

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

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Friday, December 22, 1916.

Christmas.

To the readers of the Catholic Journal we extend our best wishes in this holiday season. To us as Catholics Christmas is a holy day as well as a holiday. It recalls to us the birth of our Divine Lord who came on earth that we might be accorded the boon of eternal life with Him in Heaven.

And so it is that Christmas signifies so much to us Catholics. Our non-Catholic critics have more than a day of "feasting viewed the Catholic Church only and revel," in the accepted phrase of the day. It is a part of our annual ecclesiastical calendar, a day of real thanksgiving for the special privilege accorded us.

"Safety First"

Not so long ago a non-Catholic father brought his son to a Catholic University saying that he did so because he felt sure that there his religious safety would not be jeopardized. Commenting on this incident the New York "World" says: "Time was when most good Protestant folks thought that every Catholic educational institution had as one of its primary aims the 'railroading' into the Church of as many unsuspecting non-Catholic youths or maidens as might, through frailty or accident, be enrolled among its students."

The Rosary.

Is this not a beautiful tribute to the Rosary from his Eminence, Cardinal Logue? I have on more than one occasion joined in the rosary with the Pope in his court of the Vatican; I have joined in the rosary in the cottage of the peasant; I have seen the beads slip through the fingers of the most learned men I ever met; I have seen them in the hands of the ignorant, and I have seen in all the same unquestioned reverence. Now it appears to me impossible that this or any other form of devotion could be so widespread, or indeed, so deeply appreciated by men in every walk of life, if those that practice it did not know from their own experience, from the experience of others, that it was a fruitful source of spiritual favors.

In the death of William C. Barry the city and state lose a tried, valued and valuable citizen. The Catholic Church loses a stalwart son. Peace to his ashes and eternal rest to his soul!

Wage Increases.

One hopeful sign of the times is the widespread recognition of the high cost of living by the big corporations which have all over the country voluntarily increased the wages to their employees. Such action may be classed as "good business" not philanthropy. If higher prices are received for corporations product it is a safe assumption that the prices for products of other corporations which the employees of the first corporation must needs buy, have advanced accordingly. Therefore the first corporation is morally bound to share its increased profits with its employees, the producers of these profits.

This is not all. If increased prices of commodities and foodstuffs are not within the reach of the employees, their bodies are not nourished or are not clothed and their spirit is embittered. Either or all three of these causes decrease efficiency and inefficient or discontented employees spell loss of profits to the employer.

Employers who see this of their own volition and not wait to be forced to concessions by disastrous strikes are level-headed business men.

Inside or Outside.

When you come to pass criticism or judgment upon a given proposition, do you not try to obtain all possible information about it? Do you not try to place yourself in the other "chaps" position and thus sense out his viewpoint, just as the well as your own. In other words, are you content to pass intelligent upon any proposition unless you view it from the inside as well as the outside?

Well, we fancy that most of our non-Catholic critics have tried to study it from the inside. All the information they have derived from non-Catholic sources and hostile sources at that. They have not read even so much as intelligently as Gladstone, the eminent English statesman, speaking of the splendid work of the Church in the advancement of civilization and of her remarkable vigor and widespread influence, says: "Surely such an institution challenges the attention and demands a delicate and serious examination of those outside her pale."

When one of your non-Catholic friends attempts to criticize the Catholic Church just ask him where he obtained his information. If from hostile sources, just tell him where he can obtain first-hand, accurate information if he wishes to be fair.

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Do Not Forget!

There are a few little acts that boys of a generation ago never forgot but of which the boys of today seem ashamed. Truly and well says an exchange:—

Don't be afraid or ashamed to lift your hat when passing a Catholic church. The Lord of Hosts will be the more mindful of you, and the sincere onlooker will be edified. At bottom, humanity has a good deal of use for the man who is consistent and who lives up to his convictions—religious or otherwise. Thousands of converts have been made by actions which in themselves seem of no consequence. The Sign of the Cross at meals—the raising of the hat in passing the church—the reverent saluting of God's minister when going his daily round among the sick and sad—these simple acts have set many an honest man and woman asking themselves soul-searching questions. Times without number we have heard converts assert that their first steps on the road to the church were taken as the result of witnessing these public evidences of Catholic faith.

Monsignor Sbaretti, one of the newly created Cardinals was formerly with the apostolic delegate at Washington and afterward Bishop of Havana.

Good reading is a necessary adjunct to every family and no Catholic family's reading table is complete without a Catholic paper and magazine.

In this holiday season do not let us forget the unfortunate who are worse off than ourselves.

It is to be hoped that the appeal for St. Elizabeth's Guild will meet a generous response. The institution is doing a needed and splendid work.

"I Love you California" is understood to be one of the popular airs in the inaugural parade, March 4, 1917.

The Bureau of Municipal Research evidently is quite a factor in Rochester's municipal administration.

Evidently, German diplomacy is not losing its cunning. That peace proposal coming on the heels of Lloyd George's overturn of the Asquith regime was a master stroke.

This boycott is a two edged sword. Suppose, in return for the housewives boycott on eggs, etc. And aren't shoes as high, proportionately, as eggs?

Secretary Daniels seems to be a pretty fairly efficient Secretary of the Navy.

Tom Watson made one telling point in his own defense when he asked why the United States mails carried his publications if they were obscene as charged?

While Buffalo newspapers cost two cents the Rochesterian buys his paper for one cent—but the proprietor is not making much money.

Really, what great difference is seen in the way the allies are treating Greece and the way the Germans treated Belgium?

If the Germans think they are improving their cause by ill-treating Cardinal Mercier, they are apt to find themselves mistaken.

Why is it that so many private casualty companies are announcing their intention of abandoning the writing of compensation business?

Food Commissioner Dillon would make a good food dictator for Great Britain in her crisis.

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