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Friday, March 25, 1921

Easter

To-morrow marks the culmination of the solemn Holy Week services and ushers in the great feast of Easter.

Easter should bring a deep sense of joy to the Catholic heart and it will if we have improved the Holy season of Lent,—if we have groaned in unison with the Savior in his agony in Gethsemane; if we have wept with Peter at the denial of his Master; if we have re-heard the rabble condemn the Son of God to death and prefer to Him a thief and robber; if we have accompanied the Savior along the Way of the Cross to Calvary's height and there saw Him give up the ghost that we might be saved from sin.

If we have done all this, we may with joy in our hearts wait for the stone to be rolled from the tomb and from thence our Savior will emerge triumphant over Death and Sin. And we may be saved by His death and resurrection if we but follow in His footsteps and follow His teachings.

Our Position

If a non-Catholic criticizes the position of the Catholic Church in the United States on the school question just show him the following quotation from Rev. Dr. O'Neil's recent address; and if he still criticizes he is a double-dyed bigot and it is no use wasting time on him:—

"In this country the position of Catholics regarding the public school system has been so persistently misrepresented that most persons outside her fold have come to look upon her as the foe of the public schools. Such persons fail to differentiate between the system and its curricula. We Catholics are not opposed to the public schools. We recognize their usefulness, we may add their necessity in our country, for no republic can last with an illiterate citizenship. We believe and we have maintained that the public school curriculum is defective because it eliminates what is the most important factor in education. Pedagogists as well as moralists hold that the purpose of education is good character building. No secular subject like mathematics, grammar or spelling can compare with religious training in character building, and yet this most important element is excluded from the curriculum of the public schools. If the teaching of mathematics were not permitted in the public schools, and if parents that realized its importance would voluntarily erect schools where their offspring would receive instruction in this study, would they be called enemies of the public schools? Would it not be said that they were not foes of the public schools, but that they did not believe that the public school curriculum was sufficiently comprehensive? The case of Catholics is a parallel one. They know the value of religious training, and they are determined that their children will not be deprived of it, so at considerable sacrifice they have provided schools where their children will have this advantage.

Good Work

Taxpayers generally will be happy over the news from Albany that the budget committee has cut something like \$20,000,000 out of the 1921-1922 appropriation, as compared with the total appropriation bill of last year and about \$70,000,000 less than was asked for this year by the several state departments.

But they will scan closely the rest of the "deficiency" and supplemental supply bills very carefully. It is an old trick to cut the regular appropriation bill to the bone and then swell the total up again in these additional bills slipped in when the public sentiment has been lulled to sleep after vociferous applause of the supposed economy programme.

Real economy, honest effort to curb state extravagance, real elimination of useless jobs and discharge of loafing officeholders will be approved. Camouflage economy, however, will be detected and denounced.

Blue Laws No Avail

While every word of Father O'Neil's splendid address last week before the Catholic Social Lecture Circle rings true to us as Catholics these words appeal with peculiar force to every thinking red-blood American citizen:—"You cannot legislate people into church. Blue laws can be renewed. Penal statutes can be enacted, but they cannot reach the mind and the heart. You can draw the horse to the trough but you cannot make him drink. You can stop all Sunday activities. You can even force persons into the church, but you cannot compel them to believe. Heart and mind have to be trained. Conscience has to be developed. This work should commence with the use of reason. It is a misnomer to call that education which ignores moral training. Many were deluded with the notion that as schools would multiply crime would correspondingly decrease, but facts have proved how fallacious the theory is. Mere mental development will make no one better. Often it will make the criminally inclined more dangerous members of society. The illiterate as well as the illiterate need moral training.

Of General Application

In defense of his bill before the Legislature to abolish publication of "the session laws"—the statutes enacted each year by the Legislature—Assemblyman Charles H. Betts has this to say:—"Justice is the bond of men in States and the administration of justice which is the determination of what is just is the principle of order in political society. When the State grants gifts, privileges and immunities to one class at the expense of all other classes, it sows the seeds of its own ruin and creates that dissatisfaction and discontent which is fast becoming a menace to our free American institutions."

This doctrine could be applauded and applied by the Hyman men in New York as an excuse for their opposition to Governor Miller's traction plan; by the Brewster-Velstead act is unjustly discriminatory against them in that physicians may prescribe one pint of whisky at \$4 a pint every ten days while he may prescribe only one pint of beer at 40 cents called enemies of the public schools? Would it not be said that they were not foes of the public schools, but that they did not believe that the public school curriculum was sufficiently comprehensive? The case of Catholics is a parallel one. They know the value of religious training, and they are determined that their children will not be deprived of it, so at considerable sacrifice they have provided schools where their children will have this advantage.

Mr. Herbert Hoover not only is a great organizer but he knows how to let the world know how good he is.

If you have not made your Easter duty do not put it off too long.

While it did not seem just like St. Patrick's day at the Cathedral celebration with the Rt. Rev. Bishop absent but we all unite in the prayer and hope that his sojourn in the southern clime may bring him back to us fully restored to health and vigor.

President Harding appears to be adept in having his way. Witness Hughes and Hoover and Davis in the Cabinet; Dr. Sawyer as brigadier-general and President's physician; and a United States Attorney in Missouri not only not wanted but disliked by Senator Spencer!

Baseball days will soon be here, likewise commencement days.

There is one ex-member of the old administration who may be well-styled a gloom dispeller. Thomas R. Marshall is a true optimist.

"Back to the farm" is a fine slogan. Let us hope that Secretary of Labor Davis and Secretary of Agriculture Wallace may make it popular and practical.

Splendid, indeed, is the work that has been accomplished by the National Catholic Welfare Council.

The Catholic position on education is unassailable and, moreover, the graduates of Catholic schools "deliver the goods" when they go out into the world. If you disbelieve this, ask any Rochester captain of industry.

Rochester is likely to be a world renowned center of musical education in the United States. And no one will be better pleased than the musical scholar who publishes the Rochester Post Express.

This year it spelled April showers in March.

That newspaper will live the longest that sticks closest to proven facts in its news columns; judicial and impartial poise in its editorial columns.

New Catholic Book

Miss Elizabeth M. McCarthy, the well-known music-teacher, has just issued a beautiful little brochure in colors, entitled, "My Rosary". The story was originally published in The Catholic Journal. It can be obtained at the principal bookstores.

The Best Prepared Coal Usually Comes in March and April.

The demand on the operator is not so great—time for more care about sizes, etc. It's also a better time to have it put in, before housecleaning time.

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Convention Dates Fixed For Various Catholic Bodies

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Washington, D. C., March 21.—Plans for many important Catholic conventions and national meetings to be held this year are now being made.

The most important Catholic gathering of the year, the annual meeting of the bishops, will be held in Washington in September. It is probable that the meeting of the National Council of Catholic Men will be held the same month, but the place and the definite date have not yet been decided upon. The National Council of Catholic Women will meet in October at a place still to be decided.

Among the convention dates and places that have been definitely decided are:

June 17-20—Catholic Educational Association at Cincinnati.
July 12—Ladies' Catholic Benevolent Association at Atlantic City.

July 17-21—Ancient Order of Hibernians and Ladies' Auxiliary at Detroit.

August 2-4—Knights of Columbus at San Francisco.

August 7-10—Central Verein at Fort Wayne, Ind.

August 18-21—Catholic Students' Mission Crusade at Dayton, Ohio.

September 20-24—National Conference of Catholic Charities at Milwaukee.

October 2-4—National Congress of the Third Order of St. Francis at Chicago.

The annual convention of l'Union St. Jean Baptiste de la Salle, the Catholic Franco-American fraternal organization, will probably be held in Worcester, Mass. The Catholic Historical Association will meet in St. Louis in the last week of December.

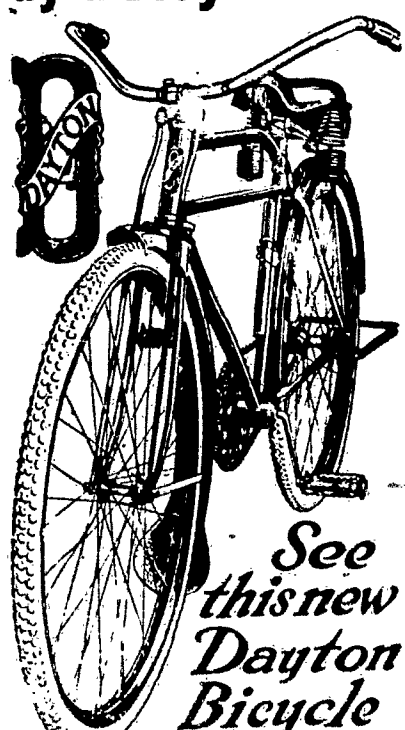
Margaret Anglin To Play Joan Of Arc

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)

New York, March 21.—Miss Margaret Anglin, Catholic actress, will play the part of the Maid of Orleans in "The Trial of Joan of Arc", which will be presented on Easter Sunday at the Century Theater under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus for the benefit of Herbert Hoover's relief fund. The Tschaiowsky music played for the first time in this country at Miss Anglin's initial performance of "Joan of Arc", in San Francisco, last summer will be employed as the musical setting.

Notre Dame, Ind., Mar. 21.—The Rev. Timothy Maher, a survivor of "the night of the big wind" in Ireland on January 6, 1839, has just celebrated his ninetyeth birthday here. Father Maher is the oldest living member of the Congregation of the Holy Cross.

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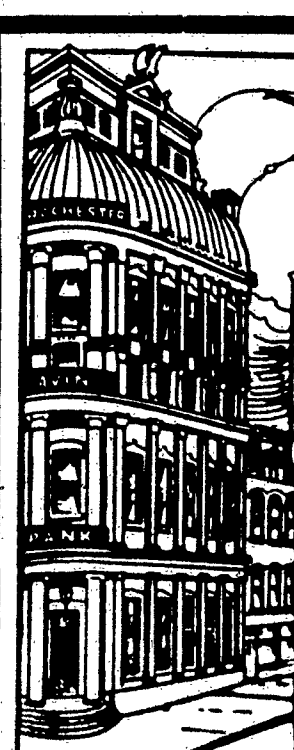
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What's the answer?

One person has a snug home, and all the reasonable comforts life, while another is always complaining of high rents in an undesirable locality, unpaid bills, and an over-drawn salary.

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