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Friday, March 16, 1922.

Then and Now

There is a well defined effort on to repeal or to modify the Volstead law, also to make the metric the American plan of measure and still another to make 13 months instead of 12 in the American calendar. The Rochester "Times" thinks one has as much chance for success as another—and that is none whatever for these reasons:—

Our English tongue is a wonderful instrument, its vocabulary has an incomparable richness. Nevertheless it has some obvious defects. Not merely those of spelling, about which so much clamor is made, but defects which seriously impair the value of English as a ready method of conveying ideas.

For example, to cite the most glaring instance, we have no singular personal pronoun in the third person which will apply to either a man or a woman. Neither have we any accepted substitutes. The word "one" has never been domesticated. It is not used in the speech of the people and has no real vitality like the French "on" or German "mann."

Hence the reckless use of "they" by the careless and the circumlocutions of the careful or their use of "he" where it obviously does not cover the case. Any grammatical expert could devise a word over night that would fill the bill—but how would he get the folks to use it?

And in passing it may be remarked that one reason we hear less about efficiency experts in the world of business than we did a few years ago is just the same difficulty of getting people to adopt new ways.

Off The List?

Despite his high attainments, the Anti-Saloonists will strike Dr. Stephen Smith, founder of the New York State and National Boards of Health, off its honor roll, we presume, after his confession made as follows on his ninety-ninth birthday last month:—"In my earlier years I suffered from dyspepsia and it forced me to a meager diet of simple foods. As a result I saved my stomach and have the use of it now. I took care of my stomach during the first fifty years of my life and now it is taking care of me. It was during a visit to Paris as delegate to the International Sanitary Conference that I learned to drink wine, with the result that I have been well ever since. At a banquet I sat next to a famous French physician whom I told about my unfortunate handicap. He advised me to drink wine between the courses, saying it would digest the food I had eaten. I followed his advice and did not experience any further discomfort."

Those who fancied they could fool Dr. Zwierlein in a theological discussion or any other sort of discussion learned to their discomfort that they caught a Tar-

Reform Needed

Is it because the great educators and thinkers have come to know that the Catholic idea and method of education are the best that the presidents of Columbia, Harvard and Princeton have united in a declaration that the American college student does not stand for much and that the president of Bowdoin, Kenneth C. M. Sills, has endorsed their position in the following interview?

"One of the chief purposes of a college is to train men for leadership in their communities, no matter how small or how large those communities may be. That training must be of the mind as well as of the body. The college is still fundamentally an educational institution and not a country club, nor an athletic club."

"Dr. Butler of Columbia and Dr. Lowell of Harvard are absolutely right in calling to general attention the danger of forgetting what the real work of the college is. Not only the alumni, but also the general public are more interested in sport than in scholarship, and in spectacular sport at that. We can hardly blame the undergraduate for losing his sense of proportion. The alumni often care more about the retention of a successful football coach than of an inspiring teacher. Athletics are all very well when they are of secondary importance; all very ill when they dominate."

"Speaking strictly for Bowdoin from the point of view of the small New-England college, Dr. Sills diagnosed the difficulties of organized athletics as over-emphasis upon gate receipts. The proper way, he believed, is to include the expense of athletics and athletic coaches in the college budget."

Bury Wires

The Post Express is right in its contention that all wires should be underground for these reasons:—

Every big winter storm—and some in other seasons—produces arguments against overhead wires. The interruptions to the transmission of business despatches cause enormous losses, while the break in the sending of news brings losses to the newspapers and inconvenience to their readers. The extent of the storm measures the sum of the losses and inconvenience. The intensity of the disturbance has much to do with the length of time the break in communications lasts. But every discomfort connected with the interrupted service is an argument for putting the wires below ground.

It would obviously be unfeasible to put all wires underground at once. The cost of making the change will be enormous. The wire companies could not stand it if it fell upon them at once. The work will take years, at best. But it should be done as soon as is reasonably possible. Both efficient service and good business demand it.

How about the claim that if all wires were all underground, electric current would be weakened and that wires must be in contact with fresh air occasionally in order to insure good connections.

Quite a few secular newspapers assert that never has an American Cardinal participated in the election of a Pope. We believe that Cardinal Farley sat in the Conclave that elected Benedict XV. Cardinal O'Connell was too late by an hour as he was at the election of Pius XI. A usually well informed writer in Catholic papers made Cardinal Farley present in the conclave that elected Pius X in 1903. Cardinal Farley did not become a Prince of the Church until 1911. He was elevated to the Cardinalate by Pope Pius X.

If we are to have 13 instead of 12 months, why not 60 weeks of 6 days each.

The Reason?

Is it because Senator James A. Reed, of Missouri, makes such charges, as follows in the course of a speech in the United States on the proposition to forgive all the debts owing to us from other nations, that the aristocratic papers of Rochester and elsewhere are knocking Reed so?

"Mr. President, in view of the fact that the Morgan banks and other great banks of New York were the financial agents of foreign Governments during the World War and hold or have negotiated their securities to the amount of billions of dollars; in view of the intimate close relationship of Mr. Mellon to these great banks and trust companies; in view of the desire of the Morgan banks and their allies to cancel our foreign loans and the propaganda they have carried on in this country, I say that the last man in the United States upon whom unlimited authority to settle these loans should be granted is Mr. Mellon, the Secretary of the Treasury—the last man but one, and that is Mr. Morgan himself."

And yet the Senate, on Tuesday, issued the measure to refund the debt. Under the terms of the bill a commission of five members, headed by the Secretary of the Treasury, would have authority, subject to the approval of the President, to refund or convert, and to extend the time of the payment of the principal or the interest, or both of the foreign debt."

If the city had a generous supply of public spending money, there would be a fine crop of professional poverty advocates.

If Margaret L. Sanger would only stay in Japan forever!

Is the bread line and soup kitchen really needed in Rochester?

Says a contemporary:—"At times it is difficult to decide whether contentment is a lack of envy or a lack of enterprise. Did it ever occur that it might be the tangible evidence of a well ordered mind?"

Weekly Calendar Of Feast Days

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Sunday, Mar. 12.—St. Gregory the Great, a noble Roman, who renounced his wealth, turned his house into a monastery and lived as a monk. He did great work for the church at the court of Constantinople and was finally made Pope, governing for fourteen years. He extended the faith to many lands, set in order the prayers and chants of the Church and exerted an immense influence for good. He died in 604.

Monday, Mar. 13.—St. Euphrasia, Virgin, who, when seven years old, begged that she might be permitted to serve God. Her mother permitted her to enter a monastery in Egypt at an early age and she spent a life that was a pattern of meekness, humility and charity. She died in 410.

Tuesday, Mar. 14.—St. Maud, the wife of Henry, Duke of Saxony, who was afterwards chosen King of Germany. She founded many churches and monasteries, but her two eldest sons, Otho and Henry, tried to strip her of her dowry on the pretense that she squandered her revenues on the poor. They afterwards repented. She died in 968.

Wednesday, Mar. 15.—St. Zachary, successor of Gregory III, who ruled the Church with great prudence and benevolence. He adorned Rome with many sacred buildings. He died in 752.

Thursday, Mar. 16.—St. Abraham, a rich nobleman of Edessa and guardian of St. Mary, a daughter of his brother. The saint, who had retired to a cell, placed the maiden in a cell close to his own and guarded her care-

fully. Finally, she fell from grace, but Abraham by prayer and intercession brought her to repentance. Mary worked many miracles before her death in 365, five years after that of Abraham.

Friday, March 17.—St. Patrick, the Apostle of Ireland.

Saturday, March 18.—St. Cyril of Jerusalem, at the time of whose episcopacy the apostate Julian tried in vain to rebuild the walls of the temple. Cyril suffered many persecutions before his death in 386. He was noted as a teacher and many of his expositions of the faith have been preserved.

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Maryknoll Priests Get Large Addition To Chinese Mission

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.) New York, March 4.—The Vicar Apostolic of Kwang-Si, a large province in South China, has, with the approbation of Rome, has ceded to the American Foreign Missions of Maryknoll, a large territory including the important city of Wuchow on the West River.

The new mission adjoins the present Maryknoll Mission in the Province of Kwang Tung, and

comprises nine districts with a total population of 2,500,000 inhabitants. The French fathers have already withdrawn, and two of the missions are now occupied by Maryknoll priests.

Few converts have as yet been made in this section, as the Bishop in charge lacked personnel and means to develop what it is believed will be a fruitful field.

A Successful Campaign.
Altoona, Pa., March 4.—A remarkably successful campaign for funds to build Catholic high schools in this city and in Johnstown has just been concluded.

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