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 Friday, Sept. 30, 1921

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New Bishops

Two new names have been added recently to the list of the American Hierarchy and a new Bishop of Cleveland has been named in the promotion of Rt. Rev. Joseph Schrembs from the See of Toledo to the more important See of Ohio.

Monsignor John Dunn, so well known in all the Catholic activities of the New York Archdiocese, has been named by the Holy Father as Auxiliary Bishop of New York, to assist Archbishop Patrick J. Hayes.

Monsignor Michael J. Crane, rector of St. Francis de Sales parish, has been consecrated as Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia to assist Cardinal Archbishop Dennis Dougherty.

As stated, Bishop Schrembs, who has risen to be one of the leaders of the American Hierarchy, and also one of the recognized leaders in civic movements in Ohio, has been transferred from the Diocese of Toledo to be Bishop of Cleveland.

Ad Multes Annos!

It is a fine counter-irritant that the National Catholic Welfare Council has set up in the installation of Catholic immigration agencies at New York, Boston, Seattle and San Francisco.

Archbishop Hanna's many Rochester friends were glad to greet him again this week and to hear his message regarding the work outlined for the new Council of Catholic Laymen.

Two thousand candidates recently wrote the civil service examination for second grade clerk in the New York city municipal service. Miss Elizabeth Lawless, graduate of St. Cecilia's parochial school stood first with a percentage of 90.80!

Right Track

There are a number of persons, in official position and out of it who are so honest-minded that they believe all persons are so constituted. These persons believe that the way to reduce taxes and relieve the load of debt that has piled upon the shoulders of the taxpayers is to curtail governmental expenditures and reduce the war-size force of volunteer and paid government attaches in all departments.

Secretary of War Weeks appears to be one of these persons. From March 4th to July 1st a reduction of 22 per cent. was made in civilian force of the war department. And last week Secretary Weeks issued an order calling for another reduction of 22 per cent. in civilian employees to be effected before January 1, 1922. He says the civilian force can be put back where it was before the war and that he proposes to do it.

It will be interesting to follow this up and see if the politicians and the "uplift organizations" who work hand in hand where patronage is involved—whether in contracts or personal appointments—will allow even so powerful a personage as the Secretary of War to eliminate their proteges from the payroll, no matter whether there is work for them to perform or not.

Vandals

There appears to be a spirit of vandalism abroad in this land. Flower beds are wrecked, not to plunder the flowers, but purely in a spirit of destruction. Glass windows in stores are cut and scratched not for robbery but to destroy and deface.

Fine trees and shrubs are broken, limbs torn off just to gratify somebody's taste for pulling and hauling, statues in public parks are blackened and inscriptions thereon are altered and defaced.

The Post Express of this city thinks vandals as we have described are more or less insane, even though the alienists may not be able to classify and label the particular brand of insanity. Our contemporary further thinks that a vandal should be locked up for the rest of his life, for there is no telling when his mania for wanton destruction may lead him to destroy homes with their inmates or run amuck and kill several people.

"Americans have had to bear the odium of many such vandals as these. Europe has frequently complained of the desecration of some of her most sacred shrines by "Yankee vandals." They have chipped bits from monuments. Their rage for destruction has led them to inscribe their obscure names upon the walls of great fane and other objects of historic interest. Therefore, both for our own sakes and for the sake of our reputation, we should deal severely with this class of violators of the law."

Gasoline may come down but the price of shoes remains stationary.

While one may shudder at the Arbuckle pool of filth, he cannot feel the same pity for the victim as for an innocent girl wronged by an oily, smooth tongued rascal. Everybody in Arbuckle's set knew what he was and what to expect from him in close contact.

Let us hope that the hard times may accomplish what columns of criticism, hundreds of sermons, etc. failed to do, viz.—Prune the films of some of the nastiness, cheap comedy and impossible, disgusting drama.

An unfortunate retort:—(Man to angry wife.) "Don't quarrel with me on the street. What have we got a home for?"

When every other avenue for news fails, there is always the telephone service to write about.

The Offset

Probably, the easiest may to crush out any revival of Ingersoll idolatry would be to ignore the Ingersoll celebrations that were held this year. But when such metropolitan journals as the New York "Herald" seek to glorify this infidel whose sole title to fleeting fame was ability to say smart things in flippant phrase, even when he was blaspheming, the antidote is supplied by a contributor to an esteemed contemporary who recalls the famous controversy between the late Father Lambert and the infidel orator who killed off a great political leader by his ardent advocacy of his cause, in these words:—

It is a pleasing privilege to be able to quote the eloquent words of the late Rev. P. A. Cronin: "The Notes are unquestionably the most crushing reply yet made to that notorious little fraud—Ingersoll—who so loves to pose as a profoundly original thinker, and who lives, moves and has his being in the laughter and applause which his buffoonery provokes. Regarding them as a complete annihilation of the pretentious scoffer and desirous that they should reach a much larger public than could be secured by any newspaper, however widely circulated, the present writer pointed out to the author the advisability of having just such writings as the 'Notes' spread broadcast in the interest of religion, especially at this time, and earnestly urged their publication in the present form."

Pity 'tis, 'tis true that we Catholics do less to honor the memory of our great men, than our opponents do for theirs. Men like Father Lambert and Father Cronin who drove out the A. P. A. sewer rats and the infidel jackals, are a prey to dumb forgetfulness, while men like Ingersoll are honored in their graves. The vine of memory is planted by grateful hands upon the tomb of infidels and we stone our prophets. A people who forget their benefactors cannot be trusted to do much for posterity. A practical plan to offset the Dresden celebration is to read and spread the "Notes on Ingersoll." If I were a teacher I would urge my pupils to read and study the "Notes." Gems of English literature, logic, philosophy and natural theology, of purest ray serene. Forty years have not changed the tactics of infidels. A callow atheist fresh from the schools where God is taboo can formulate no argument for crude materialism which will not find its refutation in the "Notes."

Our old friend, John Northern Hilliard, still "slings a flowery pen" as witness the following closing paragraph from a recent letter to The Post Express, dated September 7th at San Simeon, California:—"I have got to chop wood for the night fire. By the time this letter reaches The Post Express office and is merged into type, I can imagine you, sir or madam, discussing the rising cost of coal and speculating on how soon you will have to have a furnace fire. The melancholy days are coming in the Eastern hinterland, but out here in the California wilderness the skies are blue as the mountain quail's breast, the sea, bathing the knees of the mountain in whose redwood depth I am camping, has a bloom like the bloom of the wild grape, the air has a smack like that of rare Moselle or the Waldery wine of Lord Dunsany's private cellar—and a stranger from Mars who might chance upon this spot as I am writing this would swear that the world was at spring."

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