

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AT
60 Main St. E., Cor. Windsor St.
4th Floor. Rochester, N. Y.

BY THE
CATHOLIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING
COMPANY

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
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Entered at second class mail matter.
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Friday, January 23, 1920.
Common Sense.

We hear in some quarters whining wails from uninformed or poorly informed persons who cannot understand why the workers, or perhaps one should say the poorer classes are "so unappreciative of the blessings their superiors try so hard to bestow upon them".

In our opinion, the best reason for this apparent lack of appreciation is presented by the "Yale Review" in the following paragraphs:

"For three-quarters of a century the social uplift worker has been nobly engaged in bettering the conditions of living created by modern industry. With much to be done, he has accomplished much; but his most has failed to bring content. Even where he has secured the active co-operation of the estate and the individual manufacturer and, in consequence, succeeded in attaining or approximating his ideals, he has failed, we venture to say, to bring content. Houses designed with a view to please the workman's eye and reduce the labor of his wife—sewered, drained, centrally heated, electrically lighted, equipped with "all the modern conveniences," and with a stunted evergreen in a garden box on each side of the front door; hospitals and community nurses; schools that have theaters, refectories, gymnasiums, pictures on the walls, and even real teachers in the class rooms; libraries—open or closed shelf; parks and playgrounds with trained attendants, one to show the larger children how to use the gymnastic apparatus, another to lead the songs and dances of the middle-sized children, and a third to dust the canopies; churches with every conceivable parish house activity and preachers who make using the Ten Commandments seem easy and natural—all this is paradise, but it is not content. And the real man would be just about as contented in such a community as he would be in paradise; which is to say, not much. Unless contrary to everything we have been led to expect, he should be permitted to tumble it down and build it over again. We could get used to walking on golden pavements no time; but it would make us extremely nervous and depressed to know they were permanently laid."

The average man prefers to lay out his own grounds; to plan his home as he and his wife would have it a bit neater or prettier than that of his neighbor; any way, he likes it a bit different. Nothing discourages initiative more than to be compelled to live in a house or flat identical in material, appearance and design to a hundred, or five hundred others in close proximity. The average worker whole-heartedly yet but his friends are booming him in which to him for the presidency. It pays him an adequate to advertise.

wage and he'll have home surroundings in keeping. But too often "the ready made company flat or tenement" inspires hatred, at least it inspires no great desire to keep it up in shape, let alone make any permanent improvements.

But the uninformed "uplifters" many of whom never worked a day in their lives cannot understand this and never will.

Which Is Right.

Is the Post Express right in the following paragraph, or has the general staff sought to usurp all the functions of the commanding general, the War Department and the President of the United States, in short become the very autocratic bureaucracy:—
"Congressman Gallivan, of Massachusetts, charges the general staff of the army with usurping the functions of departments of the service. The charitable view of this seems to indicate a lack of knowledge on his part of the essential functions of a general staff. The (usurpation) of which Mr. Gallivan complains apparently results from the fact that certain matters formerly left in the hands of various departments, without close liaison, are now co-ordinated under general supervision of an officer of the general staff. If such a staff, which in continental armies is the controlling and planning brain, is to exercise its functions properly, virtually all matters should come under its supervision. There is distinct reminder in Mr. Gallivan's remarks of the fierce opposition formerly met by the general staff from the old war department bureaucracy."

They Should Decide.

If there is any one matter on which the average person should mind his own business—in fact, that the general public should keep out of, it is the discussion as to whether the bodies of the soldiers who died in the service of their country should continue to repose in France or whether they should be brought back to their native land and buried near their respective homes. Even the Secretary of War should refrain from expressing any opinion. No Federal or state officer or any other citizen has any business helping along the French Government to forbid the moving of the dead relatives to visit France and thus swell the coffers of the French railroads, the French hotels and the French charges to foreign tourists. Undertaker profiteers should be kicked to the rear ranks.

But the fathers and mothers and wives and other relatives of the dead soldiers are the only ones whose wishes should be consulted. Those who wish their loved ones to repose in France should have their wishes respected. Those who wish their loved ones brought back should have their wishes respected.

This is not a case where majority rule can or should prevail. Each individual case can, should and must be judged on its merits. Meanwhile let us who have no loved ones "buried over there" cease meddling with what is not our business, lest we be charged with ulterior motives.

Dr. Laurence Flick, one of the founders of the Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia and one of the seven gentlemen honored in 1915 by the American Catholic University to receive the honorary degree of doctor of Civil Law has been elected first president of the newly organized American Catholic Historical Society.

Ole Hansen resigned as Mayor of Seattle to go upon the lecture platform. Governor Coolidge of Massachusetts has not resigned yet but his friends are booming him for the presidency. It pays him an adequate to advertise.

Good Work.

It will be recalled that in Georgia, as in no other state, the bigots up to a year or so ago flourished and grew in numbers. This was the first state to pass a "convent inspection law". Practically, every paper in the state was attacking the Catholic Church. Aided by the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Laymen's Association was organized and things have changed as the following statement by Bishop Kelley indicates:—

"If I am asked for some tangible evidence of good done by the Catholic Laymen's Association, I will point to a few facts:

"There are about one hundred and eighty papers published in Georgia. Five years ago there was not a paper in the state, save one, that did not either attack the Church or print attacks on her, or copy regularly in its columns articles reflecting on her teaching and practices, or misrepresenting Catholics. Of these one hundred and eighty papers, fully five-sixths of them contained every week these bitter attacks. Today, with the exception of Watson's sheet, and—God save the mark—a religious (?) paper published in Atlanta, and one other, there is not in the state a paper which attacks the Church. A curious illustration is presented by the following fact:

A careful examination of the papers shows that out of 3,500 editorials in the various Georgia papers last year, which dealt with Catholic subjects, there were not one hundred which were in any way offensive. The files of the publicity bureau are filed with letters of thanks for information on Catholic questions, and asking for further light.

"I will cite one more fact in connection with the work of the association. Since it commenced its work, the number of converts to the faith in Georgia has been larger in proportion to the Catholic population than in any other diocese in this province.

Here is the way a Catholic contemporary sums up the economic situation:—"During the past few months the outcry against the cost of living has increased in intensity. Labor naturally makes the cost of living the basis of demands for higher wages. Capital makes it the basis for its imposition of higher prices. It is patent—and the press has not been backward in pointing this out—that to meet all such demands and to submit to all such impositions continually has meant and will mean a repetition of the process after the manner of a "merry-go-round"—we will never "get anywhere," and the benefits of the process will be few, if any, and very, very momentary."

Will the Anti-Saloon League insist that the Bibles must eliminate the Miracle of Cana or be denied admission through the mails? The word "wine" occurs therein and the Federal law prohibits any advertisement or printed matter containing the words, (or any of them) "ale, beer, whiskey, gin or wine."

While he is not responsible for the gathering going to San Francisco, we'll wager there will be many delegates to the Democratic National convention next June who will pay their respects to Archbishop Edward J. Hanna.

Already the political pot is boiling so far as presidential and gubernatorial candidates are concerned.

Are not the druggists who are charging \$10 a pint for liquor under a physician's prescription guilty of profiteering?

"Held guilty of profiteering in that he sold 100 pounds of sugar at 18 cents a pound". No, that happened in New York, not Rochester. Or was he convicted because he sold 100 pounds at once instead of doling it out in pound and half pound packages to 10 or 200 customers!

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