until some more needy widow applies for it.

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