

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

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Friday, March 22, 1918. Holy Week. The Lenten season is nearing an end. Next week is the solemn climax of the devotional time prescribed better known as Holy Week.

In that space of seven days is reproduced before our minds the solemnities of the betrayal of Christ, the Last supper, the Agony in the Garden, the trial before Pilate, the condemnation of our Lord, the weary journey to Calvary and the Cross, the Crucifixion, the laying in the Tomb of our Savior and then, fitting climax, His triumphant resurrection on Easter Sunday.

When the war cloud hangs heavy over the world, perhaps we can best appreciate the real meaning of Holy Week and also that we must live nearer to what God prescribes if peace is ever to come to this war-torn world. If men only practiced now what the Master taught twenty centuries ago, there would, could not be any war today.

The world could not have continued to defy God as was done in so many parts and not draw down punishment upon themselves. Who shall say that the war is not due to the excesses and lack of faith in God of the world at large?

And that war may cease and peace may come to the world soon, let us pray fervently during the week to come. Prayer availeth much and we must use this means of saving our own immortal souls and of aiding our fellow men.

Just Remember! If the "Saturday Evening Post" wishes to retain Catholic readers and patronage perhaps the Curtis company would prefer to have us withdraw - it will eliminate from future issues that malicious attack on Pope Benedict XV. that appeared on February 9th and also make public apology for that article.

There is no excuse for a supposedly reputable publication lending its columns to vilification of the head of the Church that numbers her communicants in this country by the millions, in this great world crisis when the trend is toward a breaking down of racial and sectarian barriers and when all men are being drawn closer to each other by more than ordinary ties.

Should Be Studied. Aside from the principles involved, aside from the moral issues involved, aside from the ethical proposition whether the public has a right or not to destroy the value of existing assessments, there is a phase of the popular trend of public sentiment toward prohibition and municipal ownership of public utilities.

Are the advocates of these two changes ready and willing to bear their fair share of the added tax burdens which must ensue? The annual revenue the State derives from the excise receipts is about \$20,000,000. Half of this goes back to the localities where collected, the other half goes into the State treasury. State and municipality will be minus this revenue if statewide prohibition prevails.

If the public takes over the personal probity or moral character of the successful leaders of service, electric and gas lighting and telephones, while these may be operated by the public at a slight margin of profit, the taxable property of these utilities is thereafter exempt from taxation. In the big cities of New York state, this would mean the loss of millions of dollars from the rolls of taxable property and the citizens would be increased to make up for that loss.

Of course, non-taxpayers and transient non-property owners would not be interested in a high or tax rate and higher tax bills but the taxpayers are or should be interested. If, after full and free investigation, the taxpayers are willing to add to their tax burdens, well and good. But they should proceed with their eyes open, not shut.

Not Wise.

Those who advised Governor Whitman to send in a veto in advance of legislative action, on legislation pending in the Legislature which was expected to be counter to the desires of the executive, were foolish counsellors. The State Constitution contemplates three branches of government, inter-dependent perhaps, but each active independently viz: executive, legislative and judicial. The executive was to recommend, approve and reject. The legislative branch was to deliberate upon and enact laws, subject to the approval of the executive. The judicial was to interpret whether the acts of the executive and judicial branches of the Government had acted in accordance with powers conferred by the Constitution and to hand out justice as between disputations and litigants or between the people and breakers of the law.

There has been a marked tendency of late for the executive branch to attempt to bulldoze, browbeat and intimidate the legislative branch and for the judicial branch to usurp and supersede the functions of both the executive and legislative branches. There should be a return to the Constitutional limitations and restrictions.

What Is Tammany?

An evening paper in New York has been running a series of articles under the above caption written by Richard F. Spillane. They contain considerable information of a more or less interesting nature, according to the mental make-up of him who reads them.

Tammany Hall is a sort of dual organization. The Tammany Society is venerable in origin and is a social and fraternal beneficiary society. It owns Tammany Hall, where the political Tammany society - which is really and legally the Democratic organization of New York county - meets and transacts business. The Tammany Society has on its membership rolls men of all political affiliations, the Tammany political society admits only Democrats. The grand sachem, or president of the Tammany Society, may or may not be the political leader of Tammany Hall. Court Justice Daniel F. Cohalan was grand sachem of the Tammany Society when Charles F. Murphy was political leader of Tammany Hall.

Tammany Hall has been temporarily dethroned from control, politically, in New York but it has not been dissipated as a political force. Sooner or later it has come into power again. Why? Because it is a wonderful organization conducted along practical lines by practical men.

Probably Charles F. Murphy is the most powerful leader Tammany has had, and his most relentless opponents have not been able to successfully challenge his personal probity or moral character. The successful leaders of Tammany have been Irishmen and telephones, while these may be operated by the public at a slight margin of profit, the taxable property of these utilities is thereafter exempt from taxation.

In the words of this writer of Tammany's history "Queer institution is Tammany." A Syracuse draft board has ruled that a newspaper reporter is engaged in a necessary industrial enterprise and placed him in the deferred list - really exempted him from military service.

Pass a rural school law one year, repeal it the next is the latest performance of the New York State legislature.

Catholic fraternal orders are doing their bit to push sales of "thrift stamps." Many a man or woman, boy or girl who cannot afford to buy a Liberty bond can afford to purchase these 25 cent thrift stamps until they have enough to make up a thrift certificate. These 25 cent purchases have already aggregated millions of dollars and will swell Uncle Sam's coffers and do much to win the war. Moreover, they are a good investment.

If one has not yet made his Easter duty now is a good time to do it. Never put off an important duty but perform it at as early date as possible.

Subscribe for a Catholic paper this week. You need it in your home.

Service flags over the Catholic churches of Rochester, even those of foreign language, are not needed to attest our patriotism but they are there just the same so he who runs may read.

Water Kernan will go down in history more for his R. of C. work than for his career as an advocate, distinguished though that has been or may be.

Those R. of C. secretaries will have a wonderful experience. Moreover, they are not of draft age so they do not reduce the fighting contingent or necessitate others being drafted to take their places. And yet who shall say that their services to God and country may not equal the military service of their fellows?

Bishop Hickey continues to be among the leaders in all movements for civil betterment while his Catholic laymen support him to the limit. It is well to let our works be known to all men.

"We should eat more eulachon" says the Federal Bureau of Fisheries. "Eulachon" is described as a fine fish found in the Pacific ocean. Send some of it to Rochester? Pshaw! Before it reached here the price would be prohibitive.

Mr. Hoover was not appointed to reduce prices, cites a Washington paragraph. We had an idea that that was to be one of his functions. If it were, he has paid little attention to it.

Now is a good time to subscribe for and to read a Catholic paper.

Removal Sale



About April 1st we move to 71 Clinton Ave. South, near Victoria Theater. Rare Bargains in HAIR GOODS. Sale now going on. Hair Switches, 28 inches long, Removal Sale, \$1.98; formerly \$3.50. Wavy Hair Switches made of fine, soft hair, \$3.50; formerly \$6.50. Bargains in every department. 30 years' experience back of our goods.

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