

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

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

BY THE
CATHOLIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING
COMPANY

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Per Year, In Advance, \$1.00
Entered at second class mail matter.
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Friday, April 30, 1920.

Church Leads

According to the report just issued by the Census Bureau in Washington of the religious bodies in the United States in 1916, the Catholic Church led them with a total membership of 18,721,815, an increase over the previous census—about 10 years before of 1,511,000. The official figures in the Catholic Directory for 1919 showed that when 1920 opened there were 17,735,553 Catholics in the United States, an increase of more than 2,000,000 over the 1916 census figures.

Turning again to the census figures of 1916.—The total number of church members in the United States was 41,926,854—showing the Catholic Church numbers about one-third of these. In 1906 there were 11,881 Catholic Church edifices in the United States; in 1916 there were 15,120. The census shows the value of Catholic Church property to be \$74,206,895—an increase of nearly \$100,000,000 in a decade.

The Catholic Church reports 994 educational institutions with 152,905 students; 1,188 philanthropic institutions with 616,513 inmates and patients.

In 1916 there were 25 states in this Republic for each of which there were reported over 100,000 members of the Catholic Church and each of four States reported over 1,000,000 members—New York, 2,745,552; Pennsylvania, 1,830,532; Massachusetts, 1,410,208; Illinois, 1,171,331.

On Irish Side

Not all the English papers are in favor of Lloyd George's Irish policy. Here is what the London "Daily News"—says—and the English Government has not suppressed it either:—

"Dublin Castle is stuffed to bursting with the enemies of Ireland. Lord MacDonnell said, even before the war, that if any British colony were governed by Dublin Castle it would rise in revolt. Yet Dublin Castle at that time was toothless and tame. Today it is mad and poison-fanged as it has not been since the union. Is it any wonder that the Irish people are themselves feeling something of the madness of anger and despair? Any government can drive its subjects into crime, if it chooses to do so. The only way to put an end to crime in Ireland, is to put an end to Dublin Castle, which is the source and headquarters of crime. What Ireland needs as a cure for crime is more liberty and fewer machine guns. Like every other nation, Ireland merely demands to be governed, not by those who hate her, but by those who love her."

Because they once were children the men of today owe a duty to the children.

Archbishop Hanna is on his way to pay his ad limina visit to the Holy Father.

The Legislature

Time will tell the real place that the Legislature of 1920 will occupy in the legislative annals of New York State. Just at present we fancy that it does not occupy a high place in public conception of legislative action. We fancy the people at large think the Legislature of 1920 frittered away much of its time over non-essentials and did not get down to real business until almost the time set for final adjournment. There are differences of opinion as to whether the ouster of the five Socialist members of Assembly and the passage of the bills designed to end the Socialist party as a political entity and to restrain all education institutions to limits set by the Board of Regents is really a movement in the direction of real patriotism. The advocates of the so-called welfare bills and the supporters of Governor Smith's "reconstruction programme" are provoked that the Legislature adjourned without a vote on them. But the opponents of this "welfare programme" are jubilant and point to the fact that most of the Governor's reconstruction programme was embodied in the constitution adopted by the convention of 1915 and rejected by overwhelming vote when submitted to the popular vote of the people of the State.

Undoubtedly, the teachers of the State are inclined to think that the Legislature which granted them substantial salary increases ranks pretty high. Whether the taxpayers, who will have to foot the bills, will feel so well satisfied when they get their county tax bills next January and note the increase necessitated by the raising of \$30,000,000 to pay increased salary bills for teachers most of whom are employed in the big cities.

However, when all the facts are analyzed, when all the legislation of 1920 is listed, when the proposed fool legislation that was killed by the Legislature of 1920 is detailed and catalogued, we incline to the opinion that the people will not be so ashamed of the Legislature of 1920. When it did not yield to the demands of William H. Anderson it manifested a belated independence, all the more welcome because it was so unexpected.

At the same time we feel that a great many persons wish that the Legislature of 1920 was the last under direct primaries and fear the worst is yet to come.

Remember Him!

Senator C. S. Thomas, of Colorado, is no believer in the Irish Republic.

Writing Joseph B. Moran, secretary of the Denver drive, in reply to a telegram sent to all the Colorado representatives in Congress, following a big local mass meeting, Senator Thomas said:—

Joseph A. Morgan, Esq., Denver, Colo.:

MY DEAR SIR—Replying to your telegram of the 28th instant, I beg to inform you that the Congress of the United States has no power to recognize the existence of any new nation.

Candor compels me to add that if the Sinn Feiners will cease their carnival of murder and outrage there will be no reign of terror in Ireland.

Yours very truly,
C. S. THOMAS.

The Omaha "True Voice" says that the hope of Ireland lies in the moral power and the justice of her cause. The whole civilized world knows that England is committing an injustice in Ireland and England herself knows it and fears the rebuke of the people of every nation.

New York, New Jersey and Rhode Island seem not to be in step for the Eighteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Catholic Women's Club

The advent of the Catholic Women's Club adds Rochester to the list of cities where this activity has been in existence several years. The possibilities of such an organization in a city with the Catholic population as large as it is in Rochester are many, varied and important. With women to the fore in so many directions the Catholic Women's Club can be of great service in furnishing a community forum where our Catholic women may meet and formulate plans for various lines of social work, where Catholic women may be kept informed as to the progress of purely Catholic activities in order to be able to combat error when it shows its head. Too often non-Catholics make honest misstatements of our position because they are not well informed and their Catholic associates are not sufficiently informed on their own lines to be able to set their non-Catholic friends right.

For the Catholic woman with inclination to mix in club life but who finds the atmosphere of the average woman's club not to her taste, the Catholic Women's Club will provide a place where she can meet women of her own faith and in an atmosphere not exotic, not bizarre, not material and yet not too spiritual as the average strictly Church confraternity.

There are infinite possibilities for the Catholic Women's Club, under the wise guidance of Rt. Rev. Bishop Hickey who will be its spiritual director and friendly adviser.

They are still trying in Michigan to amend their state constitution so as to abolish Catholic schools! Fine enlightened State!

Walking may be the favorite Rochester sport if street car strikes and poor service continue to supplement each other.

Why should England not accord to Ireland the same measure of freedom that she does to Canada and Australia?

The State Department of Agriculture would permit vinegar made of windfalls and rotten apples to be labeled and sold as pure vinegar while vinegar made from the skins and cores of apples put through the evaporators—after being thoroughly elansed—must be branded as inferior vinegar. Queer distinctions, these, experts draw!

It would appear that Missourians think more of Woodrow Wilson and William Jennings Bryan and the League of Nations than they do of Senator James A. Reed, the outspoken opponent of the League as Mr. Wilson had laid it out.

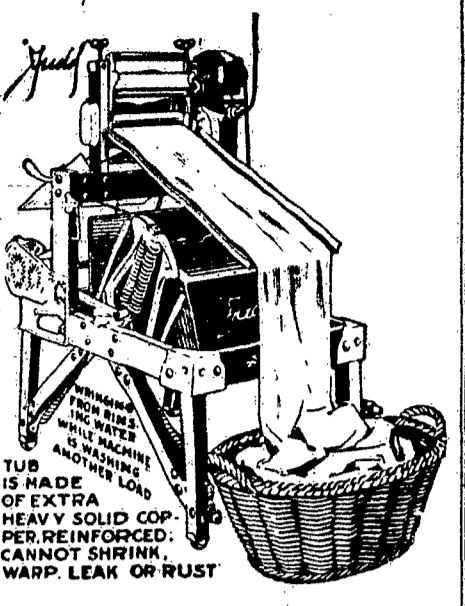
Queer results from direct primaries:—In Nebraska, Senator Hitchcock is indorsed as democratic candidate for president and William Jennings Bryan, who is his bitter political opponent, is elected a delegate-at-large to the San Francisco convention and instructed to vote for Hitchcock!

Shorter workdays and lessened production may furnish the remedy for the high cost of living but we doubt it.

Will President Wilson be a candidate for a third term? That problem is puzzling all the politicians.

The National Catholic Welfare Council's News Service bids fair to be a great addition to the Catholic press of the United States.

Says the London "Record"—The moral atmosphere is changing; and it is not changing for the better. And the idea is making headway amongst girls—even amongst good girls—that sweetness and demureness are out of date, and that, if a girl wants to be made much of, and to have "a good time," she must be a bit of "a sport."



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