

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

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

BY THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING COMPANY

If paper is not received Saturday notify the publisher... Report without any delay change of address...

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One Year, In Advance, \$1.00. Entered at second class mail matter.

Friday, April 15, 1921

Worth While?

Is there never to be an end to these interminable strikes, lockouts and other forms of industrial disputes which tie up the public business, reduce the public purse, worry the public mind and unsettle the public weal?

It may be argued that the only interest at stake is that of the employer and employee, the men who work and the men who pay. But that is not so. Take the street car men or the railroad men. If they strike is the effect confined to the employees and their employers? Not at all.

All these are directly affected by a street car strike or a railroad strike. They are equally affected by the building trades dispute now on in Rochester.

If these industrial disputes keep up, the general public is likely to demand the enactment of a compulsory law to the effect that any employer or any aggregation of employees that in any way incites or brings about a strike or lockout or a suspension of usual activities in which any considerable part of the community is interested or by which it is seriously inconvenienced the right of the employer to do business or the privilege of the employees to work further in that vocation will be revoked or a large monetary penalty be imposed especially if either side has violated specific agreements that run for a given term.

Such a law is likely to work hardship on one or both parties to the dispute but the public interest is paramount and must come first.

Two Big Men

In the death of Colonel Nathan P. Pond and the retirement from active newspaper activity of Henry W. Mathews, not only the newspaper world of Rochester and New York state loses two conspicuous figures but the entire business community of Rochester is affected.

Politically, socially and in a business way, Nathan P. Pond was conspicuous in Rochester for over half a century. His partner, not only in control of the Rochester Printing Company and in publication of the "Democrat & Chronicle", Henry W. Mathews took less interest in politics and practically none at all in the social activities of Rochester. But his business affairs of Roches-

ter, Mr. Mathews was a live and active factor. He was a stockholder and director in all the big industrial and financial operations in Rochester and Western New York. And both he and Mr. Pond stood for high ideals in journalism and business. They never countenanced the petty larceny ways of making money easily that have been practised by latter day "wizards of finance."

Rochester regretted the death of Colonel Pond. It regrets the retirement of Henry Mathews from active business life and wishes him happiness in his well earned rest from business cares.

The Real Point

The New York "Times" goes right to the nub of the proposition when it discusses the proposition to create a state board to censor moving picture films. The "Times" points out that the movie magnates direct suspicion toward themselves by the vehemence of their opposition. It goes on:—Not only do they scream with pain and fear at the very mention of subjection to restraint by anything except their own sense of propriety and good taste, but they are making almost hysterical promises to do all and more than could or would outside critics to make their pictures whiter than snow and much cleaner.

They do not seem to realize that implied in these assurances is a confession that a good many objectionable films are now on view, to the injury of the so delicately impressionable frequenters of the movie theaters—a confession that throws some doubt as to the thoroughness of the reforms that would be effected under the auspices of those who have allowed the admitted abuses to grow up. But this dilemma in which the movie promoters and producers and purveyors have placed themselves is amusing rather than important, and it has little real relevance to the censorship question.

The fact is that the movie people have a much better case than they know how to present. Instead of howling about the peril to their interests which there would be in any board of censors—a peril agonizing to nobody except themselves—they would be more persuasive if they stirred to justified resentment the huge moving-going public by asking it whom it would be willing to give authority to determine what pictures it shall and shall not see. People eager to censor movies—or anything else—could be found to make many such boards, of course, but the chances that any of them would have any real competence to do satisfactorily such delicate work are very few.

All day Thursday of last week the giddy girls crowded hotel and theater to peek at the latest movie stars in real life. The Churches never were so thronged. Beg pardon one Church, is—Catholic Churches are thronged at every Mass, not only the Cathedral at High Mass when the Bishop pontificates but at 6 o'clock, 7 o'clock and so on.

Lloyd George may have the same experience that Gladstone, Disraeli, Asquith and all the other prime ministers who fooled with the Irish problem. The Welshman is possibly the canniest politician of the lot but even he cannot overcome the forces of Almighty God and eternal justice.

Even if "Catholic press month" is over, we are still receiving subscriptions for the Catholic Journal.

There is a glimmer of decency on the movie horizon when the managers refused to take on the Oklahoma murderers.

Moving Along

It is perfectly evident that Governor Miller and the Republican leaders are wholly in accord on the legislative program at Albany. There have been Governors at Albany who forced legislation through a hostile Legislature by focusing public sentiment against the legislators. Governor Smith had to deal with a Legislature. While not hostile of opposite political faith, with which he had to compromise.

But Governor Miller has not a hostile Legislature—at least not openly. He has Senate and Assembly of his own political faith and they are organization men like himself. Therefore, the political legislation desired is sure to be passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor.

There is a deal of important legislation going through the Legislature this year. Let us hope it is all for the good of the people at large, regardless of politics. If legislation is good and for the general good, it makes little difference what the political complexion of the Legislature enacting it is if another Governor signs it.

Regardless of Creed

One continues to feel astonished at the wonderful affection displayed for Cardinal Gibbons all over the Continent, irrespective of creed or race. One of the touching tributes was that of Dr. Henry Allen Tupper, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Washington, D. C., who said:—"In Richmond, Va., when I was a boy at school, he was Bishop of Richmond, and he was held in the highest esteem by persons of all creeds, colors and conditions. Several incidents come to mind illustrative of his broad, sympathetic character as I think of him. While walking down Eutaw street, Baltimore, years ago, I glanced down a narrow side street and a significant scene met my eyes. In the dim light of the late afternoon I saw Cardinal Gibbons approach a ragged little negro boy, and as the noted prelate placed his hand upon the kinky-haired, dirty urchin, he smiled upon him, spoke a kind, encouraging word and gave him a tender blessing. What a picture for an artist."

"Another personal incident may be of interest as indicative of the prelate's spirit of broad generosity and his desire for peace and good will among men. In the year 1914, while on my way to Mexico as commissioner under the International Peace Forum, in my mail received at San Antonio, Tex., was a letter from Cardinal Gibbons, written by his own hand, in which he said:—"I learn that you are on a peace commission to Mexico. My prayers follow you, and I hope that the Prince of Peace may be glorified by your work."

Cardinal Manning, himself an Englishman, had this to say of the Union Jack:—"What does the Union Jack stand for so far as the Irish people are concerned? It stands for 700 years of oppression and alien rule; it stands for the depopulation of Ireland; it stands for the ruin of Ireland's trade and prosperity; it stands for coercion and martial law; it stands for famine and exile; it reminds Irishmen of the blood shed by those who loved their country above their lives. This is what the empire flag stands for in the minds of the Irish people."

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