

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

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Friday, February 2, 1917.

We Are Justified.

While the Catholic Journal was one of the first papers to enter criticism of the proposed plan of the Rockefeller General Educational Board...

Hon. John Finley, president of the University and Commissioner of Education for the State of New York...

Verify it is well to keep before our minds the warning against Greeks bearing gifts.

Both Good Men.

Catholic circles in Rochester, also the local business world, lost two members last week by the deaths of John P. Smith and William T. Bassett.

Both were leading members of the Knights of Columbus and Mr. Smith was the head of the Rochester Assembly of the Fourth Degree.

Mr. Smith was one of the leaders in the printing trade while teaching that she derived the spirit of heroism and self sacrifice which, when the ordeal came, did not fail.

May God grant eternal repose to their souls!

Should Be Studied.

It would be well if all fraternal societies, all trades unions, all Chambers of Commerce, all associations of employers, all civic organizations, all citizens to procure a copy of the bill introduced in the Legislature by Senator Ogden L. Mills...

not be prepared for without some such compulsory insurance. On the other hand might it not tend to discourage individual thrift?

At any event the matter is an important one and should be thoroughly understood. At least, there can be no objection to postponing final legislative action until ample opportunity has been afforded for investigation and to offer amendments if deemed necessary to perfect the measure.

Taxes, Taxes and Then Some

Really, the appetite for taxing possessed by these legislators is insatiable! Your estate is taxed when you die. While you live, the improvements on your home are taxed; your automobile is taxed; for license fee is a tax; your dog is taxed; the deeds by which your property is conveyed are stamped; if you belong to a club or fraternal association part of your dues go to pay the Federal tax on bowling alleys and billiard tables; if you are thrifty and increase your income the Government takes a slice of it in income tax.

And every year the tax-gatherers in Albany and Washington are trying to think up some new way to tax you and I. Just as a suggestion:—Why not tax the jewelry worn by the grande society dames; tax the ex-patriates like William Waldorf Astor, who forswear allegiance to the Stars and Stripes and spend their American-drawn income in upholding royalty, ten times as much in every way as decent American citizens are mulcted? That would equalize things a bit.

Self-Sacrifice.

Writing of the unknown nun who was burned to death a few weeks ago while trying to rescue one of the demented girls when the asylum in Megantic County was burned, "America" pays this beautiful tribute:—

In the presence of that simple and noble victim, our lips are thrilled to silence. Before that martyred nun robed with the dyed and crimson garments of Bosnia on the white Canadian snows, and the tears of the heart fall in admiration and in love.

Her sisters in religion will carve her name over her humble grave. The world at large will hear as little of her heroic death as it did of her hidden life. Few even of those who reverence the garb she wore and the holy calling in which she served God, may hear of her noble story. Yet, the Catholic Church, of which she was the faithful daughter, will ever be able to point to her as one of its glories. It was under its guidance that her virgin heart was trained to meet the supreme test which she had to face. It was from its spirit of heroism and self sacrifice which, when the ordeal came, did not fail. And over the smoke and the flames of the dreadful tragedy of St. Ferdinand, we read written in golden letters the lesson that the Catholic Church has ever taught, that it is the pure of heart who in the hour of danger and trial, are the dauntless and the strong.

Astonished.

Writing his impressions of the United States, an Italian prince says:—

"What is the explanation of so many divorces among you? I have met many women in New York and Newport fashionable society divorced not only once, but twice and often three times. You know I come from a country where there is no divorce."

The prince is not the first student in things American who has been shocked by our divorce laws. Many visitors from pagan countries, to which we are sending medical care and attention to the missionaries, are equally astonished. It is hard for them to un-

derstand that we pride ourselves on our Christianity and are spending millions on our foreign missions.

Rev. Bonaventure Hammer, O. F. M., 75 years old, who gained fame by translating General Lew Wallace's "Ben Hur" into German is dead at Lafayette, Ind., after a long illness.

A Protestant clergyman not long ago astonished some of his colleagues by telling them that it is costing about \$14,000 for every convert from Catholicism made in Panama and that he did not think the results achieved justified the expenditure.

Strong resolutions have been adopted in protest against the literacy test in the immigration bill now before Congress by the biennial council of American Hebrews in session at Baltimore.

It is announced that the membership of the Archdiocesan Union of the Holy Name Society of New York has passed the 60,000 mark.

Thomas Leamy, a Syracuse contractor, has swelled the fund now being raised by Bishop Grimes for a home for the aged by about \$40,000.

Literary circles are interested in the report that Hon. Maurice Francis Egan, United States Minister to Denmark, will shortly come home on a two months' leave of absence.

The Men's Catholic Charity Guild is doing a great and good work.

Let there be a generous response to Bishop Hickey's appeal for the "Diocesan Charities Collection" to be taken up in all the Catholic Churches of the Diocese on Sunday.

In these days of festivity and gaiety let us not forget our brothers who are in straitened circumstances.

Who is it that would abolish the time-honored hurdy-gurdy? Even is they do not produce classic tunes they "make music" and please the youngsters. Abolishing the hurdy-gurdy by law will not compel a liking for classic music any more than passing a law that everybody must eat cheese because a few persons find cheese easy to digest, will make everybody like cheese.

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