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Friday, January 9, 1920.

**Right**

A Rochesterian is quoted in  
The Post Express as suggesting  
as an appropriate New Year's res-  
olution "to go slow on drives of  
all sorts".

Undoubtedly, the general pub-  
lic is tired of drives and cam-  
paigns. There have been so many  
calls both in time, service and  
money for this or that cause, dur-  
ing the last two years, that peo-  
ple have become surfeited as it  
were, no matter how worthy the  
cause. It is a fact that the war  
stress and enthusiasm has been  
utilized to "pull over" successful  
appeals for many aims and objects  
connected either remotely or not at  
all with the ravages of war. Char-  
ities of all sorts, uplift organiza-  
tions of all types, good, bad, in-  
different and unworthy have  
taken advantage of the generous  
spirit abroad and by clever pub-  
licity work engineered by equally  
clever press agents have succeed-  
ed in arousing sufficient interest  
to reap substantial increases in  
their treasuries. Of course, the  
publicity artists and press agents  
have been remunerated for their  
services—at the expense of the  
contributing public.

Because of the Community  
Fund in Rochester these appeals,  
drives and campaigns have been  
less troublesome than in other  
places where the entire public is  
beseeched to subscribe to the Boy  
Scouts, the Belgian Relief, the  
Armenian refugees fund, the  
fund to aid starving children in  
Madagascar and a thousand and  
one other reliefs. And the worst  
of it all is that these do not come  
singly but, as a rule if one launch-  
es a campaign, half a dozen are  
in the field the same week with  
the net result that the artisan,  
the clerk or any other person on  
a fixed salary finds his pay en-  
velope depleted considerably.

It would seem as if a Commu-  
nity Fund to cover all appeals—so  
that they could be investigated  
and their worthiness vouched  
for—were a necessity in every  
community else the spirit of war  
generosity will soon be quenched  
and even worthy purposes will  
lack support.

Rt. Rev. Bishop Leo Haid, O.  
S.B., has completed his 50th year  
as a Benedictine. The unique an-  
niversary was fittingly celebrated  
in his own abbey in Belmont, N.C.

Exemplification of 1,100 candi-  
dates for fourth degree mem-  
bership in the Knights of Columbus,  
of whom 800 are ex-service men,  
was held in the Hotel LaSalle,  
Chicago, recently.

During the period from early  
April until late November, 32  
week-end retreats had been con-  
ducted at Mt. Manresa, Staten  
Island, with a total attendance  
of about 1,600. Week-end re-  
treats given by Father Shealy in  
New York bring the grand total  
of attendance to nearly  
2,000.

**Provocation**

Writing from Dublin, "Maire  
De Buitleur" gives these striking  
instances of provocation given  
the Irish people by their British  
masters for rebellion, either pas-  
sive or active:—

Trial by jury has been practi-  
cally abolished. Men arrested for  
sedition are tried either by court  
martial or by castle judges and  
magistrates; there is no free  
speech or free press; the curfew  
act, obliging people to stay in-  
doors after sunset, is to be en-  
forced; fairs cannot be held with-  
out a permit; soldiers with fixed  
bayonets bar the way to fair-  
green and market; motors cannot  
be kept without a permit; the  
police have orders to shoot at  
sight anyone refusing to show  
permit; meetings held to inquire  
into the industrial resources of  
Ireland have been dispersed by  
armed soldiers and police in Mon-  
aghan and Limerick and forbid-  
den to be held in Dublin; news-  
papers have been warned on peril  
of suppression not to advertise  
proceedings in connection with  
the commission of inquiry into  
Irish industrial resources initiated  
by Dail Eireann and taken part  
in by men of all shades of thought.

The above-mentioned are but a  
few instances of the regime of a  
coercion under which we are at  
present living. It would take vol-  
umes to describe the regime in  
detail, but it may be added that  
what is most trying of all are the  
petty insults, the incessant pin-  
pricks which the garrison party  
inflicts on the nation.

"It makes my blood boil," as a  
lady of high breeding remarked  
to me recently. "The accumulated  
indignities are almost unbearable,  
yet how can we show our resent-  
ment without bringing ourselves  
into the notoriety from which a  
woman of dignity and refinement  
shrinks."

**It Is Needed.**

Congratulations to the recently  
organized American Catholic His-  
torical Society. It is needed in the  
United States just as was the  
Catholic Educational Association.  
We must keep abreast of the  
times and, necessarily, our own  
educational problems and our own  
history, being of special and sep-  
arate nature, so far as the Church  
and Catholic side are concerned.  
Naturally, Catholic develop-  
ment enters with general histor-  
ical data but as we know from  
reference works and encyclopedic  
publications, these matters  
cannot be treated discriminating-  
ly or intelligently by a non-Cath-  
olic hence it was necessary to  
compile and publish our own  
Catholic Encyclopaedia. The same  
relation exists between the Amer-  
ican Historical Society and Amer-  
ican Catholic historical data.

Then again: the national or-  
ganization can assist the local and  
diocesan Catholic historical socie-  
ties in research and compilation  
and correlate their individual ef-  
forts for the benefit of the col-  
lective whole.

Above all, the new national  
historical society gives us another  
instance of our keeping step with  
every progressive movement—  
especially in scholarly pursuits  
where we have been charged  
with retrogression, in fact as  
lacking completely. Such organ-  
izations, as we speak of, if live  
and alert, will do much to con-  
found and overwhelm the igno-  
rant bigots.

Three of the most important  
sees in the Church, whose Arch-  
bishops are generally created  
Cardinals, are now without that  
dignity. They are Breslau, Cologne  
and New York, and they are  
numerically and in importance  
the three largest sees in the  
Church.

Three priests have been elected  
as members of the French cham-  
ber. Father Lemire has been re-  
elected, and in Alsace-Lorraine  
Fathers Weckerle and Mueller  
were chosen.

**Once Again.**

The Legislature of 1920 is with  
us or upon us. Take either horn  
of the dilemma.

What a welcome relief it would  
be if just once it were announced  
that the Legislature proposed to  
pass no new laws during its ses-  
sion but only intended to enact  
the necessary appropriation bills  
and then adjourn.

We would be spared the mon-  
strosity of passing and then  
amending a law at one and the  
same session. We would be able  
to assimilate the mass of laws; or  
what were labeled laws, passed  
at the same session even the law-  
yers admit they cannot begin to  
digest by December 31st the mass  
of legislation placed upon the sta-  
tute books by the Legislature that  
adjourned May 1st previously.

While we are on the subject  
we cannot refrain from remind-  
ing our readers that they, as a  
part of the dear public, are part-  
ly to blame for this condition.  
First—they persist in electing a  
ninety per cent lawyer legislature  
to make laws for a population  
ninety per cent industrial and  
agricultural in complexion. Sec-  
ond—the public sends ninety per  
cent of the hodge-podge legisla-  
tive problems to the legislators.

The latter realize the impossi-  
bility of many of these proposed  
measures but they lack the moral  
courage to be temporarily unpop-  
ular and so they swim with the  
current and "let the courts wres-  
tle with the half-baked laws—  
or alleged laws.

A return to the era of common  
sense for a year or so would mean  
millions of dollars—in a material  
way to the Empire State to say  
nothing of the alleviation of so-  
cial unrest.

**Worth While.**

It is our opinion that no great  
harm can come while much good  
may result from such an organ-  
ization as is described in a recent  
editorial in The Post Express as  
follows:—

Dr. John Nelson Norwood, pro-  
fessor of political science at Al-  
fred university, has been work-  
ing for some time to perfect an  
organization of the alumni and  
students of political science in  
the higher schools of the nation  
for the study and protection of  
American institutions and a clear  
definition of American ideals. This  
effort is now to come to its goal  
in the formation of a graduate  
and undergraduate league to  
which all the college and univer-  
sity coterie of the nation are in-  
vited as members. Dr. Norwood's  
idea is that such a league would  
serve as a great influence to en-  
courage wide offering of courses  
in which students will receive  
thorough grounding in the essen-  
tials of American history and in  
the mechanics of our republican  
form of government. It will also  
be a focus for intelligent opinion  
and discussion of current prob-  
lems, furnishing a background  
of information that will lend  
weight to the opinions advanced.

One thing a strong association  
of political economy students, in  
school and out, would do is to  
offer a corrective for much of the  
intellectual anarchy that runs  
into and out of our schools.  
Schools are tolerant of opinion  
since it is their business to build  
the processes of forming and  
stating of opinion. It has so  
happened that minority opinion  
stated in a fashion more alluring  
than the common sense back of it  
is strong has outvoiced the solid  
conviction of a silent minority in  
many of our schools. Such an or-  
ganization as is now promoted  
would solidify the balanced  
thought of our educational insti-  
tutions; it would furnish plenty  
of opponents to combat the "wild  
men" of the teachers' platform,  
both in schoolhouse and outside.

Heartly congratulations to Jer-  
emiah G. Hickey on his elevation  
to the Presidency of the Roches-  
ter Chamber of Commerce.

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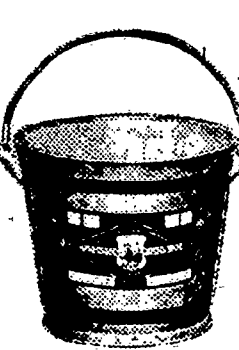
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