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A Loss.

The Catholic Church and the country at large suffered a great loss in the sudden death in Washington a few days ago of William Bourke Cochrane. He was not only one of the distinguished men of the Nation but he was a loyal son of Holy Mother Church and his example, without doubt, influenced thousands of the men who know him.

Such Catholic laymen as Bourke Cochrane are needed and the loss is great when such a one is called to his last reward.

May his soul rest in peace!

It is hoped the report that Gilbert K. Chesterton will establish an independent weekly is correct.

Differents.

There is a well-meaning but inconsistent class of citizens who think everybody is wrong but themselves.

One manifestation of their peculiar mental strabismus is a demand for business administration of governmental affairs, national, state and municipal, and the establishment of a stated budget within which expenditures must be held. When the budget is made and it develops that some pet project of the reformers has been eliminated temporarily as not absolutely essential as other items, then a howl goes up against the budget system and the legislators are scored as petty politicians.

The Democrat & Chronicle cites another angle of this abssession as follows:

Present attitude is the congressional attitude toward the budget. Here is an institution deliberately set up by Congress in response to public demand, and after careful debate over the best means of meeting that demand. And here is Congress, in two instances by a heavy majority vote and a non-party vote, deliberately disregarding the President's budget recommendations and substituting its own delusions.

Now the budget is a check on senseless conduct of national finances. It is a check brought about by general consent that a check was necessary. Congress, which voted the budget into being, seems, determined to pay no attention to the agency it has created. Our Supreme Court is not a member of Congress and has no power from their legislative branch. There are other things needless to mention.

Congress seeks to be ridiculed by pulling at the bit of runaway from the mule that have done in our churches to pay taxes, a bill putting all church property on the tax list was defeated by a narrow margin.

runaway congresses, for saw impatience at failure of legislation to secure immediate results. Fore-saw seasons of popular dissatisfaction and unrest. It is just because they did foresee these that they provided check against rash and experimental legislation; not because they failed to foresee such conditions, as critics of the Constitution have claimed.

Soon baseball and golf will succeed the snowshoes and ski.

Quite Right.

The commercial travelers are not the only persons who protest against burdensome restrictions proposed by the railroad managers upon the release of mileage books. Here is the Rochester "Herald" with these criticisms: Commercial bodies in various parts of the country are lodging protests with the Interstate Commerce Commission against all these regulations which the railroads would like to have the Commission authorize. There is abundant reason for such action by Chambers of Commerce and travelers' associations. If there is to be any thorough and permanent revival in business, travel and trade must be facilitated by every means. The use of mileage books, issued at slightly reduced rates and made otherwise attractive by provisions for increased convenience and promptness of service, is a real stimulus to travel. One would expect the railroads to see this and by eagerly conforming to the public's demand, to act intelligently for their own profit. But since they do not see, but seem to think that the way to wealth is by discouraging and repelling one's best customers, the Interstate Commerce Commission should enlighten them.

As the local Chamber of Commerce asserts, the mileage book should be accepted on the train. It should be accepted at the baggage room, its coupons detached for regular or excess baggage, or both. And the signature of owner should be sufficient identification. Anything more than this would be a hindrance to the use of the book—irritating to the traveler and a source of increased discontent with railroad management. Of the latter there is quite enough already.

The Atlantic storm seems to be a boon for the illicit rum sellers.

"Pope Fearing".

Even the non-Catholic press of Oregon cannot stomach the anti-Catholic bigotry now rampant in Oregon. Says the Capital City Journal of Salem:—

"Oregon may no longer be a God-fearing state, but there is no doubt of its being a Pope-fearing state, and the papal dread which dominated the recent election is reflected in every act of the legislature. No one knows what this superstitious session will accomplish outside of establishing its ecclesiastical independence, by burning bricks at the religion of Rome.

"To take a crack at parochial schools, the people voted to abolish all private schools, no matter how meritorious, regardless of their excellent record or the good they have done and are doing, and one of the first bills to pass the legislature was that barring religious garb from the public schools, from which religion has already been banned.

"To take a crack at the Catholic hospital at Eugene, the House of Representatives has passed a bill putting on the tax rolls all the hospitals, colleges, Y. M. C. A.'s and other sectarian institutions, while another bill, aimed at a similar hospital in Portland, mulets all the first-class hospitals in the state. To force the Catholics to pay taxes, a bill putting all church property on the tax list was defeated by a narrow margin.

"The house has, to emphasize its 100 per cent. patriotism, voted to repeal Columbus Day as a holiday—not on the ground of having too many holidays, which would be a valid excuse—but because Columbus is the patron of a Catholic society. What surprises all is that having ousted Columbus as an imposter, the legislature, while it is rewriting school history, does not eliminate Columbus as discoverer of America and substitute Lief Erickson and give us an Erickson holiday, as an effective expression of religious intolerance not witnessed in legislative doings since the days of the know-nothings.

"The Catholic Church does not seem particularly alarmed at the situation, for there has not been any official protest nor any lobby on hand, and doubtless it is figured that it will take more than a session of the Oregon legislature to shake the foundations of a 2,000-year-old institution whose experience has proved that the blood of martyrs is the seed of the Church.

"Meanwhile Oregon is getting some fine advertising, which if it does nothing else, calls attention to our 'inferior complex,' for if we have not got ability enough to reduce taxation we can certainly capitalize fanaticism and safeguard ourselves from the tyrant of the Tiber, if not from the flesh and the devil."

The Rochester Chamber of Commerce certainly does not propose to let one possible prospective member escape.

Chaos.

Writing in criticism and condemnation of the present tendencies in our educational systems, Dean Andrew F. West, of the Graduate School of Princeton University, says that the system must be reformed. How shall it be done? Here's the Dean's remedy:—

"There is only one way. The general education, preparing for the whole life, is the one and only basis. All special, vocational and other similar forms of education must give place to the general foundation. Their place is as sequels to and not as substitutes for the general training on which our national well-being most deeply depends. Then those studies and only those studies which underlie the whole subsequent life, the general studies which train the fundamental powers and connect them all, should be made the principal content of the school curriculum.

"This means it is better really to teach something essential than to profess to teach everything. Let the something essential be studied, and the other things will look after themselves. Rigorous selection and simplification all the way through to the end of college education is the one key to the situation. If this be done, we shall have fewer studies and more study, less confusion and more trained intelligence. We shall also have plenty of money, saved by these economies, to pay decent salaries to well-trained teachers. It will be the dawning of a new day of clear knowledge.

"One of the worst delusions now current is that a special 'practical' education for this or that vocational end is an education which will enable a boy or girl to rise in the scale of life. The general education is the force which will do this. To cut off any of our people, especially our working people, from that chance is to condemn them to economic serfdom and to breed social discontent. They have as much right as any one else to the chance for the best education. The trouble is not in the schools alone. Failure to uphold true standards of knowledge, as against temptations to take lower ground, explains clearly the influences which are now trying to turn our colleges into an incongruous mixture of technical

schools, business colleges and finishing seminaries."

The Archbishop of Tuam invites the warring factions in Ireland to lay down their arms and to continue warfare only with the ballot as the sole weapon.

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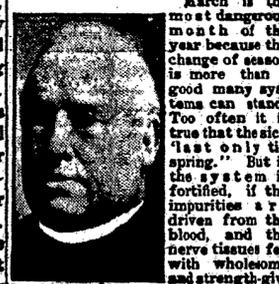
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