

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

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By The CATHOLIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING COMPANY

If paper is not received Saturday report without any delay change of address giving both old and new.

Comments are invited from all Catholics accompanied in every instance by the name of the contributor. Names of contributors will be withheld if desired.

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Friday, December 14th, 1922. TELEPHONE MAIN 1567

Entered as second class mail matter. Wake Up!

Last week we called attention to the Oregon constitutional amendment abolishing all parochial or private schools after 1926 and predicted we would have to face a similar proposition in New York state.

The expected has materialized. The Rochester Federation of Churches is out with an insidious attack on our Catholic schools. It charges that our schools are un-American; that our Catholic Sisters are not qualified to teach and do not carry state teachers' certificates; that our teachers do not take the oath of loyalty; that Arbor Day is not observed in the Catholic schools; that the effect of alcohol is not taught in the Catholic schools; that we do not teach our pupils to be kind to dumb animals.

And thus after the way the Catholics took their full share in the World's War! And after the wonderful work done by the Knights of Columbus! We are un-American?

Our Catholic Sisters are not qualified to teach, how does it happen that pupils of our Catholic schools lead all others in the Regents' tests? Why is it that pupils and graduates of our Catholic schools are able to pass State and National and County and City Civil Service competitive examinations with such high percentages? Why is it that non-Catholic business men favor graduates of Catholic schools in secretarial and other positions requiring efficiency, loyalty and ability?

All these so-called "charges" are mere subterfuges. Bigotry lies at the root of all the attacks. Our Catholic Churches are filled with worshippers; non-Catholic Churches are half filled. Our Catholic boys and girls are as capable as those of the public schools and in addition, they are grounded in their religion and believe in the sanctity of the marriage tie and still retain a conscience. These bigots would have us sanction divorce; stand for birth control, abolish the Confessional.

If they cannot induce us to do all these things by argument then they propose to force us to do so by law.

Senator Hastings' plan to compel all fraternal organizations to file with the Secretary of State sworn lists of their entire membership will not kill the Ku Klux Klan. Those birds will fail to file so the plea that nobody knows his fellow members hence no one can swear to the full roster.

If Henry D. Sayer resigns as the state industrial commissioner, as indications are pointed, New York state will lose a conscientious, diligent, alert and honest public officer. Men like Sayer never remain in public life. They are forced out or accept private life and more money.

We hope the collection taken last Sunday for Aquinas Institute will be a generous one. No better time than now.

To Be Pondered

Non-Catholics may be pardoned if they cannot quite understand the Catholic Church's opposition to mixed marriages.

But the Catholic goes into the contract with eyes open.

He or she knows that under the law of the land, the non-Catholic party to a mixed marriage contract is free to obtain a legal divorce and re-marry while the Catholic party must remain single and alone.

The Catholic party knows that the anti-nuptial contract under which if there be children they must be reared and educated as Catholics is of no avail if the non-Catholic party is conscienceless enough to repudiate it.

This has happened many, many times. Just a few weeks ago the Catholic party to a mixed marriage—the husband—found his non-Catholic wife was not rearing the four children as Catholics and so he sent them to a Catholic boarding academy. The non-Catholic wife appealed to the courts. She swore out a writ of habeas corpus to have her children returned to her custody. And the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of New York state in session at Buffalo has granted the writ, paying no attention to the anti-nuptial contract.

There is but one safe and sure way for Catholics to proceed and that is to avoid mixed marriages. For every one such where the parties have no disagreement there are a dozen where the Catholic party spends a lifetime in vain regret. The non-Catholic who is so liberal and agreeable before marriage changes materially afterward and the result is misery and unhappiness.

And all is not roses for the non-Catholic. There is always the restraint, the feeling that there is something that husband and wife do not enjoy in common. Mixed marriages are not to be commended. In fact, they should be avoided.

Manners, Et Al.

Probably, one curious phase of the prevalent hazy ideas as to what is mine and what is thine, is reflected in the following editorial in the New York "World".

The dispatch from an up-State city telling how a farmer gave a motoring "a little lesson" in manners and property rights has an application which warrant its greater publicity. As related, after the chauffeur of a touring car which had stopped in front of a farm-house and gathered large bouquets of cultivated flowers from the premises for the occupants of the car, the owner made his appearance and persuaded the motorists that a contribution of \$25 to the Salvation Army would be satisfactory compensation.

The incident is interesting as illustrating a two common point of view of "city folks" touring the country toward the farmer. It is assumed that his fields and the fulness thereof are at the disposal for picnic purposes or for plucking of fruits or flowers uninvited.

It is an assumption that credits the farmer with an engaging hospitality which in many cases he possesses. But the calm disregard of his property rights in the matter reveals a curious urban psychology. There would be scant courtesy toward a flivver party from the country which plucked flowers from a city lawn. It is therefore edifying in the circumstances to note the example of the up-State farmer who proceeded on the theory that it's a poor rule which works only one way.

Ku Klux Klanners want to be both alert and discreet if they would escape Mayor Hylan's sleuths who have orders to arrest Klanners on sight.

Advent is upon us and it will not be many days now to Christmas!

What's Needed

The Rochester Journal hits the nail on the head when it says:—

The other day two young lads wandering into the ware-room of a clothing manufactory, found it "fun" to smear with whitewash or snip with shears a total of 400 suits.

The damage they did would have clothed two hundred heads of families for a year.

It is possible, of course, that this was a unique instance of juvenile irresponsibility; but the disturbing surmise obtrudes that perhaps it registers a decline in old-time home influences.

You don't have to go far to find many signs that obedience among children and quiet but effective authority among parents are scarcer than both used to be.

The fact is easier to locate than the cause or cure.

We were impressed by what an old timer said after hearing the City Club discussion of the city manager plan. It is apropos. "If the young could be taught the meaning of the Ten Commandments and inspired by what the theologians call the fear of God, it wouldn't," he said, "make much difference what the structural plan of government might be; we'd soon get good results."

Quite True

The Democrat & Chronicle says much that is absolutely true in the following paragraph:—

"We are skeptical sometimes when one of our prominent men refuses to enter public service because he says he cannot afford to enter it; and we are not always kindly in comment when some efficient public servant leaves his post for private work. But the fact is that efficient, devoted public service in posts of the greatest responsibility is impoverishing to those who give it. And this unquestionable fact stands in refutation of the stigma resting on politics that it is a profession in which 'gain' without effort is the leading motive. Distinguished public service demands unselfishness of a high order and it is a saving grace of the time that we get such service when we accord it such scant recognition."

Church Bazaar at Mt. Carmel Church Draws Large Crowds

The annual bazaar of Mount Carmel Church in Ontario street, opened on Monday night in the church hall with a large crowd in attendance.

Public Safety Commissioner Harry J. Bareham spoke a few words urging the support of all who are connected with the church, in behalf of Rev. Walter Foery, the pastor.

The bazaar will continue all week. Thursday evening was a Knights of Columbus night. John J. McInerney spoke.

The proceeds of the bazaar will be used toward paying off the mortgage on the church and school. Charles M. Dispenza is general chairman and the pastor, Rev. Walter A. Foery, is treasurer.

Stop, Look and Listen

"Everything on wheels except automobiles" is the slogan adopted by Towner Bros. who have just added another new store to their chain at 710 University Ave. There you will receive the same service and courtesy that has made Towner Bros. so successful at their other stores 940 Jay St. and 170 Lyell Ave.

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