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Friday, April 6, 1917.

## Easter

Once more the year has rolled round and another joyous Easter Sunday is with us. As Catholics who practise our religion we have watched with the Savior in the Garden; we have again seen Him crowned with thorns; we have accompanied Him on the Way to the Cross; we have seen Him die the ignominious death on the Cross; we have seen Him lain in the tomb.

And now we are to share the joys of the Apostles at His glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday. The Church will put off the habiliments of sorrow and don those of joy. The Gloria will be sung in the Mass and the bells will peal forth their glad tidings: "He is risen!"  
 May we all join in that glorious resurrection with the Blessed in Heaven at the last day!

## Take It Easy!

In view of the war prospect and the high cost of living many new notions and universal panaceas are being thrown out by their advocates who are insistent, more or less vociferously, that every body must, willy-nilly, accept, adopt and put their views and methods into operation forthwith.

One of these ideas, praiseworthy enough in its way, is that if everybody would plant a garden the high cost of living would be at once reduced. Incidentally it might be remarked that if city dwellers were to keep a few chickens this would have a material effect on the price of living to say nothing of the certainty of strictly fresh eggs, but city ordinances forbid the keeping of chickens within the city limits. To be sure, the ordinance is not enforced rigidly but let everybody start in to keep chickens and crotchety neighbors are sure to enter complaint and, presto! you are summoned to court and the fine imposed will equalize all you have saved by keeping your own chickens.

It should be borne in mind that there is now no city ordinance against planting a garden in your back yard so you are not likely to be brought into court if you decide to have one.

But does everybody know how to plant and care for a garden? And if you do not where are you to learn? Who will inform you as to whether your soil is adapted to grow onions, or carrots, or lettuce, or potatoes, or corn? Or what fertilizer to add to your soil in order to have an abundant crop? How big a garden should one have to raise four or five bushels of potatoes? How many central city lots are big enough to give a garden 40x20? Or 20x20? Or 10x20? A garden should at least be as big as the smallest quoted to be of any effect upon the high cost of living? How many of these editorial urgers of back lot gardening are willing to

pledge themselves to spade up, plant and cultivate one?

If one wants to plant a garden for the splendid exercise and out-of-door life, it impels, that is the most commendable. But one should think twice and count the cost before he enters upon back lot gardening as a means to reduce the high cost of living.

## Clever?

The New York World is clever if it does indulge in hair-splitting when it urges that the United States enter the war not as the ally of all the Entente Powers but as the ally of France in return for the aid and assistance rendered by France when we were waging the Revolution of 1776 in order to free ourselves from the arrogant domination of haughty Britain.

Such a course the World reasons rather cleverly would not offend the Germans so much as alliance with England, or the Irish Americans so much as alliance with Erin's cherished oppressor. But inasmuch as England, France, Russia and Japan have an ironclad alliance on the basis of "one for all and all for one" how can the United States and France without aiding the other parties to the Entente compact? And if it could be done would we not in effect release Japan from any promise to refrain from attack upon friends of the parties to the contract?

If we could arrange a loan to France upon nominal interest that seems as far as we can go in separate dealing with France.

## Time To Be Sober

This is a time for sober thought, sane speech and deliberate action. Nothing is to be gained and much damage may be done by violent speech and hasty action.

Pulpit orators, platform speakers and editorial writers should practise self-restraint and endeavor to curb their tempers. Intemperate and indiscriminate abuse of those who may honestly differ instead of trying to win them over by earnest appeal to common-sense and reason, is apt to hasten intemperate action on the part of those abused and one cannot attach too much blame under the provocation offered.  
 Not all our foreign-born or foreign-descent colleagues are necessarily unpatriotic. Let us apply the rule of the criminal law, that a person is presumed innocent until proven guilty and assume that all our people are waving the Stars and Stripes and are loyal to the flag until some overt act is committed. Let us be reasonable and sane as well as firm. There is no occasion for some of the superlatives indulged in on all sides to-day.

## Sound Advice

In the last paragraph of the following editorial the Rochester Herald tells much truth:-

One of our popular newspaper health experts implores men not to be downhearted and to feel that their life work is over because they have reached the age of sixty. To show what may be done by a determined man, he cites the case of De Morgan, the author, who did not begin to write books until after he had reached the ripe age of sixty-five. Presumably the moral is that when a man gets so old he can do nothing else, the field of literature lies open before him. In place, therefore, of repining, or taking a job as nightwatchman, after he has begun to look back at sixty, he should write a book.

On the other hand, if no one were to write a book until he could back his delineations of life with sixty or sixty-five years of experience, it might mean a sifting out and suppressing of much of the worthless literature with which the world is now deluged.

## Stand By!

It is refreshing to note the ready response that is heard in all quarters of the country to the hint that this country is in danger of possible invasion. Millionaire, partisan, professional man, captain of industry, men and women, stand shoulder to shoulder in their readiness to give their all in property, in effort, in life and limb to protect the country's honor.

While we are not shouting for war of conquest, we propose to be ready to defend our hearthstones, to uphold the dignity of Stars and Stripes as the emblem of liberty, free speech and opportunity to all.  
 President Wilson is president of all the American people. Ninety million Americans stand ready to hold up his hands in this crisis in this country's history.

## One Reason.

An exchange quotes a German woman who has recently applied for citizenship papers after residing in the United States for fifty years as saying:-  
 "I have a tender feeling for Germany. That is natural. It is the fatherland where my people lived for many years. But this country has been good to me and I have been happy here. I have become accustomed to its ways and its people. It is a country full of opportunities for the poor and lowly born, which no king-ruled country can ever offer, and I want to continue to live here, not as a visitor in a strange land, but as a citizen. I want to be an American. It is better so."

Our contemporary expresses surprise that a person should put off citizenship for fifty years. There may be valid reasons. It may be that this woman lived in a small place remote of access to the naturalization courts. Again, witnesses are required who will swear that they have known a person continuously for a stated period. Sometimes, in fact often, it is difficult if not impossible to comply with this provision.

A contemporary complains that the average American plays too hard and should spend more of his spare time in study instead of at the movies. Fine advice. But the "speed up" policy now in vogue in all industries leaves the average wage earner too tired at the end of a day's work to do aught but play. Moreover, our contemporary does not appear to discourage "movie ads" in its columns.

Why should a lifelong American be criticised because he takes the position that his life is sufficient evidence of his patriotism without signing a pledge of allegiance to the flag?

This is no time to impugn the patriotism of any class of citizens without indisputable proof of disloyalty.

To all its readers the Catholic Journal extends the compliments of the season on this 1917 Easter.

The Rochester Herald sees in Postmaster Buckley's resignation unmistakable proof of Tammany's ascendancy in Washington.

What is more foolish and non-productive than hating one's neighbor?

There are not so many great plays produced these days. Why? Is it because the movies are captivating everybody? Or has public taste degenerated.

Says an exchange:-  
 "Those who live on the mountains have a longer day than those who live in the valley. Sometimes all we need to brighten our day is to rise a little higher."

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