

The Catholic Journal

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AT 64 North St., Rochester, N.Y. BY THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING COMPANY

Subscription rates: For Year, In Advance \$1.00. Entered at second class mail matter. ROCHESTER TELEPHONE 2825. BELL TELEPHONE MAIN 1897. Friday August 14, 1914.

Let There Be Peace!

Like a thunderbolt out of a clear sky, came the sudden decision of the great Powers of Europe to wage war upon each other, in total disregard of their previous vehement declarations of the most intense desire to promote and continue and foster world-wide peace.

It is difficult for the average person to understand why the German emperor decided to wage war upon France, but may it not be that he foresaw the inroads made in Germany by the Socialists presaged an infidel republic in Germany akin to that in France and so precipitated war that the German and Austrian empires might be preserved?

But whatever the reason, it is a heartrending spectacle to see supposedly sensible human beings—Christian men, too, for the most part—at one another's throats over some trifling indignity which would seem possible of solution or arbitration inside of two hours. We have always felt that American intervention in Mexico because of a fancied insult to our flag was beneath the dignity of a great Nation. And we say and reiterate. Let there be peace!

Sympathy.

The heartfelt sympathy of the entire country goes out to President Wilson in the crushing bereavement he has sustained in the death of his loved helpmate. It would seem as if the Chief Executive had had enough to bear in these troubled economic conditions, the Mexican difficulty and the European war, without the addition of this latest affliction.

But an all-wise God has decreed otherwise and He doeth all things well, however clouded the path may appear to us. The latest affliction of the President is intended to teach some needed lesson and, in the end, it will make for good.

Nevertheless, our hearts go out in pity to the silent, forceful man who we have elected as our President, in this his most trying hour of sorrow.

Lesson For All.

In his annual address to the national Council of the Knights of Columbus, Supreme Knight, James A. Flaherty said these words which are equally applicable to every Catholic layman as to the Knights:

We have taken from the shoulders of the clergy the burden of many things for which the layman alone is responsible, but to which the clergy have unstintingly devoted their time and attention in the past.

As we build up our usefulness, we must expect to increase our membership, that our influence may be extended in behalf of truth, of faith, and of justice. To preach good is not sufficient; it must be made to succeed amongst men.

The time is ripe for the extension of our work. The public mind is more keen, alert and receptive today than ever before in our history. We cannot lag behind in the duty of enlightenment.

We must expect to meet and challenge the slander of enemies of our order and of our faith whose edge is sharper than the sword, and whose tongues outrun all the worms of Nile. Their weapons are the poisoned arrows of insinuation, shot from ambush, but they must be answered. Religion will ever triumph over these enemies of truth, and society, but we cannot remain prone and silent under their attacks.

Condemned

If the Texas Catholic Federation is to be believed, Carranza and Villa, the Mexican leaders who are trusted by President Wilson and Secretary Bryan, are conscienceless scoundrels who respect neither God, nor man nor neighbor. Especially are they persecuting the Catholic priesthood and the Catholic Church. Upon this point our Texas brothers say:

As Christians we must condemn the persecution of that institution which gave genuine civilization to the world. As citizens of this republic, we have to protest against our government allying itself with a second Attila. The first amendment of the constitution forbids congress to establish any state religion. Is the administration not violating this amendment when it uses the prestige and military power of the country to force anti-clericalism and infidelity on a Christian nation?

At any rate, regard for the manifold blessings of Christianity, pity for a bleeding and mangled nation, consideration for the laws of civilized warfare, and a sense of human decency demand that this great and glorious nation cease as soon as possible to give support to savage hordes whom a blundering, visionary policy has made all our allies and who have murdered, burned, pillaged, plundered, stolen and ravished with Uncle Sam's implicit approval!

Good Words

Rev. Dr. Dan Bradley, in a recent sermon in Grand Rapids, Mich, according to the secular "News" of that city thus rebuked those who would slander the Catholic Church:

"Let us realize that, while our own views seem to us right and true—other men look at truth from different angles and God seems to allow them to do it. He must be willing to fulfill Himself in many ways. Let us be glad of our liberty—our freedom to think—and let us come into closer relations with all our brethren.

The federation of churches has pointed the way to getting people together who differ tremendously, yet who are in unison for a Christian faith and decent morals. The time ought to come when such a federation will include Catholic churches—and thus we shall learn to work together for religion and morals and the benefit of all the people. We sing Catholic hymns, we go to see the Catholic passion play, we admire James A. Flaherty said these Catholic architecture and Catholic pictures. Let us be plain. Especially, let us love our Catholic neighbors, see the good qualities they have, live happily and kindly with them, and so hasten the time when all Christians shall be one in the kingdom of Jesus Christ."

Brave words and kind words from one of opposite faith!

The centenary of the first mass said in Utica was duly observed on August 6th. Archbishop Bonzano, Papal Delegate, was the celebrant of Pontifical High mass.

To believe that a task is impossible to make it so.

When a wise chap sees an opportunity he seizes it.

After all, what new fact does a hunger strike prove?

Wisdom is merely what other people don't know and we do.

It is very difficult to become well rested from doing nothing.

More things come to those who are too busy to wait for them.

Navy deserters are no longer to be incarcerated. Simply canned.

The breach of promise suit is the original first aid to the injured.

The price of silence isn't paid as often as the price of too much talk.

It is fool blunders that make most men wise, but it takes a long time.

It is better to look pleasant even if the smile is not more than skin deep.

Some people can't stand prosperity, but the majority don't get a chance to try.

It is quite possible for a man to be shortsighted without being near-sighted.

The self made man can seldom learn to wear a monocle with the proper abandon.

Greece is so uncivilized that it punishes citizens who criticize the street car service.

Occasionally it looks as though some persons were desirous of cultivating unhappiness.

Bribe takers are put to death in China. The new republic is still crude in its civilization.

Luck is what enables a man to jump from the frying pan into the fire and put the fire out.

Many of us reach the door of success, but it isn't every fellow who can find the keyhole.

The members of the St. Louis family found sleeping in a cemetery have no fear of ghosts.

What has become of the Belgian heroes that were going to cut down the high cost of meat?

You may train a lion to eat out of your hand, but there is no telling when he will eat the hand.

In looking out for a rainy day it seems to be the policy of some men to save up another chap's umbrella.

It must be admitted that as a means of cheering up the home the phonograph has the dictograph beaten by a large margin.

Speaking of the risks that policemen run, a Brooklyn policeman who stopped a runaway was kissed by half a dozen women.

Before a man is allowed to take the steering wheel of an automobile it ought to be certain that he has no wheels in his head.

The United States bill for diamonds the last decade has been just about enough to buy and build the Panama canal. How much did you contribute?

Although yawning is said to be good for the health, that doesn't make the young man who stays till midnight any more acceptable as a eugenic candidate.

There is a medical authority who believes that man's internal organs can be patched or replaced with rubber. Maybe he can be fed then with a bicycle pump.

The one-time when a Frenchman gets a chance to talk as long as he wants to and say anything he pleases is when he is a witness in a celebrated murder trial.

A fond admirer calls the prince of Monaco the greatest philosopher in the world. Fortunately he has a good business on the side to help him support the title.

An English jeweler has invented a radium watch that will run 30,000 years—that is, unless some other jeweler looks it over and decides that it needs cleaning.

What won't they do for publicity nowadays? An actress smoked ten cigarettes in a New York hotel lobby the other day and received columns of slanted advertising.

A St. Louis woman wants a divorce because her husband complained about her coffee. We were going to say she had "grounds for divorce," but we won't. It's too old.

The American Dental association announces that painless dentistry is soon to become an actual reality. Having a tooth plugged will then be about as painful as getting a shave.

The fourth and fifth years of married life are said to be most prolific of divorces. Yep, a good many couples become so indifferent by that time that they don't care much one way or the other.

About the cheapest thing in the world is happiness, but lots of rich people can't afford it.

If there wasn't so much mis-placed confidence there would be fewer breaches of promise suits.

Much discontent comes of planning how to spend money that one hasn't and which is not in sight.

The film companies are now so well supplied that Mexico may not be asked to make any more war for them.

When a knife blade loses its temper it becomes dull, but when a woman loses hers she becomes cutting.

It seems to be a popular season for women accused of murder. Does this mean a newer form of sex equality?

There is one talent that is common to all humanity, and that is the one for doing something foolish from time to time.

There are but two really great disappointments in life. One is not getting what you want and the other is getting it.

The promptness with which an uprising was squelched in Lima indicates that the Peruvian bark is worse than its bite.

The literary man or artist who was once easily identified by his tortoise shell glasses would now pass unnoticed at a chauffeurs' ball.

London has a school to train nurses that care for dogs. They should be well paid, as there is no chance for marriage with a rich convalescent.

The Society For the Suppression of Unnecessary Noise would be doing still more for New York's nerves could it only save the time its name takes.

A big wheat crop combined with a scarcity in the meat supply may mean that the ratio of ham to bread in a sandwich is to be further decreased.

It is a waste of time to attempt to get a girl to take any vital interest in the woman question until she has settled the man question one way or another.

The sacredness of sex is in the domain of psychology, not physiology, writes a trained nurse. Nothing like expert testimony on these mooted points.

A pair of Chinese vases enameled with prunes sold at Christie's, in London, for \$10,000. As the prunes were on the outside boarding house rates remain unchanged.

Absolute happiness may be impossible in this world, but the little pickaninny who was locked in a freight car with a load of watermelons for three days came mighty close to it.

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