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The Necessity of Parental Responsibility.

Important Matter Deserving of Especial Emphasis.

Its Vital Connection with the Prevention of Vice.

In our public prints and in our many recent vice investigations, poverty and the lures of the "white slaver" have been proclaimed as the principal causes of the downfall of young girls at the present day. That these two factors have played a prominent part in the ruin of many women cannot at all be doubted. It can be readily understood that a girl working for miserably low wages, allowing to her not even the bare necessities of life, much less many of the little luxuries which she craves, eking out her existence in distressing fashion, would be weakened amid the whirl and pressure of daily life. It can also be realized how a girl fallen at one time would be likely to yield to a sense of despair and consider the rest of her life as lost to normal, decent existence.

But beyond and beneath these factors, which it must be said have been greatly overstressed, there are other fundamental considerations which play a great part in our modern life in the weakening of the moral fiber of our youths and maidens. Perhaps the most important one of all is the lessened feeling of responsibility on the part of parents. "The age of obedient parents" has our time been called. The age of neglectful parents, it might likewise well be named. Our people in great numbers seek today to avoid the obligations of parenthood in the first place by the limitation of offspring and then by paying but slight attention to the training of those children which are theirs. To shirk responsibility is the predominant characteristic of the time.

As strikingly illustrative of this important fact is the testimony of a keeper of a public dance hall before the Illinois Senate Vice Committee is deserving of quotation. It appears on page 550 of that Committee's report. The Chairman of the Committee put to the witness the following question: "Is it your opinion that low wages have anything to do with the vice problem?" His answer was: "Yes, sure, I think so, but that isn't all. The trouble is that it is the folks at home that ought to keep that girl under supervision until she is at least eighteen years old. But the trouble is nowadays that it is the high living that 80 per cent of the people want. They want something that is just a little bit spicier. They don't probably allow, a lot of them don't want very much, but they want to see it. A lot of these girls if they got a new dress, they feel that they can go a little bit further than they used to go with their small wages."

And then the important point is emphasized. "And," he continued, "there is another line; it is a great deal of trouble to cater in a hall to girls that have been brought up in the wrong light. You take today, look at the young girls that associate with boys that are wiser than they were in my time when I went to school." "There is one thing we ought to do in this country: to have some means of inducing families to take care of children."

That is an eloquent statement; that what we need is "some means of inducing families to take care of children." It strikes the important point very emphatically and effectively. Parents must realize the duty which is theirs to watch over their children's conduct and to carefully supervise the choice of their children's companions. That this can be carried out on an unreasonable extreme will of course readily be granted. But there is very little danger of the existence of this extreme in our country at the present day. The danger, a most important one, lies entirely in the opposite way: that our parents, by their own selfishness and love of indolent pleasure, by the ease with which they dissolve the family

ties, and by their utter neglect of their offspring, prepare the way for that offspring's moral ruination.

Surely it is time that something be done in this regard. Surely it is time that our men in public life should emphasize the necessity of a return to a sense of responsibility. And the basic fact which will lead to this phenomenon is the return of religion to the people. Without it they are drifting into perilous ways. With it they will be able to meet in the proper manner the complex problems of our modern life, not the least of which is the problem of wide-spread sexual vice.

C. B. of C. V.

The Torments of Fear.

How many useless torments are ours because of fear! Looking back over my own life I can see that most of my sufferings were due to fears, and that they were all, every one of them, both useless and poison.

Of all the demons that ride poor mortals, fear is the most malicious. What a world of senseless fears we harbor!

There are fears of sickness and of health, fears of going to the poorhouse, fears for our own abilities and success, fears for the loyalty of those that love us, fears for the future of our children, fears for this world and of the next!

And not one of them has done us good. When misfortune did come, our fears had unnerved us and we were ill prepared to meet it.

I remember when I was a little boy I was told the most dreadful stories about the end of the world. These tales worked upon my imagination so that I was in a continued fever of apprehension. Every morning I used to get up from bed and look out of the window to see if it was hailing, fire, and brimstone, yet it seems silly enough now, but it was very real then, and I suffered all a child could suffer.

One's mind, directed by these thoughts, turns also to that theater of war in Europe, where the nations are engaged in the monstrous sacrifice of unnecessarily crucifying themselves.

What waste of strong men's lives, what piled up horror of broken-hearted women, what desolation of all the gains of civilization! We cannot feel it. It is too much, and the imagination is benumbed! We can sympathize with, and in a measure grasp, the awfulness of one murdered man and one stricken woman—but millions!

And yet, reading carefully what all sides say about the causes of the quarrel, it seems to a reasoning mind that the matter might have been so easily settled by the exercise of a little common sense, courtesy and intelligent self-restraint!—Milwaukee Citizen.

Church Steeples.

The church steeple was originally designed as a means of advertising the situation of the young church. Among the low buildings which originally prevailed the steeple was an impressive beacon, but under modern conditions it is a failure, as when the most and towering steeple is lost among the higher industrial structures that rear around it. The steeple is really being replaced by electricity, which answers the purpose much more satisfactorily. Electrically illuminated signs are being introduced quite extensively for this purpose.

Weekly Church Calendar

Quinquagesima Sunday.
Gospel, St. Luke xviii., 13-43.
S. 5. St. John Joseph of the Cross
our country at the present day. M. 6. SS. Perpetua & Felicitas, The danger, a most important one, lies entirely in the opposite way: that our parents, by their own selfishness and love of indolent pleasure, by the ease with which they dissolve the family

Foreign Mission News Timely Sentiments From "America."

Special correspondence by The Propagation of the Faith Society 343 Lexington Ave., New York City.

"There are parishes in excellent financial condition that never give a penny for anything outside their own local or diocesan needs. They also we must bring so that there will be one organized body taking an active interest in the activities of the Church. We are, indeed, Catholics and brothers—abroad, as well as at home."

Rt. Rev. Dr. Bernard Thomas Clark, O. M. Cap., Bishop of the Seychelles Islands in the Indian Ocean, is dead. Born in 1856, he joined the Capuchin Order in 1874, and was consecrated Bishop in 1902.

The children are suffering most of all from the shortage of funds in the missions. Fr. Tisseraud of Che Kiang writes:

"A few days ago a little girl was left at the door of our asylum. She stayed there in the cold and rain for two days and two nights. I could not take her in, although the cost of a nurse is only \$5 a year. This heart-rending case shows more clearly than any words of mine the distressful situation of our little ones."

A Lenten Mite Box Is A Constant Reminder.

We must now decide on some special form of charity or self-denial by which we can worthily observe the Lenten season. What most of us need is a Constant Reminder of our good intentions.

A mite box is an excellent Constant Reminder, especially if we put it in a conspicuous place.

Every Catholic family should have a mite box for the missions of Mother Church. It is astonishing what splendid results can be obtained. The mite box standing on the mantel or dresser is a continual appeal and under its silent urging the penny grows quickly to nickels and dimes and dollars and do a mighty service in the good cause of spreading holy Faith.

Corpus Christi Among The Lepers.

Those who are interested in the leper asylum at Biwasaki, Japan, will be glad to learn that for the first time, in 1915, the feast of Corpus Christi was solemnized there. The poor lepers were transported with joy at the idea of the celebration. For a month before the weakened invalids exerted their strength to prepare the road along which the Sacred Host would pass and to erect the two repositories.

When the great day finally arrived and the processions moved slowly through the grounds of the mission the spectacle was truly a touching one. The band of maimed and bandaged lepers, many of them in the last stages of their dreadful malady, marched with bowed heads behind the priest, singing and praying with the greatest fervor. The nuns and missionaries who accompanied them did not fail to ask the prayers of these afflicted ones for the cessation of the other scourge now desolating the world, and this they did with all their hearts.

March: Month of St. Joseph.

Wednesday, March 1, St. David; Sunday, 5, Quinquagesima Sunday; Tuesday, 7, Shrove Tuesday; Wednesday, 8, Ash Wednesday; Thursday, 9, St. Frances of Rome; Sunday, 12, First Sunday in Lent; Friday, 17, St. Patrick; Saturday, 18, St. Cyril; Tuesday, 21, St. Benedict; Saturday, 25, Annunciation, B. V. M.
Wednesday, March 15; Friday, 17, and Saturday, 18, are Ember Days.

Send us your printing.

News From Ireland Catholic News Notes

Carlow. Domestic.

John Foley, son of Michael Foley, J. P., Co. C., Old Leighlin, County Carlow, has been admitted a solicitor of the Supreme Court in Ireland. He served his apprenticeship with Paul A. Brown, crown solicitor, Carlow, and intends practicing at Bagenalstown and Carlow.

Married—At the Catholic church, Connolly (with nuptial Mass), by the Rev. Father Roche, C. C., Kilmaley, Michael Scanlon, N. T., Kanturk, N. S., youngest son of John Scanlon, Decimade, Lisycasey, to Josephine, fifth daughter of John Daly, merchant, and ex-N. T., Clonbola House, Connolly, County Clare.

Died—January 25, at parochial house, Newmarket-on-Fergus, Rev. James Hogan, Adm.

Miss May Cleland, Newry has been awarded the incontinence diploma of Trinity College, London, for violin playing.

The death took place at Newry of Thomas Irwin, chairman of Newry Port and Harbor Trust, after a long illness. The deceased was a member of the firm of Messrs. Martin, Nesbitt & Irwin, wholesale grocers, Newry, and he retired from the firm some years ago.

A farm at Woodside, Sandystown, County Dublin, containing 33 acres, was sold by Messrs. McKewen, MacKeough and Company for \$1,554.

The Archbishop has appointed the Very Rev. Canon Dunne, P. P., Donnybrook, to be one of his Grace's Vicars-General.

Died—At his residence, Ballyduff, Listowel, Martin Hegarty, father of the Rev. John M. Hegarty, Cathedral, Los Angeles, and Sister M. Benignus, Good Shepherd Convent, aged 76.

Married—At the Church of St. Andrew's, Westland row, Dublin, by Rev. J. McMahon, C. C., James Vincent third son of Thomas and Kate Callan, Ballymakenny, Drogheda, to Sarah, daughter of Mrs. and the late John Doyle, Sheehoon House, Maddenstown, Kildare.

Much regret has been occasioned by the death of Mrs. Kate Tobin, Birchwood, County Kilkenny. The deceased was for over 40 years principal of Newtown N. S., Carrick-on-Suir, and retired on pension a few years ago. Primroses are in bloom in the garden of Mr. Lawler, of Goresbridge.

Died—At his residence, Corbally, Dungarvan, County Kilkenny, Joseph Ballard, aged 71 years.

The Rathkeale U. I. L. passed votes of condolence to the relatives and friends of D. Guinane and P. Mulcahy, late merchants of the town; to the family of J. Purcell, J. P., Dublin "whose warm heart and friendly hand every Limerick man met in the city of his adoption."

Mary Cherry, aged 18, who was severely burned at her residence, Mary street, Limerick, has succumbed to her injuries.

Married—At the R. C. church, Mornington, by the Very Rev. D. Flynn, P. P., V. F., Thomas, son of Patrick Sheridan, Farrell Street, Kells, to Rita, daughter of the late Michael Tighe, 18 West street, Drogheda.

Died—January 25, at her residence, Fauleen Lodge, Newport, Mayo, Nora Gibbons, wife of A. Gibbons, N. T.

The protest from the Gaelic League with reference to the withdrawal of the grants of Irish education was unanimously adopted at a committee meeting of the Navan Urban Council.

The great pillars of St. Peter's Church, Rome, are being encased in marble at a cost of \$7,000 each.

Church Has Nothing to Hide.

Bishop O'Dea, in a recent address to the Knights of Columbus, said:

"The Church has nothing to hide from the world. She has from the beginning invited investigation. In all of her works, from the smallest catechism to the highest theology, she is open to investigation by the public. She is most desirous that her doctrines should be known, and that she should have liberty of proclaiming to the world the Divine injunction, 'Go and teach all nations.' This is her grand and noble mission, and she has always and on all occasions availed herself of this privilege. She had not lived in this world for the last nineteen hundred odd years without being known, and the grandest library, the Catholic library of the Vatican, is thrown open to the public, and the Popes of Rome were the first to say: 'Let the truth be known; we are not afraid of it.'"

Patrons of Countries.

- Austria—Our Lady.
- Belgium—St. Joseph.
- Brazil—The Holy Cross.
- Borneo—St. Francis Xavier.
- Chili—St. James.
- Congo, The—Our Lady.
- England—St. George.
- East Indies—St. Thomas, Apostle.
- Ecuador—The Sacred Heart.
- Finland—St. Henry of Upsal.
- France—St. Denis.
- Germany—St. Michael; St. Boniface.
- Holland—St. Willibrord.
- Hungary—St. Stephen.
- Ireland—St. Patrick.
- Italy—Various.
- Mexico—Our Lady of Guadalupe.
- Norway—St. Olaf.
- Portugal—St. George.
- Scotland—St. Andrew.
- Sweden—St. Bridget.
- Spain—St. James.
- South America—St. Rose of Lima.
- United States—The Immaculate Conception.
- Wales—St. David.

The Jesuit astronomers of the Observatory of Zi-ka-wei, China, have issued a valuable Chinese calendar, embodying full astronomical and meteorological information.

The great pillars of St. Peter's Church, Rome, are being encased in marble at a cost of \$7,000 each.

The Government of Turkey will adopt this year the Gregorian Calendar.

Catholic News Notes

Domestic.

This year, 1916, is the centenary year of the birth of Bishop Louis De Goesbriand, of Burlington, and of Bishop Miles, of Nashville.

The bequest of the late Dr. George W. Seifert, of \$150,000 to the University of Santa Clara, California, is contested.

St. Ignatius College, in Cleveland, has secured a site for an addition to cost \$150,000.

The building of an annex to the St. Paul Sanitarium at Dallas, Texas, to cost \$200,000, was begun recently. Bishop Lynch laid its corner stone.

Dr. Putnam and his wife, of New York, have but one child, a son, of their own. They have, however, adopted in their home seven orphans.

The late John McTierney, of Colfax, Wash., made generous bequests to Catholic institutions. His estate is valued at over \$80,000.

St. Rose's Orphanage at Milwaukee has cared for 3,000 orphans since 1848.

Capt. John J. Lambert, a founder of Pueblo, Colo., and Knight of St. Gregory, is dead.

Last year the New York Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society made 61,734 visits to the homes of the poor. In the United States the Society supported 330,000 poor families, and obtained employment for 5,000.

In July next will occur the 66th anniversary of the creation of Cincinnati and New York as archbishoprics.

Malcom McDougall, who built and maintained the Carmelite Convent at Seattle, Wash., died at that convent at the age of 84 years.

Foreign.

It is stated that, since the beginning of the European war 1,340 French priests who had previously been engaged in parish work, have been killed.

Senor Romanones, who is once more Premier of Spain, is reported to be a bigoted anti-clerical, advocating secular education, divorce and the like. The workingmen of Spain are organizing under Catholic auspices to counteract these things.

Mgr. Bianchi, the Archbishop of Tyre, consecrated in the South American College, Rome, three Archbishops who have been appointed Delegates Apostolic to South American countries.

Cardinal Bourne, of England, is credited with these words: "It can be considered that Home Rule is an accomplished fact. There is question only of its application after the war."

In the atheistic and Masonic press of France there is a renewal of anti-clerical calumny and hatred.

The Holy Father sent the victims of an exploded munition factory at Gravelle, France, \$100.

New Classes in R. B. I. In all departments will start Monday, March 6, in day and evening schools.

This is the very best time to start a course in either shorthand and typewriting or bookkeeping because you will be able to complete your course in the early fall just at the time when the demand is sharpest and most urgent for office employes.

Come up and talk the matter over with us or call us on the phone. New R. B. I. Building, 175 Clinton Avenue South.—Adv.