

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

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Friday, July 20, 1917

Two and Two Make Four.

Too much rumination on statistics may lead one into errors of fact or put one in the frame of mind where he is apt to accept the proposition that two and two make five instead of the time-honored four.

Bakers announce that by refusal to accept "return loaves" which have been sold to the poor at half price, aside from the much instilled notion that stale bread is healthier than fresh baked...

Another statistical genius has discovered that with the advent of the automobile there really is no need for horses and that at least \$971,000,000 would be added to the Nation's resources if the horses all were sold, to say nothing of the immense saving of foods and food products which are consumed by these horses.

These are samples of the peculiar statistical geni developed by the War. The unfortunate part of it is this: that in normal times these chaps would be taken as peculiar but not treated seriously.

Crisis at Hand?

It may be that the real crisis is at hand in the War. Surface indications are that the German masses are becoming restive owing to the lack of overwhelming success by the submarines and worry over the ultimate result of the entrance of America into the great conflict.

If Von Hollweg, Zimmerman and few other high officials are made scape-goats and popular feeling is partially appeased, the threatened upheaval of the masses very easily may be averted for a while if not quelled entirely.

figuring on an internal revolution in Germany or the conclusion of a separate peace between Austria-Hungary and the Allied powers.

If the Kaiser were to abdicate, as did the Czar of Russia, there is little doubt that that would hasten the end of the War but such an event seems improbable at present writing.

But that a crisis is at hand seems possible. Let us hope that is true because if the War goes on over 1917 there is every likelihood that it will continue on during 1918.

Sham Reformers.

We do not know just who editor Charles H. Betts is hitting at in the following paragraph in the Lyons-Republican but we are willing to wager a red apple he is in for a red-hot discussion when the article gets abroad:

"Dr. Eugene H. Porter, former State Commissioner of Public Health, is one of the best informed men on political affairs in this state. He was by far the ablest and best commissioner of public health the state has ever had, it was under his administration that the public health department was put on a solid, sane and efficient basis and those who came after him are simply harvesting the fruit which he planned and nourished to maturity.

They are taking credit to themselves for the results of the work which Dr. Porter did. This is probably expected. It is natural, that is to say, it is the result of the natural weakness of human nature. This is no reason, however, why the truth should not be told to the public in the interest of justice.

Dr. Porter is not a faddist, is not a fake reformer and he knows where to draw the line between what is practicable and impracticable, sane and insane and as a result he did real essential constructive work as commissioner of public health. He did not win the admiration of the skirt-dancing fakery and reformers who are the froth on the surface of American politics and who are the noise-makers of our day.

Dr. Porter knew what nearly every practical and real statesman has discovered and that is that the professional reformers are out after either one of those things. They are out after either Renown, Revenue or Revenge."

Elastic, Yes?

The following from the Rochester Herald so well presents a certain condition of public sentiment that we reproduce it in full without comment:

That New York member of the committee of 60 who engaged in the effort to make the United States bone dry, and who is manufacturer of a proprietary medicine containing 35 per cent alcohol, must have a conscience as thick as the hide of a rhinoceros. - Boston Advertiser.

There are a good many rhinoceros hides in the anti-liquor propaganda. With some it is a case of an easy way of making a living—easier than they could find if they didn't have a multitude of dupes to draw upon. In the case of some others, they are in a position to get all the alcohol they want in any event, which is why they are indifferent to the liberties of their fellow citizens. The bone dry law would no doubt increase the revenues of the manufacturer of a proprietary medicine which contains 35 per cent of alcohol. The affair of the Atlanta manufacturer of a good line of dope has not been forgotten by the newswriters.

Innocent Suffer.

Who of us that owns and operates an automobile will not coincide with the following editorial from The Post Express:

"When an automobile operated in the public highway at reasonable speed and in strict compliance with all laws, ordinances and rules of the road, is approached from the rear by a machine occupied by joy riders filled with a desire to burn up the path, and the latter strikes the former a glancing blow in passing, it is always the slower-moving vehicle that is damaged and the law-abiding occupants that are the sufferers. It is unfortunate that it is so, but it is a law of mechanics. Speed demons know this and presume upon it, forcing slower vehicles into the roadside ditch and rushing on to further acts of recklessness. Many persons are barred from the pleasures of automobiling by the knowledge that the carefully operated machines are in greater danger of 'accident' than the reckless ones. It may become necessary to incorporate in the rules of the road, particularly for the country highways, a provision limiting the speed at which one vehicle may pass another, especially when both are proceeding in the same direction."

Is there any significance to be attached to the fact that the State Board of Charities praises the work of the new Superintendent of the State School at Industry? Especially after the Strong-Mitchel episode?

Thirty-one of the 107 survivors of the Civil War of the gallant 140th New York Regiment gathered at the annual outing of 1917. That tells a pathetic story.

"Lafayette Joffre" is quite a load for a 1917 baby to carry. But here's hoping he may survive the burden.

Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman will not deliver anarchist harangues for two years at least.

Quite truly says the Rochester "Union and Advertiser":—"It is to be noted that Rochester is much larger when an army is being raised than it is when improvements are wanted for Charlotte harbor.

"Friday, the 13th" passed off without any untoward incident out of the ordinary.

If the I. W. W., leaders have been playing with Germany, then there need be no pity for their plight. If, on the other hand, the mine owners are holding up the treason bugaboo to cover up unjust treatment of the miners, then they should be pilloried.

If parents knew where their girls were nights there'd be less of those "joy-ride incidents". By the way, what has become of that law to punish derelict parents?

Upon the averages of an examination of one thousand mechanics in Detroit and one thousand clerks and stenographers Professor Irving Fisher maintains that 90 per cent of the American population is physically below par. How about farmers?

Requiem Mass Said For Very Rev. William A. McDonald.

Geneva, July 19.—A month's mind solemn requiem mass was celebrated for the late Very Rev. William A. McDonald, pastor of St. Francis de Sales Church on Thursday morning. The celebrant was Rev. Stephen V. McPadden, of this city; Father O'Hanlon, of Clifton Springs, deacon and Father McGraw of Auburn, was sub-deacon. Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph M. Hendrick, of Ovid, was master of ceremonies and Rev. Geo. W. Doud and Rev. William McPadden acted as acolytes. Seated in the sanctuary were about thirty visiting priests.

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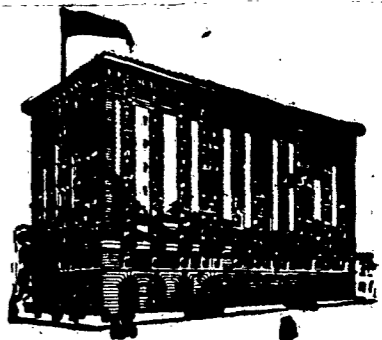
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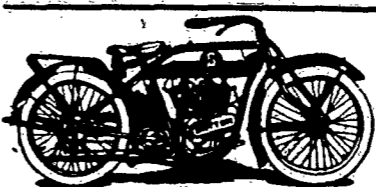
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