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Think It Over

Governor Gifford Pinchot may have emulated the movie stars in capturing the front of the stage by his Don Quixote performance of being President Coolidge because the Volstead Law is not enforced as the Pennsylvania chief executive would like and the subtle insinuation that if he were President he could do the work in 1/2 time.

Before the people hail Gifford Pinchot as the dry law enforcement mover they would do well to pause and take inventory, even the dry advocate.

Governor Pinchot shouts and waves his arms to attract attention to the coal profiteers. But who extends a greater degree of comfort and cheer to the coal profiteers than the state where practically all the anthracite coal is mined—Pennsylvania. Every ton of coal mined in Pennsylvania and shipped outside that state pays a tax of 50 cents per ton to the treasury of the State of Pennsylvania and every coal consumer in every state but Pennsylvania has that 50 cents per ton tacked onto his bill.

The coal mine owners of Pennsylvania keep increasing the wholesale price of coal at the mines. Gifford Pinchot is governor of Pennsylvania. It is notorious that Pennsylvania enforces the Volstead Law the least of any state in the Union. Governor Pinchot made a great outcry as to how rigidly he would enforce the law. He seems to be weary of his job and wants to wish it onto the United States Government.

Really, we think Governor Pinchot should be tried out a little longer in his present job before he is headed towards the White House.

Pretty soon the Aquinas Institute drive will be in full swing. The sun to be raised is large but it can be reached if every Catholic in Rochester will help.

If the planners of parochial schools were called into consultation over the erection and equipment of the public school buildings, don't you think the tax payers of Rochester would save money?

One Should Pass

While, as a general rule it is a perfectly safe rule to vote against any constitutional piecemeal tinkering and wait until a new constitution is presented in entirety, there is one proposition to be voted upon this fall in New York State that should receive careful consideration by the voters.

It is charged, yes admitted, that our New York State Hospitals for the insane are notoriously inadequate and that the buildings are not safe.

It is proposed to issue \$50,000,000 in bonds to put the Hospitals in shape.

Perhaps, this is too large a sum. If so, it need not all be spent.

But the money should be voted so that the improvements can be made.

Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus has joined the procession of organizations that go in for Big Brotherism.

Who's next? Just who was it that convinced the Rochester Subway idea? It is that great Albany grand old man?

Crude Thinking

Henry Ford is a splendid self-advertiser and that helps to sell his famous product.

Perhaps he is like Barnum of old not caring to be accurate but happy if he captures the first page. His assertion that "History is all bunk" brought him many columns of first-page publicity even if it did stamp him as a loose thinker and looser talker.

His latest assertion that "Anything free is not worth having" is provoking tart rejoinders. Witness this from the Rochester Herald:—

"Mr. Ford has spoken in haste. He has forgotten many things in his pragmatic absorption. There will be many who will dispute with him and tell him that things free are the only things worth having. The trouble is that only free souls may find such things. Hearts and heads troubled with details of turning tin and iron into fivecents, or of coining dollars from human labor know not these free things. But the man of the cottage, singing his way homeward after a long day's work, a flower in his jacket and a kiss upon his lips, knows them. Things free are given him and he knows their value.

Things free! What an obscurity of life we enter when we lose them! What a maze of doubts and pains and troubles we find when we forget them! Things free and precious—too precious for us to buy, though we had all the wealth of Henry Ford!

There is the velvety touch of a baby's hand to thrill us with its gentleness taught by the angels; there is the sunshine and the starshine and the laughter of young hearts; there is the golden glory of autumn woodlands and the song of the hermit thrush at twilight; there are sun-gilded April days and the wonder of tender little flowers; there is the miracle of the baby that flaps its parents name; the voice of bells at eventide, and the moon's soft magic that turns the hut into a castle; there is the joy in the bark of a dog to greet his master, and the music of a brook through leaf cathedrals; there is the flicker of firelight against home window panes seen through chill dusk, and a sleepy drip-drop upon a bedroom roof; there is the lapping of the waves upon a clean beach and the breath of the apple blooms from open orchards, there is the wine that is in the air of an October morning, and the freshness of the water from a mountain spring.

After all if silver sales do not fall off, Henry won't feel badly.

Funny it is not, that thinking people can bring themselves to believe that a political machine in New York City is so bad while an equally efficient political machine in Rochester is everything decent and commendable!

Forgotten Point

Commenting on the governor's conference with President Coolidge over the prohibition enforcement problem "The Union and Times" says truly that until the Volstead Law reaches the consumer the problem will not be solved. Our contemporary says:—

"A law is on the statute books making it a crime to manufacture, sell or distribute liquor, either fermented or distilled, with an alcoholic content greater than one-half of one per cent. The law says nothing about consuming an intoxicating beverage, and as the evil of drink does not come from the manufacture, sale or distribution, the important factor in a prohibitory statute was omitted."

Let this be clear. An individual may manufacture sufficient liquor to fill the Niagara to its banks and still remain there as harmless as aquapura provided no one passes with a tin dipper and indulges in a Bacchanalian revel. An individual may sell or distribute that quantity of intoxicating fluid and so long as no member of the human race consumes it, the intoxicant is still that same harmless substance. The evil of drink comes from too copious and too frequent potations, or, in other words, from abusive consumption.

The eighteenth amendment and the Volstead law say nothing about the prohibition of drinking intoxicants, which, after all, is the solution of the prohibition problem, provided, of course, that government, either federal, state or local, is powerful enough to prevent alcoholic fluids from sliding down the aperture in the genus homo. Just why the word "consume" was left out of the law is difficult to understand. Here are gentlemen like Wayne Wheeler and William Anderson who, foreseeing the passage of prohibitory statutes, were able to fill their cellars with Bacchanalian beverages which they may consume in a dry nation and still remain within the law.

Probably, one of the best "Americanization" adjuncts would be to give the new immigrant every possible chance to speak the language here as it should be spoken.

Free Speech

Freedom and license are often confused. Suppression of freedom has induced many revolutions. Suppression of license rarely has provoked a passing protest from law-abiding and thinking citizens.

Suppression of recklessness in speech and sweeping generally charges without proof or substantiation is not suppression of freedom at all.

There are some pulpiters and campaign orators in Rochester who need to have this lesson brought home to them forcefully. If a pulpit or group of reckless talkers see fit to attack another man or group of men for doing what it thought right and proper, the attack is just and his friends have a perfect right to strike back and the attackers should realize that.

Very often it makes a vital difference whose ox is gored.

This is the problem that is occupying the attention of one of our well-known secular contemporaries:—

"When he was Vice-President, Thomas Riley Marshall won brief fame and relieved the tension of war times by saying that what this country needs is a good 5-cent cigar. That, of course, is beyond the hope of any but an incorrigible optimist but it would help some if a decent 10-cent cigar should be put on the market."

Rochester did not have a chance to test whether there is a real popular liking for David Lloyd George.

Thank fortune the municipal campaign of 1923 is nearing an end. It has been an insane affair.

Miss Ella Geraghty's 49 years of teaching exerted an influence, good and wholesome upon thousands of pupils.

Make up your mind to contribute generously to the funds for the new Aquinas Institute.

"Educational cleanliness pays in the long run" says a contemporary undoubtedly if the decent publisher can wait long enough. Rochester had the cleanest editorial page newspaper in Rochester but it did not pay. Hence it was merged with the Rochester representative of the most sensational publisher of the United States if not in the world.

New York clerk is sent to the penitentiary for stealing a dictionary. If all the book lovers who forget to return volumes "borrowed" from their friends Mr. William H. Craig's famous hostility on South avenue would need to be tripled in capacity.

Just what would Mr. Lloyd George have us do in the present European crisis?

Secretary of labor James J. Davis is some bird these days. He flies from San Francisco to Chicago in airplane so as to keep an engagement.

RURAL LIFE" SUNDAY SET FOR NOVEMBER 11

(By N.C.W.C. News Service) St. Louis, Oct. 29.—Sunday, Nov. 11, the day following the meeting of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference here, has been designated as "Rural Life Sunday."

The Catholic Rural Life Bureau has invited pastors throughout the country to direct the attention of their parishioners to the religious aspects of rural life on that day.

BATH-TUB AND FLOORS RISKY

Form Considerable Item in Category of "Falls" Which Necessitate Payment of Huge Sum.

Are your highly polished floors dangerous? Does the slippery surface of your bathtub constitute a hazard? Accident insurance agencies answer "yes" to both questions.

Although claims of this nature in no wise monopolize statistical columns devoted to classifications, yet their appearances are declared to be sufficiently frequent to have passed beyond the "freak" stage.

"Slippery floors prove bete noirs in the best regulated families," one superintendent said, "and it is only natural and correct to assume that a number of this kind of falls result in claims against insurance companies."

"They form a considerable item in the general category of 'falls' which probably necessitate the payment of more money than any other cause of disability. Falling out of bed also is a popular cause for claim, and, of course, here are the general run of falls down steps, on slippery sidewalks and many other classifications."

Another superintendent disclosed that falls in bathtubs are not the most unusual form of claims and cited the instance of a claim handled by his office where the victim not only had sustained injuries to his head when it struck the side of the tub, but also had suffered a broken arm in trying to check his descent.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, November 4.—St. Charles Borromeo. In 1560 Charles Borromeo, then twenty-two years old, was created a Cardinal and assisted his uncle Pius IV to administer the affairs of the Holy See. He was largely responsible for the success of the Council of Trent and for the administration of the council's decrees. As Archbishop of Milan he remained in the city throughout the great plague, in constant attendance on the sick and dying.

Monday, November 5.—St. Bertille, in her early youth learned to despise the world and wished to give it up. She entered the convent of Jouarre where she became noted for her extreme humility and was chosen prioress. About the year 646 she was appointed first abbess of the abbey of Chelles which she governed for forty-six years with vigor and discretion. She died in 692.

Tuesday, November 6.—St. Leonard, one of the officials of the Court of Clouis, was so moved by the example of St. Remigius that he relinquished the world in order to lead a more perfect life. He became the apostle of such of the Franks as were still pagan and later withdrew into solitude in order to avoid being summoned into court because of his reputation for sanctity. He undertook the work of comforting prisoners, making them understand that the captivity of sin is more terrible than mere bodily restraint. He died about 550.

Wednesday, November 7.—St. Willibrod was born in Northumberland, A. D. 657 and when twenty years old went to Ireland to study under St. Egbert. Twelve years later, after going to Rome and receiving the blessing of the Pope, he reached Utrecht and began to preach the gospel to the pagan tribes. At the request of Pepin Heristal he went again to Rome and was consecrated Archbishop of Utrecht. He labored as a bishop for fifty years converting thousands building many churches and having the gift of miracles.

Thursday, November 8.—The Feast of the Holy Relics. Protestantism regards the veneration which the Church pays to relics of the Saints as a sin and contends that this pagan practice is a remnant of paganism. The Council of Trent, on the contrary, has decided that the bodies of martyrs and other Saints who were living members of Jesus Christ and temples of the Holy Ghost are to be honored by the faithful.

Friday, November 9.—St. Theodore Tyro, martyr, in his youth was enrolled in the imperial army. He refused to obey an order of the Emperor that all Christians should offer sacrifices. When his commander tried to pin him with sentences and allowed him to remain at liberty he set fire to the great Temple of Isis and made no secret of his act. After cruel torture he was condemned to be burned to death. As the flames rose a Christian saw the soul of the martyr rise like a flash of light to heaven.

Saturday, November 10.—St. Andrew Avellino, at the age of thirty-six entered the Theatine Order. For fifty years he was afflicted with a most painful rupture but would never use a carriage. On the last day of his life he arose to say Mass but was stricken at the altar. While he was convulsed in agony the fiend in visible form advanced to seize his soul. Then as his brethren prayed and wept, the voice of Mary was heard, bidding the Saint's guardian angel send the tempter back to Hell. A calm and holy smile settled on the features of the dying Saint and he breathed forth his soul to God. He died November 10, 1608.

Bonaparte Still Fascinate. An electrical engineer of Charlottesville, Va., who recently died, left to Princeton university a collection of 3,000 volumes having to do with the French revolution and Napoleon. There is an era in nearly every man's life when he reads this chapter in world history intensively. The fascination of Bonaparte is persistent. The Yale senior class recently rated him at or near the head of their favorite characters. It is presumably the dramatic quality in the man; just as people troop to the playhouse, so they divert themselves in reading of a great actor. The emotion cannot be called admiration—men supremely admire Washington and Lincoln, but none ever called them "actors."

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