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Friday, May 28, 1920.

St. Joan of Arc

After nearly 500 years, Joan of Arc has been fully rehabilitated and vindicated. Although contemporaneous historians have long since acknowledged that Joan was cruelly slandered and murdered because of the desertion of her King and country it took longer to test the claims of her admirers that she should be canonized and thus admitted to the Community of Saints. At last the proofs were complete, the investigators were completely satisfied and a few days ago the ceremony was finished when in the presence of one of the most distinguished assemblages ever gathered in Rome, Pope Benedict XV solemnly proclaimed the canonization of the Maid of Orleans. Rochester was particularly interested in the canonization of St. Joan of Arc in that among the prelates there was our own Archbishop Hanna, of San Francisco, and it is also understood that included among those of the laity who witnessed the ceremony, was the Archbishop's sister, Mrs. William Bassett, of this city.

The Smith Vetoes

Governor Smith's opinions on New York State's Legislature, as instanced by his memoranda in approval or disapproval of the enacted statutes of the Session of 1920, make interesting reading. The veto of the Lusk committee "anti-sedition bills", we fancy, will appeal to most persons outside of the group that is imbued with the idea that all foreigners or persons of foreign descent are necessarily saturated in treason and hence they should be shackled hand and foot and gagged. When a man is permitted to talk in the open his attitude and real mental poise can be listed. But if you gag him his brain is still seething in discontent and he is likely to translate the sentiments into violent expression, wholly unexpected until the violence is exerted. Especially, do we fancy most persons will applaud the veto of the bill giving the attorney-general power to build up a secret service. There are too many spies and snoops, official and unofficial abroad now. Their number should be decreased, not increased. The veto of the Fowler bill to repeal the New York State daylight savings law, so as to have the Empire State standard of time conform with the Federal standard, will not receive the approval of the farmers, the doctors, or many of the workers. But it is backed by the city chaps who wish more recreation still shorter hours of work, more golf and automobiling, and less production—necessitating higher and still higher prices for commodities. The Governor, in vetoing the Fowler bill deprecates class legislation. For his veto is a class veto. The daylight saving law was a

war measure to speed up production and all hands accepted it as such for the war period. The war is over and the farmers demand that they be permitted to resume pre-war status. The short hour city chap says no, the farmer must go on eight-hour basic day and must pay time and a half or double time for all work after 3 or 4 p. m. That the farmer contends he cannot do unless the city consumer is willing to pay decidedly higher for all food commodities. Approval of the Walker boxing bill and the bill to legalize sale of 2.75 per cent beer will not be accepted by the farmers, we fear, in lieu of the daylight saving repeal so vigorously urged by the New York State Grange.

We Wonder

We wonder how many editor-journalists themselves conform to all the following rules laid down by William C. Reick for the reporters, writers and editors of the New York Sun and Herald, which Mr. Reick manages for Frank A. Munsey—as far as that gentleman allows anybody to manage any of his properties:—
 A newspaperman should be a gentleman. He should look well, dress well, speak well, be able to meet any one on his own ground.
 Never mind whether he is a college man. A college course is desirable but not indispensable.
 A newspaperman should have some good friends and many friendly acquaintances. A wide acquaintance, many points of contact, are necessary to his usefulness.
 A newspaperman should know his business. And he should learn more about it every day he lives.
 It is shortsighted journalism to violate personal confidences. Talk little yourself. Listen to the other man.

Get the news first if you can, but at all events present it in its most attractive dress. Better a good piece of craftsmanship than a bungling, first presentation of the news.
 Give both sides, no matter with which you agree.
 Never use a newspaper as an instrument of personal spites.

To Be Regretted

In the passing of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association, better known as "the C. M. B. A." it cannot be denied that fraternal insurance, as an insurance proposition, will suffer. It will not do to argue that because the C. M. B. A. was limited in membership to a particular class, therefore it was foredoomed to failure and that the fraternal or assessment feature had nothing to do with the failure. Everybody knows that the C. M. B. A. according to the State Insurance Department at Albany, was one of the most efficiently and cheaply managed of the fraternal insurance societies operating in New York state and reporting to the Insurance Department. Everybody realized several years ago, what the late Bishop McQuaid told the original sponsors for the organization, that the C. M. B. A. rates were too low and it was supposed that the new rates—the third to go into effect, were adequate but along came the influenza and piled up the death claims faster than the new members came in and additional assessments were necessary. Of course this not only checked the influx of new members but had the effect of inducing many members to withdraw. It is to be regretted that the C. M. B. A. has to retire.

While Mr. Lunn was against Governor Smith as chairman of the New York state delegation to San Francisco but appears quite willing to support "Al" for Governor if Al will only throw his backing to Lunn for United States Senator.

Discerning

Rev. Dr. Charles F. Aked, of Kansas City who left the pulpit of the Rockefeller Church in New York City because he could not exercise free speech, is not one of the Pro-British preachers now temporarily sojourning in the United States. In a recent interview, Mr. Aked made these comments on the recent elections in Ireland:—
 "Ireland returned to the British Parliament 79 members pledged to an Irish Republic and 26 Unionists. Nobody ever yet took the Englishman for a fool, or, if he did, was glad of it afterwards.
 "The British people face this fact of Irish demand—and recognize the value of the fact. A million and a half votes were cast in Ireland; twelve hundred thousand went for a Republic, only three hundred thousand for the maintenance of the present system. Out of every five votes cast, four went with party of Irish freedom. Where in America would a majority of four to one be considered indecisive? The Englishman looks this fact fairly in the face.

"Ulster is undoubtedly a difficulty, but the difficulty grows smaller each year. There are four provinces in Ireland. Ulster is one of them. Ulster has nine counties; four of these went Unionist at the last election, one was equally divided, five gave majorities to the Republicans. Nowhere in Ulster or elsewhere in Ireland did the Unionists secure all the seats in a given county. But the Republicans have twenty-four counties solid—not a Unionist member in all the twenty-four. Majorities like these cannot be argued away. In Ulster, where the majorities elected Unionists, the defeated minorities were extremely large. Ulster Unionists were only sixty thousand in excess of Ulster Republicans."

Wants Old Order

Editor-Assemblyman Charles H. Betts wants the olden order in politics restored. In a recent editorial on the possibilities of the national convention in Chicago Mr. Betts bewails the passing of the caucus and convention system and goes on:—
 It is the opinion of many wise political prophets that under the Presidential preference primary every candidate that has come out in the open and entered the primaries has, to a certain extent, been injured by his rivals and that the Presidential primary in the last analysis is sort of a slaughter house for candidates. The result in the National Republican convention will have much to do with proving whether or not this theory is correct.
 There is no doubt, however, that the old state convention system of electing delegates and having those delegates assemble in a national convention and after careful consideration and deliberation, pick out the best and strongest candidate unhampered and unembarrassed by the uninformed preference of the multitude was the best system ever devised for nominating a national ticket. The only hope of intelligent action in the Republican convention lies in the fact that only a few states have the preferential primary, where the ignorant multitude decides who is the man best fitted for President, and that a great majority of the convention will be made up of free, uninstructed, unhampered delegates. In this fact is the only hope that a correct decision will be made.

Mr. Bryan says he is not a candidate but he never has refused a nomination.

Is the "Babson statistical information" as reliable as the Creel-Babson manipulation of private news letters so as to convey the impression they were bona fide government bulletins.

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