

# The Catholic Journal

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### Our Duty

Sometimes men are scrupulously observant as to what might be styled their "private duty." They are personally honest, would not wrong a fellow-being personally, do their personal duty as a Church member and as a parent toward their own children.

But these same men, when in business partnership, as an officer of a corporation, as a member of society at large appear to forget that they owe a public duty to their fellow-beings and to society at large. While they would scorn to do a dishonest act personally they do not appear to see it is just as dishonest to sanction a crooked business deal in conjunction with their partners.

While they are punctilious in their anxiety about the moral welfare of their own children, they appear to think they have no responsibility for the moral welfare of their employees and do not see the possible moral harm of starvation wages. They do not appear to see that it is their public duty to fight, to suppress indecent dances or license in the drama. They don't appear to realize that their public example may have far greater influence for good or evil than the most blameless and upright private life.

In these halting terms we have tried to convey the difference between "private" and "public duty." Private duty conscientiously performed is commendable. Private and public duty both conscientiously performed, in our opinion, is of greater importance, both to him who does the community at large.

### Rise to the Occasion!

There is a great opportunity before the State Legislature of 1914. The Assembly is republican in political complexion while the Senate is democratic. A Democratic governor presides over the executive Chamber. It is apparent that, with such a divided political control no purely partisan legislation can be enacted. This being so if the legislature leaders and individual legislators are inspired by the proper civic spirit, the opportunity presents itself of which we speak.

It is apparent that while state needs have increased as the state's population increases, state expenditures have increased in such greater proportion as almost to style them state extravagances. Indeed, there is grave

doubt whether the higher priced state officials render to the state value received in as great ratio as do the lower-salaried subordinate employees. Many of us are forced to the opinion that there are \$10,000 a year men in the state service who are woefully overpaid while many a \$1,000 a year man is notoriously underpaid.

There is at least room for suspicion that not all state contracts represent value received to the state. While, perhaps, the state has not been robbed in all cases, the impartial observer cannot withhold the opinion that the distinction between "honest graft" and plain, every day graft, is not easily distinguishable.

These things being so, let the legislators put aside partisanship and strive their level best to serve the state in the highest sense and to so legislate that graft and extravagance and sinecures may be abolished.

### Our Part In It

There is a wave passing over our land of what might be called "collective minding of everybody's business." Organizations of all sorts are springing up. One aims to tell housewives how to run their homes. Another tells them how to buy supplies. Another tells them how to vote on election day, another is formed to systematize charity and to prevent fraud in almsgiving. In brief there are organizations afloat for collective minding of everybody's business—whether they want it or not.

Some conservative persons pooh-pooh this corporate activity as unnecessary, unwarranted and a needless infringement upon private rights and an invasion of the prerogatives of manhood to sit by their own fireside and manage their own concerns. If they make a mistake it is their own business and they think they are as likely to be right as their collectively organized brethren. Others of us perceive that these organizations furnish an outlet for superfluous energy and, incidentally provide advertising and livelihood for the organizers, promoters and agents of these organizations and hence their self-interest is apparent.

Nevertheless, these activities are abroad. Now, the question is: should the level-headed men take part in them and try to "keep them on earth" so to speak and discourage so far as we may moonlight fancies and balloon ascensions which may result in expensive and disastrous consequences?

The New York "Sun" is ex-coriating and dissecting Norman Haggood, the nondescript editor of "Harper's Weekly." We wonder how it was that Robert J. Collier, a supposed Catholic, could keep such a fellow as Haggood as long as he did around him. Since Haggood's advent Harper's Weekly has deteriorated rapidly.

Ethan Allen was a notorious infidel. His daughter became a convert and was the first daughter of Puritan New England to enter a cloister.

"Our common and high schools are dismal failures. Accuracy is not taught in the schools and accuracy is the main essential to success." These words are not from a Catholic critic of the public schools. They were uttered by James J. Hill, non-Catholic railway magnate.

Men low enough to slander defenseless nuns would lie, steal, commit murder and treason.

Remember that it costs money to publish a newspaper and if your subscription is in arrears the heart of the publisher will be gladdened if you remit the amount due promptly.

The fire destroyed Mt. Alverno Protectors Chapel, Cincinnati, will be rebuilt at a cost of \$20,000. Funds are assured.

If you ever get a cool million freeze to it

Some people mistake notoriety for fame.

Only very young men understand women.

The man who lingers at first base will never make a home run

There is no very good way to utilize the lost motion in earthquakes

A French scientist advocates ultraviolet rays as a digestor. Why not chew?

Many a man goes through life seeking the truth who can't tell it when he finds it.

The idea of restoring clubbing seems to have struck the Gotham gangsters painfully.

Learn to place a limit on your expectations; thus you will avoid much disappointment

Good roads help to religion, says the governor of Michigan. Prevent swearing at the jolts

A man is satisfied when he is happy. A woman is satisfied when her children are happy.

The sociologists have proved that the convicts of the country do not like the jail accommodations.

Somebody has invented a new dance called the Swiss movement. It will probably bear watching

The only man who thoroughly understands the income tax is the one whose income is less than \$3,000

Lord Northwick has just paid \$5,000 for a flea, an item that should make some dogs awfully important

Mail swindlers have cost the country \$129,000,000 in the last two years, and they were not worth the price.

One puzzle connected with hoopskirts is how men and women of the good old days ever danced in the clinches.

The latest discovery of George Washington as a tax dodger is going to make havoc of the famous cherry tree episode.

Switzerland has sent \$20,000,000 worth of cheese to this country in ten months, of which \$10,000,000 worth was in holes.

An investigation will convince you that you are worrying about the same things that worried you three, four or five years ago

It is hard to tell which is making the most noise in the world at present—the industrial situation, the war in Mexico or the tango

Maybe twenty-five years hence there will be a piece in the paper about some good old lady who has just taken her first ride in an aeroplane.

What will Pullman employees do with pensions? Anybody who has been twenty years in the service can start a pension bureau of his own

It is strange that frowns should be worn by some people who could not possibly be induced to wear anything else that did not become them

Former President Taft has to have thirty-five suits of clothes re-fitted since he has lost eighty pounds. College professors always have been underpaid

Music is declared to have odors. It was endowed with colors long ago. Most of us will be satisfied to believe that it smells pretty well some times

Now that the parcel post weight limit has been increased to fifty pounds it will be possible for our fishermen to ship home some of the large fish they tell about.

The phonograph undoubtedly has done a great deal to create a popular taste for good music. But it must be admitted that a great deal still remains to be done.

A course in horseshoeing is to be taught at a prominent New York college. What a real progressive college needs is a course to make every man his own chauffeur

A London doctor claims to have discovered a cure for love-sickness. That will be like these anti-habit remedies—hard to market because the patient prefers the disease

All the present women's fashions, we learn from a snifty scientist, are really 4,000 years old. But the fashion of scorning "these stupid days" is considerably older than that.

Queen Mary has vindicated her royal right to carry an umbrella into a museum. In spite of door rules to the contrary. But will her subjects be equally lucky if they try it?

Conceit loses a man more friends and gains him more enemies than any other foible, perhaps vice, in the world. It makes him harsh to his inferiors and disrespectful to his betters.

Statistics show that in applications for adoption girl babies are greatly preferred to boys. Another instance of the inroads that modern feminism is making on the alleged dominant sex.



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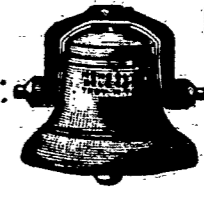
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