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Friday, January 28, 1921

World Conditions

In the course of a recent sermon preached in St. Louis, Archbishop Edward J. Hanna dwelt on the fact that with the great world war over for two years peace was not with us yet and then outlined why.

"It was the same thing over again—powerful nations reaching out for spoils. Two years have run out, and the promised peace is not here, and the poor human beings for whose rights our children laid down their lives are probably in worse condition than in the days of the awful war.

"The world needs the spirit which is in Christ Jesus. After all, what is our dream? We dream of men free, but freedom under law. The rule of the people depends upon the estimate that we put upon men and human nature.

"The world, if it is to come back to the things for which our children fought and died, must come back to Jesus Christ. Each one of us must put on Jesus Christ. It is not enough for us to be good ourselves, to show Christ in our own lives, but wherever we go we must assert this Christian philosophy, so as to arrest the mind of the men of the world.

"Does it not seem strange, that after all our years of Catholic training in this land of ours, that our teachings have made so little impression upon the public mind of this nation? You may say we were poor. So we were, we were only a handful at first, but that day has passed. We are millions to-day, but what are we doing, we Catholic men? What are you doing, you Catholic women, to impress the mind of this generation, and bring it to the realization that only as Christ gets into it, is there hope for our lives? Let every one put on Jesus Christ. Only in Him, in His wisdom and His Love, can we have a perfect democracy and perfect brotherhood."

If there is anybody who has not been pleased with one or other of the 57 different brands of weather handed out in January, 1921, he or she is blamed as might be expected, is wary hard to suit or has no choice whatever.

A Notable Event

One of the notable Catholic events of the season was the banquet in commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the institution of the Fourth Degree Assembly of Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus. The gathering attracted the flower of the Catholic laity of Rochester and vicinity and a few non-Catholics were present—which is also a matter of note as they learned to appreciate the sterling quality of the men who make up the Knights of Columbus hereabouts.

While the original guest of honor was Hon. John J. Lyons, Fourth Degree Knight of New York city, who assumed the duties of Secretary of State on January 1st last. A second and thrice welcome guest to Rochester Knights was Hon. James A. Flaherty, of Philadelphia, Supreme Knight of the order, who was able to shift his engagements so as to be present at the banquet in Rochester. The presence of this distinguished Catholic layman, honored by the hierarchy of the United States and by the Holy Father, was in itself a notable event. It is not too much to say that in point of unselfish service, James A. Flaherty is the greatest Catholic layman of America. And what impressed those who met him here was the innate modesty that marks the real man.

Faithful Navigator William M. Smith and his associate Fourth Degree Knights deserve great credit for the splendid twentieth anniversary celebration.

Do Not Like It

Governor Miller appears to have run against two snags already. Certain newspapers, notably the Rochester Times-Union do not like his acceptance of the resignation of Colonel Francis Stuart Greene as superintendent of state highways and his appointment of Herbert Sisson, republican leader of Erie county as his successor.

Practically all the rural newspapers do not take kindly to the proposal to abolish printing of the session laws in two papers in each county. They allege it is not "graft" but real education and are prepared to back this assertion up by affidavits from their readers. Probably, the big dailies will support the Governor but the rural papers are the upkeep of the political organizations in the rural counties where a large part of the big Republican pluralities are delivered.

However Governor Miller says he does not care whether he is Governor more than two years and hence he may succeed.

The Governor is right when he attacks the official automobile extravagance. There is no reason why ordinary cars, upholstered in every day style, are not good enough for the state, county and city officials while the ordinary citizen has to content himself with 7 cent rides in the Barnes-Hamilton transportation company's antique coaches.

"Lyons, Thompson, Flaherty" made a non-partisan speaking galaxy at the Fourth Degree banquet.

Governor Miller's economy programme is popular but the press despatches indicate the tax rate will not be lowered this year.

Why should a so-called narcotic commissioner who is just a plain, ordinary lawyer, have the power to tell regularly licensed and diplomaed physicians what they may or may not prescribe for their patients? This sounds like sheer idiocy but that is just what has happened in the great Empire State.

The Vatican, as might be expected, heartily favors reduction in armament by all civilized nations of the world. But France, which might be expected, is wary lest she fall easy prey to a revived Germany.

Universal

It is well to repeat what Archbishop Hayes said to the anglo-maniac Catholics who insisted that he apologize in the name of the Catholic Church, to the Union Club because some outsiders tore down the English flag from the Union Club across from St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York city. In his reply the Archbishop said: "It might be interesting to add that for many years, a strict regulation has been in force excluding all flags except the American standard from the consecrated walls, within and without, of St. Patrick's Cathedral. The Corkmen's Association carried to the portals of the Cathedral the American flag and that of the Irish Republic. The latter was not borne within the edifice, in deference to this regulation, which was most readily obeyed by the association, whose members during the service in the Cathedral carried themselves with every evidence of dignity and reverence.

"God forbid the day may ever dawn that the Irish people should fail to come to their Bishops and priests, who know the nobility of the race with its spiritual ideals and lofty aspirations for the purest and the best.

"The Catholic Church the world over loves all her children of every race. The Archbishop of New York rules a flock of many bloods and has endeavored to be a father to all, and has every reason to know that he has the loyalty and affection of over 1,000,000 souls."

"Marse Henry" There!

Henry Watterson is still a staunch friend of Irish freedom and does not hesitate to say so. Because of precarious health, Mr. Watterson was unable to preside at a meeting of friends of Irish freedom in Louisville but he wrote this vigorous letter to Judge O'Doherty:—No free born man can read the story of Ireland from the days of Cromwell to the days of Lloyd George without a sense of burning indignation. Long ago I lost all hope, if I ever had any real hope, of justice to Ireland from England. The English are the racial enemies of the Irish as they are the natural, national and historic enemies of the Americans. The time may come when they will be required to meet and pay the long bill of spoliation and wrong piled up against them by centuries of self-complacent rapine, and though I may not achieve the vision of my boyhood of sweeping through Piccadilly with a troop of Black Horse cavalry to plant the Stars and Stripes over the Marble Arch and camp in Hyde Park, there are children—maybe full-grown men—who will live to see it. So, good luck and God bless the sons and daughters of Ireland, and may the Devil fly away with John Bull, Edward Carson & Co. Faithfully yours, HENRY WATTERSON.

Following Rochester's example the Albany "Argus" has been merged with the Knickerbocker Press.

Notable officers now head the American Catholic Historical Association. Dr. James J. Walsh is President and Rev. John J. Wynne of the Catholic Encyclopaedia staff and whose scholarly articles in "America" have been enjoyed by all its readers is Vice-President.

So State Superintendent Cadle is to run the canals minus the regular political patronage. Next we'll clean Rochester streets by contract and support the old pensioners from the poor funds.

When Colonel Nathan P. Pond passed on Rochester lost one of her most active and public spirited citizens.

They do say that hereafter prohibition is to prohibit in Rochester.

Catholic Young Men Plan Many Activities

On the winter program of the Catholic Young Men's Association of St. Joseph's Church a six-team bowling league and a pool tournament are creating much enthusiasm. The bowling teams in the league are: Butternuts, Captain Henry Schueler; Walnuts, "Float" Mura; Chestnuts, Bert Horn; Ivorynut, Tom Smith; Peanuts, Herbert Mura; Hickorynuts, Ray Kraft.

Charles Fahy, physical director, has a class which is specializing in apparatus work.

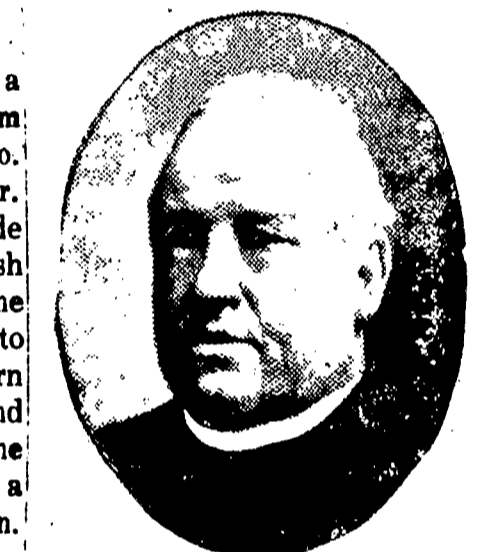
Officers recently elected are:—President, Gustave G. Klotz; vice-president, Walter D. Mura; financial secretary, Bert A. Horn; recording secretary, Herbert F. Mura; membership secretary, William G. Ernst; spiritual adviser, the Rev. Joseph Strauss; directors, Joseph J. Brown, George Kress, Eugene W. Schueler, Joseph J. Sehm, Charles A. Weigel and Charles H. Mura.

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