

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

Published Every Friday at 470 Main St. East Cor. Windsor 4th Floor. Rochester, N. Y.

By The CATHOLIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING COMPANY

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Entered as second class mail matter

TELEPHONE MAIN 1547

Friday, August 11, 1922.

What Makes Harmony

There is much truth contained in the following editorial from the Rochester "Democrat & Chronicle":

"A writer in Music suggests that the modern orchestra furnishes a 'perfect example' of what our industrial, political and social harmony will be when we come within reach of perfection; life will be 'one grand, sweet song' when all sing together, no voice more stridently assertive than another; 'each instrument will contribute its part to the grand total of harmonious sound' and selfishness will be drowned in the ecstasy of perfect oneness. This, so speculates the writer, is the democratic emotion exemplified by music.

"But the logic of this attractively, if figuratively expressed, vision is faulty because nothing is said about the leader. No orchestra ever got into a condition of 'oneness' through the efforts of its members alone; no orchestra gets each instrument to contribute its part to the grand total of harmony until the director has established his discipline, practiced his players, and imposed his judgment on the whole organization.

"In the upbuilding of a great organization, which delivers a product to be used and enjoyed, there are three essential factors—competent direction of the whole enterprise, competent work to carry out this direction, and discipline to make co-operation certain. Every time an organization undertakes to omit one of these three factors, it gets into trouble. If we are going to reach the millennium by setting life to music we must each learn to play our part well, but we must select our leaders and then we must submit to discipline. There may be some other way, but it has not yet been found."

Just change a few words in the above and you have the reason for the disharmony in the Protestant sects.

Just Right!

The Catholic Journal has no desire to carp at the Post Office Department of the United States Government.

The postal service given by the Post Office Department is not perfect. There are many needed improvements. There is still red tape to be cut out. Political influence is too largely felt in the affairs of the Department.

But the Post Office Department conducts a service of great benefit to the public. Commerce, social service, all the activities of the community are affected to greater or less degree by the frequency or lack of mail facilities.

However, we must agree with a contemporary when it says:—

The post-office department announces that the special delivery stamps are to be brought up-to-date by substituting a motorcycle for the bicycle at present in the design. Another improvement would be to introduce a system

whereby special delivery letters might be delivered in advance of letters sent through the ordinary mail.

Excruatingly Funny

To us there is something intensely ludicrous to hear the average newspaper declaring oracularly that the Courts will or will not decide this and so.

For instance, an esteemed contemporary gives vent to this:—

The advocates of prohibition have objected strenuously to the second question in the Literary Digest voting contest for they maintain that there is no legal way by which the sale of light wines and beers can be authorized short of a complete repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment, or the passage of a supplementary amendment.

The thing simply cannot be done by ordinary legislation. Such legislation would be held unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of the United States. Such legislation would be an attempt to nullify a part of the Constitution of the United States.

Many of those who thoughtlessly advocate the sale of light wines and beers do not realize that they are advocating what is practically impossible, and what would be destructive of all the results attained by prohibition.

It would take a two-thirds vote in both houses of Congress, and a majority vote in 36 state legislatures to alter the present state of affairs.

And this is beyond the bounds of practical possibility. The agitation for the repeal of the Volstead Act, and the "liberalization" of the Eighteenth Amendment can have no other effect than to unsettle things, without accomplishing any practical result.

Unless Congress and the Supreme Court are willing to nullify the Eighteenth Amendment, the one by passing, and the other by approving, legislation clearly inconsistent with its spirit, prohibition must continue to be the law of the land.

The real question is not to repeal the Eighteenth Amendment, but whether the Volstead law may or may not be modified by Congress. The Supreme Court has not decided.

The Right Way

The Catholic Journal recognizes that there are defects in the immigration law but why abuse the United States Department of Labor for enforcing the law. Officials have no discretion in enforcing laws. Either they enforce the law or they lose their position.

There is no sense in such criticism as is contained in the following paragraphs taken from an editorial in an esteemed contemporary:—

Rochester has within this week learned of another case of stupidity on the part of the immigration officials or the immigration law. The things done in the name of this law are so weird that it is hardly possible to decide whether to blame the officials or the law. In the Rochester case, the wife and son of a resident of this city arrived a few hours before the first of the month. Because the quota from their native land was exhausted and the husband and father is not a citizen, the two were ordered to return to Europe. By the time they could get there and return, the quota would again have been exhausted, and they would have to wait another month. Meantime, an effort is under way to inject some common sense into the immigration authorities at New York, and prevent this foolishness.

The people to get after are the steamship companies. United States consular agents in European countries should receive from-clad instructions to vise no passports for any intending immigrant after the monthly quota is exhausted.

Send us your Job Printing.

Well, August showers so far have been thunder showers.

Vacation days are drawing to a close.

As the sun sets earlier and the nights are lengthening, one's thoughts turn to Fall.

It is high time the coal strikes, railroad strikes, shoe strikes and all other strikes, were settled for good and all.

Why is it that employers and employees refuse to settle their differences, man fashion, when all that is needed for a return to national prosperity is production and lots of it?

Going to send your boy or girl to college in the fall? If so, remember that there are Catholic colleges equal to the others in every way, so far as secular branches are concerned. In addition they take care of the soul.

If we would return to normalcy we must pay more attention to the spiritual side of our national development. Without religion and respect for God's laws, we will degenerate into a race of savages.

Weekly Calendar Of Feast Days

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

Sunday, August 13.—St. Radegundes, who though she desired to remain a virgin, was forced to yield to the wish of King Clotaire of Soissons that she become his wife. She displayed great virtue. Her husband finally permitted her to become a nun and she retired to a convent she founded in Noyon, where she died in 587.

Monday, August 14.—St. Eusebius, a holy priest who suffered death for the faith under Diocletian and Maximian.

Tuesday, Aug. 15.—The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven, a holy day of obligation in the United States.

Wednesday, Aug. 16.—St. Hyacinth, Apostle of Poland and Russia, who introduced the Dominican Order into Poland and made apostolic journeys in Austria, Bohemia, Livonia, and on the shores of the Black Sea. He was born in 1185 and died in 1257.

Thursday, Aug. 17.—St. Liberatus, Abbot and six monks of Capsa, who were summoned to Carthage by Huneric, the Vandal king and put to death with great torments in 483.

Friday, Aug. 18.—St. Helena, another of the Emperor Constantine, who was instrumental in finding the true cross of Christ. She died in Rome in 328, shortly after the victory of her son over Maxentius.

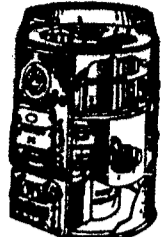
Saturday, Aug. 19.—St. Louis, Bishop, a nephew of St. Louis, King of France and St. Elizabeth of Hungary. He entered the Friars Minor and was remarkable for his piety and mortification. He was nominated Archbishop of Toulouse in 1296 at the age of twenty-two, but died the year following.

Holcomb, N. Y.

Edward Eugene Rigney, died at the family home, in Holcomb, N. Y., on Wednesday, August 9. He is survived by his wife, Margaret O'Neill Rigney; one son, Edward E. Rigney; two brothers, James J. Rigney, of West Bloomfield and Martin W. Rigney, of Detroit, Mich.; three sisters, Mrs. Dennis Regan, of East Bloomfield, Mrs. James P. Clark, of Rochester and Mrs. Julia Rigney, of West Bloomfield, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral will take place Saturday morning at 9:30 o'clock from the home and at 10 o'clock from St. Bridget's Church, East Bloomfield. Interment in the family lot in St. Bridget's cemetery, East Bloomfield, N. Y.

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