

# THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

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## Will Bear Watching.

While there is an element of plausibility about the announced plan of the Rockefeller Foundation—in guise of the General Education Board—to simplify and popularize elementary education, nevertheless we are of the opinion that it will bear close scrutiny.

The announcement that Latin and Greek will be omitted from a proposed college curriculum may strike a popular chord as will the proposed substitution of Spanish and French and German but we fancy it will be conceded that modern languages can be acquired easier after some instruction, at least, in Latin. Moreover, omission of Latin will facilitate lack of knowledge of Catholic matters and it will be easy to retort with "I never studied Latin" if challenged to compare disputed scriptural passages with the original Latin, or Hebrew, or Chaldaic or Greek.

When the Rockefeller educators announce that they propose to omit from the curriculum "dry historical facts" a suspicion is naturally aroused that young Americans will no longer be taught how this Republic came into being and that, possibly, there may be too much toadying to the wish of the English Rockefeller preachers that we should minimize the "fact" that the United States revolted against the tyrannies of an overbearing English monarch, lest the sensibilities of the latter-day British aliens who subsist off the product of American thrift yet sneer at "Yankee pigs." Very possibly, the study of history may be approached in more attractive form but when it is proposed to "omit historical facts" those of us who are red-blooded enough to be Americans first, last and all the time, may be pardoned if we accept the honeyed statements of Rockefeller agents whose names give the impression of alien extraction, if not present alien condition, with a grain of salt. Moreover, history can never be less than a narrative of the past and how can it be studied without stating facts?

There are several other criticisms which might be made, notably a suspicion aroused that, under cover of an intention to teach biology and kindred subjects "in popular way", it may be the intention of the "progressive Rockefeller educators" to impart knowledge of birth control to pupils of comparatively tender years.

In conclusion it is announced that, under the new Rockefeller educational regime, "The study of formal grammar will be dropped. Pickford, Charlie Chaplin and ped, for such evidence as we possess points to the utility of formal grammar as an aid to correct speaking and writing. That study would be introduced later only if a real need for it were felt, and only in such amounts and at such periods as this need clearly re-

quired. "There is also a sneer at classic or standard literature. Clearly, the Rockefeller scheme of education is strictly devoid of sentiment, severely commercial and designed to turn out third class Standard Oil devotees to system and industrial mechanics. The whole plan suggests a hodge-podge of vocational school, rapid pre-business and stenographic college, cheap magazines with slurred English, indifferent spelling and Get-Rich-Quick-Wallingford. Certainly it is not a Catholic educational plan.

## Admiral Dewey.

Truly a heroic figure in war times and a splendid example of the typical American gentleman in times of peace passed when Admiral George Dewey breathed his last. Indeed, it may be said that Admiral Dewey endeared himself more to the American people and to those with whom he came in daily contact in the National Capitol since the battle of Manila Bay than by his dramatic defeat of the Spanish fleet in the South Seas.

Unassuming, doing his duty as he saw it, devoting his last days to the service of his country even after he had earned retirement, George Dewey showed himself every inch a man and a true patriot. If it be true that he has been Secretary Daniels' adviser, then indeed the country owes him a deeper debt of gratitude than it knew.

Would that there were more men of the type of George Dewey in American public life.

## May Be And May Be Not

United States Senator McCumber feels deeply over the American "revelry in extravagant habits". He feels worst because he has figured out that "America can spend \$13,000,000,000 for liquor, tobacco, automobiles and other forms of amusements. The senator does not tell us how much he spends yearly on tea and coffee. Neither does he tell us, whether, if he had his way, he would forbid the growing of tobacco, the manufacture of automobiles or the receipt of any wages or profits thereby on the part of anybody.

While we would not feel inclined to coincide with all the New York "World" says in the following paragraphs nevertheless we must concede there is much of truth in what the "World" says:

It is to be regretted that the Senator did not make an estimate of the additional vast sums spent by Americans for books and bath-tubs, toilet soaps, silk shirts and other articles of use or wear, which also affect the cost of living. There are so many forms of extravagance to indict that the question is where to begin. The Senator could have drawn an eloquent contrast between the sybaritic fare on the farmer's table in an era of \$2 wheat and the hog and hominy which sufficed his Spartan ancestors.

Americans are spending more money for the things once counted as luxuries because they have more money to spend, and the increase is the measure of the cost of a more complex civilization. They are paying the price of material progress, and if living is dearer it is because standards of living are higher. Comforts and conveniences of life that were once unobtainable by the rich are necessities now to the plain people.

Movie men protest against being taxed because they have to pay such high salaries to Mary Pickford, Charlie Chaplin and ped, for such evidence as we possess points to the utility of formal grammar as an aid to correct speaking and writing. That study would be introduced later only if a real need for it were felt, and only in such amounts and at such periods as this need clearly re-

## Catholic Education

Madame Mary Anderson Navarro is as staunch in her faith as ever. Although age has silvered her hair, it has not dimmed that wonderful intellect or dulled the artistic instinct. Speaking to a gathering of co-religionists not long since Madame Navarro expressed these splendid sentiments on Catholic education:—

"After the world agony through which we are passing, entailing the loss of hundreds and thousands of noble lives, after the crisis past and convalescence sets in, there will be an unprecedented need for men and women of noble purpose, bright and burnished intellect, of noble, controlled, self-sacrificing character.

"We Catholics know, in spite of insidious efforts to make our schools Godless, that such characters can be built only on the bedrock of religion, and what rock is there against which the gates of hell shall not prevail, except the Rock of Peter?"

"We have all known and known men and women who have never been taught the eternal truths in the schools, who deliberately close their eyes to the miracles of Nature, of sea and sky, who deny the Mighty Architect of earth, and heaven and who treat those who adore the Maker of All with contempt, who have no reverence for man, woman or God.

"Let us teach our children to be intelligent and enthusiastic Catholics; not to be satisfied with a once-a-week service, the mere wearing of a scapular, or being tepid members of some confraternity. Let us make them good, practical Catholics and that will make them good, practical citizens. Let us teach them, and have them taught the dogma—a word habitus". He feels worst because he has figured out that "America can spend \$13,000,000,000 for liquor, tobacco, automobiles and other forms of amusements. The senator does not tell us how much he spends yearly on tea and coffee. Neither does he tell us, whether, if he had his way, he would forbid the growing of tobacco, the manufacture of automobiles or the receipt of any wages or profits thereby on the part of anybody.

"They will be quite safe—safe from the storms and troubles of life, if they have a firm grasp of that mighty, steady, guiding hand. Let us give them that most precious and lasting gift of lucid knowledge of Catholic truth; for ignorance is the curse of God; knowledge is the wing on which we fly to heaven."

The small boy lost a hero when Buffalo Bill died. At all events his example not demoralizing. He was no Get-rich-quick Wallingford, no Charlie Chaplin, no heavy villain.

Do the motorists really mean that they will ask the State, like the street car magnates in cities, to chop down the shade trees along the state highways so that the speed fiends may have a clear path and not be compelled to slow down for approaching trains, trolley cars, or horse-drawn vehicles? If so, they will arouse a tide of resentment that may result in stiff penitentiary sentences for reckless speed fiends—the only penalty which will ever check these lunatics.

Now taxes on dogs in the rural counties, "to protect the sheep", and cats "to protect the birds", and on the movies to protect the people. What next?

Hon. George A. Glynn should make a good newspaper man and a fine organizer.

Amateur theatricals seem to be the order of the day in Rochester. Angelo Newman and Don Manning are coming to be in the ranks of the magnate producers and directors.



Most Horrible of All Afflictions. 1201 W. 47th St., Los Angeles, Cal., October 1916.  
Some 20 years ago I experienced the most horrible of all afflictions. Nervous Collapse and Insomnia, tried several of the best physicians, but no relief; then a Druggist urged me to try Pastor Koenig's Nervine, stating that one of the best doctors prescribed it. I took it and found almost instant relief, had natural sleep again. I took but 2 bottles. In the same nervous condition again last winter after an auto accident—was administered by one of the best physicians but of no avail, suggested Pastor Koenig's Nervine, to which the doctor replied, "Take it, I know what it is." Since I took the Nervine I am feeling quite myself again from this horrible affliction, "Nervousness" so lightly spoken of.  
Mrs. M. E. Kratz.

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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**—Pursuant to an order of Hon. Selden S. Brown, Surrogate of the County of Monroe, justice is hereby given according to law to all persons having claims or demands against Charles R. Gore, late of the City of Rochester, County of Monroe, State of New York, deceased, to present the same with the vouchers therefor, to the undersigned executor at his place for the transaction of business as such executor, at the office of Coates, Bennett & Ketchum, Ch. E. Coates, Rochester, N. Y., P. O. Box 1047, on or before the 30th day of April, 1917, dated October 25th, 1916.  
JOSEPH R. GORE, Executor.  
C. A. Crandall, Attorney for Executor.

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Any applicant who holds a dental diploma from a school not known or recognized by the Chilean authorities is required to complete the third year's work of the dental department of the University of Chile and must also pass a satisfactory examination before he can obtain a license to practice.—Pan American Bulletin

**Warning Before Command.**  
In bringing up my children I found that at night when they were tired they were spared many tears by being warned before I gave them a strict command. Instead of saying "Now it is time to go to bed. Put away your blocks at once." I would say: "It is nearly time to go to bed. Finish your house first and then put away your blocks." In this way the children were fully prepared to go, and there was consequently no begging and no temptation for me to show my lack of firmness by being persuaded to allow them to build "just one more house."  
Imagine a mother in the midst of an absorbing chapter being told by one in higher authority to put down her book at once and go to bed. Would it not save a frown of impatience to be told to finish the chapter first?—Harper's Bazar.

**Business.**  
Lawyer—If I bring a suit against your husband I'll be able to get about a third of his income as alimony for you. Prospective Divorcee—Ump! I can do better than that myself. For years I've been getting nearly all his salary out of him.—Lamb.

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