

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

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New Year.

Another twelvemonth will have passed into eternal history ere this issue of the Catholic Journal reaches its readers another twelve month with all it brought of good or evil, of pleasure or sorrow, of wealth or poverty. We have finished the world war so far as active hostilities are concerned and, it is hoped that the coming Peace Congress will reach such world-wide peace for years to come.

During the year to come the problems of reconstruction will present problems as serious, as complex, as complicated as any that were presented during the War. There will be need of wise counsel, steady heads and sage advice. Men must needs preserve a steady balance.

Above all, must we be fervent in our appeal for Divine guidance and help if we are to solve these problems wisely.

To each and all of its readers, the Catholic Journal wishes a Happy New Year.

High-minded.

General Leonard Wood has sent to each of the soldiers mustered out at his camp a letter breathing such high-minded and patriotic sentiments that we cannot refrain from reproducing it as follows:

"In the performance of military duty to one's country in time of war it is not for the citizen called to the colors to select the kind of service to be done by him. One who has willingly and loyally responded to the call to arms, and who has put his best efforts, mental and physical, into the training, and performed all military duties required of him to the best of his ability, standing ready always to make the supreme sacrifice of life itself, if need be, has done all that a good citizen and soldier could do in the successful prosecution of the war.

"Although I appreciate the opportunity you feel the disappointment of your failure to secure duty overseas in the actual battle area, I know you rejoice together with all Americans in the prospect of a righteous and just peace imposed upon the enemy and the termination of the terrible conflict which has involved the whole civilized world. You have done your best. You have cheerfully and loyally discharged the duty of every citizen in time of war and your work has been a part of the great national effort which has aided in securing a victorious peace."

"You are discharged from the army because your services are no longer required in the present emergency. You will return to your place in civil life all the better for the training you have had, and I feel sure you will take with you a better and higher appreciation of the obligations of citizenship, including the obligation of every man to be trained, prepared and ready to render service to the nation in war as well as in peace." Signed, Leonard Wood, major general.

Problems.

Arguing for Catholic semi-weeklies and dailies, Nicholas Gonner, editor of the "Catholic Tribune" of Dubuque, Iowa, presents these reconstruction problems to be handled journalistically from a Catholic viewpoint: "Correct Americanization of the foreign elements that are present in the country, and the immigration that may come; means and methods of avoiding the great danger of misunderstanding the presence and importance of the Catholic school system, efforts to procure a proper appreciation of the patriotic and civic value of our Catholic schools among non-Catholics; modern methods in dispelling the bigotry of those who distrust us because they do not realize the real meaning of our

adherence to the Papacy of Rome, believing it detracts from the American ideal of education and citizenship - (i. e., explaining "Ultramontanism"); opposition to all forms of monopoly of education local, state or national; the care of invalid soldiers and crippled, and the many problems of practical charity, which are upon us with the list of dead and injured, the new political era and the new political method which will naturally be demanded by the returning soldiers, and those accustomed to the direct action, etc., etc. All these and many other interests and difficulties will test the religious, charitable, social and political value of the Church in the United States and also test the service-value of the Catholic press as an agency of Christian Americanism, in the best sense.

Cost Him Money.

There's a man down in Oneonta, David Wagner, 66 years old, who is not so fond of "the Menace" as he was.

David was inspired by "Menace" editorials to distribute leaflets giving that bogus Knights of Columbus oath. He was arrested, tried in United States court in Auburn, convicted and fined \$100 which he paid. If he hadn't, he would have gone to jail for a few months.

In passing sentence, United States Judge, George W. Ray said:

"No body of men have shown themselves more devoted to the union and to the cause of our country in this war than have the Catholics. The Knights of Columbus have co-operated valiantly with the Red Cross and other organizations for the general good. I am not a Catholic, but I want to say to you that I wish you would promise not to read any more in the Menace, which I understand you take. Such statements as have been published in that paper are harmful and they hinder and retard a lot in our country, as well as being false from the start."

Let us hope the report that Rochester marches in a parade above the public health is a base falsehood.

In England the milk is kept for the babies and it costs an adult who drinks a glass of milk \$25 in the United States. The "Times-Union" would have an English plan tried here but minus the ale and beer. What then shall the poor American man drink? Tea or coffee? Or must he turn to drugs?

The Society of the Genesee keeps the Rochester folk who sojourn in New York in touch with each other once a year at least.

If it be true that Bishop Mulcahy, of Rockford, has been appointed Archbishop of St. Paul to succeed Archbishop Ireland, another giant, ecclesiastically, has been added to the managing directorate of the American hierarchy.

If in doubt as to an appropriate New Year present, why not give your friend a year's subscription to the Catholic Journal?

President Wilson has endeared himself to the correspondents by granting a personal interview to a representative of the London "Times".

The Post-Express does not like President Wilson's views. Neither does Theodore Roosevelt, William H. Taft and Charles E. Hughes, all of whom he has defeated in the political and forensic arena.

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Dutch Form of Golf.

It is not known whether the Dutch form of golf is a new invention or a modification of the English form. The Dutch form is played on a green with stakes instead of holes. No rules for such play have ever been discovered, but from pictures we learn that the finish of the Hollandish form was somewhat after the fashion of cricket, with the ball being hit between two sticks.

Wisdom of Solomon.

In the proverbs of Solomon there is a lot of wisdom. Though it is not a book of a hundred chapters, it is a book of a hundred chapters. It is a book of a hundred chapters. It is a book of a hundred chapters.

Portuguese Cemeteries.

Instead of headstones and monuments the cemetery of Lisbon shows rows and rows of tiny chapels ranged in long avenues bordered by cypress

trees. The Portuguese are reluctant to bury their dead out of sight, and these chapels serve as niches for the coffins, which are placed on the shelves within. Through the iron grill the eye discerns small altars and flowers gleaming through the subdued light of the interiors.

"A Little Learning."

The following are some of the answers recently given in a school examination on "general knowledge": "Gravitation is when an apple falls on the floor." "Benjamin Franklin invented lightning." "The place where they keep all kinds of wild animals is called a zoological garden." "One of the most important inventions of modern times is the North Pole."

"Take It Easy."

A young man who had just made a very bad mistake in a business deal, said to his partner: "Take it easy, I'll be right back."

is procured artificially by the destructive distillation of nitrogen organic matters, such as bones, hair, horns and hoofs, and is largely obtained as a by-product in the manufacture of illuminating gas from coal.

Denaturing Alcohol.

Alcohol is denatured by the addition thereto of an element which renders it unfit to drink and which may not be removed from the spirit by any process short of destruction. The term arose as a convenient designation of alcohol whose nature had been altered, and its distending was made official by legislation in congress.

The World's Diamonds.

Diamonds of the weight of 28 2/3 tons, of a value of \$1,000,000,000, have been taken from the earth from the earliest time to the present day. These figures, however, only concern the stones being cut, which reduce their value by half, but not their value by five.

Philippine Horses.

The horses of the Philippine islands are rather containing a mixture of the blood of ponies and small horses from northern China. French Indochina and Mexico, with a considerable admixture of Arab blood. There are about 250,000 horses in the islands.

Ammonia.

Ammonia is found in minute quantities in the atmosphere and is a natural product of the decay of animal substances. It

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