

The Catholic Journal

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Good Work

Probably, the week of Decem-
ber 8th-13th, 1913, will go down
into history of New York state as
one of the most important in half
a century. For, in those seven
days, the State Legislature made
sweeping changes in the funda-
mental law of the state in many
respects and paved the way to
many more.
In four days, the Legislature
swept away the time-honored
system of making nominations by
convention and substituted there-
for a plan of nominations direct-
ly by enrolled party voters. It
also abolished the present form of
ballot whereby the voter who
wished might make one cross
mark in the circle under the em-
blem of his chosen political party
and thereby indicate his vote for
every one of the party's candi-
dates. Under the new plan, each
voter must indicate by a mark
before each and every candidate
which he casts his vote for. The
Legislature has also made it pos-
sible for the state constitution to
be changed entirely in a constitu-
tional convention to be held in
April, 1915. Hereafter United
States senators will be nominated
directly and elected by popular
vote. And, last but not least, the
Legislature has placed in the
statute law of the state a compul-
sory system by which all injured
employees are assured of suitable
compensation without the aid of
a lawyer or the intervention of
court or jury. The State will make
the awards and make payments
to injured employees, if living,
to their dependents until they
are able to provide for them-
selves.
These are important laws.
They were passed by a Legisla-
ture in which Catholics figure
largely in membership and are or
will be approved by a Catholic
Governor, the first in New York
state since Thomas Dongan, of
the colonial days.
Surely, the charge that Cath-
olics are reactionary or opposed
to the rights and rule of the peo-
ple cannot lie in New York state.

He Has A Heart.

Martin H. Glynn, now gover-
nor of New York state, has long
been known as a man of intellect
but he had not been suspected of
surplus of sentiment. In this he
has been misjudged.
When the legislature had ad-
journed on Friday after putting
through the progressive platform
which he had outlined, the gov-
ernor told the senators and as-
semblymen that he felt prouder
of helping to pass an adequate
workmen's compensation law
than of achieving success with
his political programme. "I am
proud that we have said to the
toilers that, if they are injured
in their hazardous occupations,
they and theirs will not have to
look forward to Charity's dole or
to the public almshouse or hos-
pital. But they will be paid their
just recompense, without inter-
vention of lawyer or payment of
fee to any intermediary party.
That is one of the greatest

achievements a New York state
Legislature has to its credit. It is
as important as Lincoln's eman-
cipation of the slaves."

These are the words of a man
with a heart, of a man whose
sympathy is with the toilers, of
whom there are so many and who
are really, the bone and sinew
of the American Republic.

May Governor Glynn be per-
mitted to achieve still greater
things for humanity and society!

The Catholic Paper

Writing to the New Jersey
Federation of Holy Name Soci-
eties, Rt. Rev. John A. Sheppard,
makes this stirring plea for sup-
port of a strong Catholic press:
"Now, then, as loyal children,
let me say to you, that there is
one subject dear to that of Pope
Pius X's heart and that is Cath-
olic journalism. What, therefore,
more pleasing to him than to
have the Holy Name societies
spend some of their energies in
endeavoring to put some good
Catholic paper into the home of
Catholic families?"

"The Holy See has felt the re-
viling of the press abroad, and
European countries have suffer-
ed very materially from an athe-
istic, immoral and anti-Catholic
press. Thanks to God, we cannot
say the same of these United
States. The press, as a rule, has
been fair to us in what it publish-
es, but we find fault with it for
what it does not publish. Just at
present fourteen or fifteen pa-
pers in this country, with all the
hatred born of the evil power
of darkness, misrepresent and
malign us, as citizens of this
great country. The Catholic press
and our hierarchy are powerless
without the assistance of the laity
to stem the torrent of invective
and calumny.

"When next, therefore, you
assemble as a diocesan federation,
let me ask you, as your president,
to take this matter up seriously
and earnestly and devise some
means by which we can send
afloat a Catholic paper worthy of
the name among the homes of
the 65,000 that make up the
grandest of organizations, one
which stands for clean-fongues,
clean lives and clean homes, and
thus bring joy to the heart of
your good bishop, who has recom-
mended so many times the
necessity of a Catholic paper in
Catholic homes."

Truly, this is a fitting work for
the Catholic laity of every diocese
in the United States!

Down in Lynn, Mass., they
have a preacher named Sailer
who should be on the Menace
staff. He read to his congrega-
tion a lot of rot the other night
which he asserted was the oath
of the Knights of Columbus and
then declared his life was in dan-
ger for reading it. Perhaps, he
will be told that the Knights
take no such oath but that is all
the danger he will encounter. In-
asmuch as Rev. Mr. Sailer never
will admit his mistake, perhaps
he might as well be left alone.

Must be that the Lynn School
Board has not heard just how
non-sectarian the Y. M. C. A. is,
because the society has been per-
mitted to canvass the public
schools for membership, anyhow,
whether the Y. M. C. A. is sectar-
ian or not, the public schools
should not be used as a feeding
ground for it or any other society.

If Tolman, the loan shark, does
serve six months in jail, he may
see fit to cease his evil calling.

If Catholic men and women
withdraw their support from the
theater which permits a filthy
play to appear that would go a
considerable way toward discour-
aging such plays.

By the way, why should we
Catholics in Rochester not have
a city-wide institution similar in
character and scope to the Y. M.
C. A.?

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