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Friday, June 2, 1916.

"The Tango Mayor."

In what we supposed an irrelevant sense, we heard the above caption applied to the doughty young Mayor of New York.

Judged by his performances of the last few weeks, the appellation was not misapplied. It is charitable to infer that the feverish friends say he acquired in the Spanish-American war, has upset his mental equilibrium or else he has a weakness of moral fiber and permits clever adventurers to wind him around their fingers. In no other way can one excuse or explain his outburst before the Thompson committee against Catholics in general and against eminent priests in particular regarding their earnest efforts to prevent the Catholic charitable institutions from being looted, emasculated and put out of business entirely.

That is the real issue between the charity experts, "so-called, of the Rockefeller-Foundation and the Carnegie-institution with similar ends to serve. These want to take from the representatives of the taxpayers any control of charities, whether in actual relief work or in taking care of orphan-phanes. If they could have their way, the provision of law that children left without father or mother must be placed in a family or institution of the same religious faith of the parents would be repealed or, failing in that, would be ignored and forgotten.

The Catholic priests who have nipped this precious conspiracy, at least temporarily, deserve the thanks of their co-religionists in particular and of all Christians in general. If the plot were not nipped, the net result would be a breaking down of all religion, Mayor Mitchel and Comptroller Prendergast, both supposed to be Catholics, either are blind to the real status of things or they are not such staunch Catholics after the all. Weak-kneed and over-liberal Catholics do far more to fan the flames of bigotry than all the orations of the Menace in a twelvemonth.

It is to be hoped that the wool now over Mayor Mitchel's eyes, will be torn away before he ruins his career irretrievably or smooth sailing. besmirches any more high-minded clergymen who had the courage to stand up for what they thought to be the right even at personal discomfort.

No Censorship.

Governor Whitman differs with the Legislature which passed the Wheeler-Cristman bill which provided for the appointment of a board of three censors to pass up on all moving picture films before they were released for exhibition in the local moving picture play houses.

The Governor has vetoed the bill as unnecessary legislation and also on the ground that if

broader censorship is needed than is provided in local ordinances such as exist in Rochester, then there should be a Federal board of censors and not one in each of the states.

The Governor has the last word and the citizens of New York state who think moving pictures should be supervised and regulated must bow to the majesty of the law.

There is a bill now before Congress which provides for national censorship. If that is passed and approved by the President, there will be no appeal and the moving picture men will have to obey it and be governed by it.

Shakespeare.

It is interesting to note that all over the country the pageant makers have succeeded in making it fashionable and popular to observe in elaborate and spectacular fashion the tercentary of William Shakespeare.

It is remarkable to notice localities which virtually snubbed, by beggarly audiences, first-class productions of Shakespearean plays within the last twenty-four months waxing—not only enthusiastic but positively riotous over Shakespearean spectacles. It is to be hoped that this interest is not sporadic but that it will continue. Shakespearean dramas are worth a hundred of the flashy, shallow or positively indecent stuff that has been inflicted upon the American theater-loving public in the name of plays.

If the tercentary pageants serve to awaken real interest in Shakespeare and high-class plays, there will be some recompensation for the veritable avalanche of Shakespeare wherever and whenever you turn round. Every club, no matter what its ostensible reason for existence, even the prize fight clubs, are costuming their "pugs" as Falstaff, and Shylock is doing some sort of a Shakespeare turn.

Transferred to Omaha.

Most Rev. J. J. Harty, according to a despatch from Rome, has been transferred from the archdiocese of Manila in the Philippine Islands to the episcopal see of Omaha, Nebraska. This fact is interpreted by some as an indication that Omaha has been raised to an archbishopric.

Archbishop Harty has had a long and interesting career. Up to the time he was consecrated for the see of Manila thirteen years ago his twenty-five years of priesthood had been spent as a humble parish priest. He never had exercised executive ability, he was unversed in "court etiquette" or the devious ways of diplomacy, he was unacquainted with the language of the Philippine Islands and he never had lived a day in a tropical climate. But he founded St. Leo's parish in St. Louis and made it one of the most successful parishes in the West.

In Manila, as in St. Louis, Archbishop Harty put his confidence in God, and the result is that orations of the chaos he found there and, so long, at least, as the American domination continues, his successors in that diocese will have comparatively smooth sailing.

What with several circuses, preparedness parades, park band concerts, Shakespearean tercentary and the summer resorts and the movies, all in full blast, June ought to satisfy the amusement seekers.

What inspires preparedness demonstrations the more, munitions contracts, or politics?

The State Industrial Commission appears to be a busy body these days.

Well, baseball has not had a fair chance as yet on account of weather conditions.

It does seem that there is something wrong in a system which permits one man, the Governor, to override the legislation passed by a majority of the senators and assemblymen. One way to help the situation would be to stop "thirty day bills." Let the Legislature pass all its legislation on a given date, then take recess long enough for the Governor to act. Then let it reconvene and receive the veto messages.

Time is then afforded to pass legislation over the veto if so desired. But under present methods, if the Governor either does not sign or veto a given bill, it dies automatically. While the legislature is still in session, if the Governor does not sign or veto a bill inside of ten days after it reaches him, it becomes a law without his signature.

What sort of a report will Commissioner Strong make in that alleged inquiry into the State Board of Charities, which was in reality a covert attempt on the part of Mr. Homer Folks to grab control of the Charities Board as he has already of the State Hospital Commission, the State Prison Commission, the State Charities Aid Association and the State Department of Health? And what are we Catholics to do in regard to the whole proceeding? Perhaps we should wait and see what Governor Whitman will do in regard to the Strong inquiry.

"The people on the whole, are not interested," says the Union and Advertiser, in speaking of the Rochester Orchestra. That is just the reason the people never will stand to appropriate public funds to aid the Rochester Orchestra to give concerts at popular prices. The people stand for the park band because everybody can attend its concerts, without an admission fee. But if public money were voted to the Park Band and then the public were compelled to pay its way to these concerts, how long would the people stand for it?

Fault has been found that prayers were offered in Catholic churches in the United States for the repose of the souls of the men executed by an English court martial for the Irish uprising. Why should there be? They have the same rights as any other dead Catholic who is in good standing in the Church. Moreover this is not Great Britain however much some anglophobes would try to make us believe it is.

There will be a great Catholic week in New York in August. The Catholic Young Men's National Union, the American Federation of Catholic Societies, the German Catholic Verein, the Catholic Press Association are all to meet there between August 13th to 24th.

Nazareth Alumnae are working like beavers to raise the funds for the new Nazareth high school.

May it not yet happen that Pope Benedict XV. will be the arbitrator to frame the terms of European peace?

Suppose the Representatives in Congress should divest themselves of partisanship for a while and strive for statesmanship? What a boon for the country!

Team work will secure that \$25,000 desired for the new Nazareth (Convent on Lake Avenue.

Now the slogan is: "Root for the Rochesterers!"

Surely, the pro-Germans cannot be responsible for the failure of Americans to enlist in the Army?

On May 4th, Rt. Rev. John J. Lawler, for six years auxiliary Bishop of St. Paul, was installed as Bishop of Lead.

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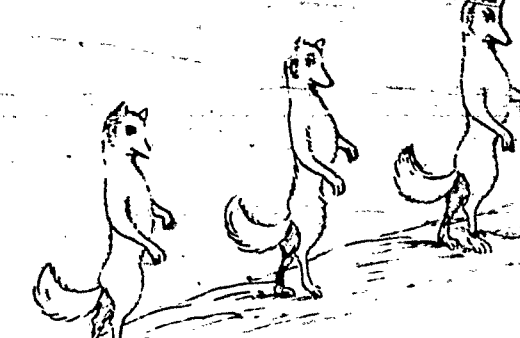
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