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Friday, Sept. 14, 1917.

Catholic Schools.

If the Catholic Educational Association did nothing more in its annual session of 1917 than adopt the following slogan it did a wonderful work for real Catholic education:

As our Catholic schools have ever inculcated obedience to law and patriotic devotion to our country's welfare, we are especially gratified at the loyal response of the young men in our colleges and universities to the call of duty in the present national crisis.

In full accord with the views of the President of the United States regarding the continuance of educational work, we urge upon Catholic parents the necessity of keeping in school and college at this time their children who are not called to the service, so that their interests and the interests of the nation may not suffer unduly by the interruption of their studies.

Believing that discipline of the will and character formation are absolutely essential to education, that without them loyalty and respect for law cannot be developed in the youth of the land, we take this occasion, in view of our country's present situation, to emphasize these fundamental and characteristic elements of Catholic education.

The normal development and perfection of human personality and the dignity of human nature are the standards by which economic and educational efficiency are to be measured. Where the production of economic goods is adopted as the standard by which human welfare shall be determined, the result is an industrial debasement injurious to the best interests of society and to the essential aims of education.

In these days of materialistic tendencies and weakening faith the need of keeping before us the ideal—"Every Catholic child in a Catholic School"—can not be stated too strongly. As far as human wisdom can foresee, the preservation and spread of the Catholic Church in this country depend upon the adoption by priests and people of a vigorous policy in support of the parish school. The association records its sense of importance of the parish school, the sole educational advantage of the majority of our children, and with all the power at its command urges upon Catholic parents the duty of sending their children to schools in which, together with secular knowledge, they will imbibe the most excellent knowledge and love of Jesus Christ.

Burned Away.

Colonel Percy A. Guthrie, of the New Brunswick Kilties, relates a touching experience in the trenches showing how the war has burned away ancient

racial and religious barriers. Said Colonel Guthrie:—

When a shell got me in the trenches over there and I crawled away into the grass to die, between the French batteries and the enemy, it was a man in uniform of France who risked his life to save me. He knew not my name, nor I his; but he came to me at dusk, under the hail of fire, wet my lips with water and pressed a crucifix to my lips. Heared not whether I was a Protestant Englishman or one of his own faith. For in this war the barriers between religions are burned away. And with the crucifix of France on my lips I breathed a prayer for my wife and little ones, and for France."

Historical.

For the benefit of those who keep "historical scrap books" the following statement by Anthony Matre, of the Federation of Catholic Societies is herewith reproduced:—

"The idea of federating the Catholic societies in the United States originated with the Knights of St. John. Preliminary meetings were held at Philadelphia, Sept. 16, 1900; at New York, Nov. 29, 1900, and at Long Branch, N. J., Aug. 28 and 29, 1901. These meetings were attended by representatives of several national organizations.

"The first Bishop to take active hold of the proposed federation was Rt. Rev. James A. McFaul of Trenton. He attended the Long Branch preliminary meeting and gave great encouragement to the assembled delegates. At this meeting a tentative constitution was adopted and, on motion of Bishop McFaul, the city of Cincinnati was selected for the place of holding the first national convention, Dec. 10, 1901. At the Long Branch meeting Bishop McFaul was unanimously elected spiritual director of the preliminary federation, and was the first to contribute one hundred dollars towards the furtherance of the work.

"Archbishop Messmer, then Bishop of Green Bay, Wis., signed with Bishop McFaul the first call for the Cincinnati convention. This call went out to the Catholic press and the Catholic societies of the United States. Both prelates took an active part in the Cincinnati and subsequent conventions and have been members of the executive and advisory boards of federations since the inception of the movement."

Put It Off.

Most of us mean all right. Most of us want to do good but we nurse this or that habit or vice. "We'll give it up next week, next month or next year" is our plea. How well we serve the enemy of souls is thus well related in the "Ave Maria"—

An old legend relates that the devil once held a great council of the fallen angels to devise means for hindering the work of salvation. One suggested that they go and tell the people of the world that all they heard of Christianity was false. But the devil said this would be of no use, as every one knew it was true, or at least felt that it might be true. Another suggested they whisper in their ears that Christianity was true, but need not be believed. But the devil said again, "This would be of little use. We might draw some away, but the multitude would not listen." A third said, "Let us tell the people that all they hear is true, but persuade them that there is no hurry about putting it into practice." "Ah!" said the devil, "that is fine. With such a net we shall catch a great multitude."—Ave Maria.

Labor organizations affiliated with the American Federation of Labor are passing resolutions of fealty to the Government and President Samuel Gompers is striving might and main to discourage Socialism and to prevent strikes. Let the good work go on

According to the Ad club Rochester can boast of at least seven

"house organs" or publications which are issued by a firm or corporation regularly and contain news and special articles of interest to those in that particular firm or line of trade. Those Rochester organs were pioneers to the field and all have made good, too. It's all very well to make army cooks out of hotel and restaurant chefs, but if some chefs go to the front we pity the soldiers unless their cooking improves.

Really, we are sceptical of the "discovery" that ice cream is a carrier of diphtheria germs.

While we are glad to see the President fix prices for bituminous coal, we feel sure the average Rochesterian would be tickled to death if the price of anthracite could be reduced even half a dollar on a ton. But will it?

Figuring on the most optimistic basis, it will probably be several years before Russia's economic and financial affairs can be adjusted to the new order of things so that governmental machinery will be able to move without friction.

At last Postmaster-General Burleson has "found out" Tom Watson and says his Jeffersonian is a treasonable publication. There is a possibility now that he may yet see the undesirability of the Menace for transmission by Uncle Sam's mails.

Swift punishment followed the crooked exemption board workers in New York city. Splendid! Let's hope their example acts as a deterrent to others of like disposition if there be many such—which we doubt.

Let us discard "conscripted" and "conscripted" as applied to the new army and call it "The National Army" which it is in the truest sense of the word.

Major Hugh Drum, who is in France with General Pershing, is a brother of Rev. Walter Drum, S. J.

Fordham University has conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws upon Sister Mary Pauline Kelliger, president and co-founder of the College of St. Elizabeth, the first Catholic college for women opened in the United States.

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