

The Catholic Journal

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Law And Order

It makes no difference whether one believes in a law of the land or not, he should obey it. If a law is unworkable, impractical or illy drawn, the best way to have it repealed is to enforce it literally and rigidly.

If the Volstead law had been enforced literally and rigidly from the day it went on the statute books one of two results would now be history: The United States would have been a veritable Sahara without an oasis and the people would have been impelled, in spite of themselves, to become total abstainers.

What would have happened then? Why, either the people would have proclaimed undying allegiance to prohibition or they would have risen in their might and forced repeal of the Volstead law or a modification of its provisions.

But the Sahara was not declared. The bootleggers were financed by banker and erstwhile promoter. Profits were enormous. Savings bank deposits have increased; real estate sales have been brisker; until today it is absurd to expect the killing of the goose that lays golden eggs by repeal or modification of the Volstead law.

Had Theodore Roosevelt been President in the days of the Prohibition amendment and the Volstead Law there might be a different story to chronicle because the Colonel's policy was to enforce law rigidly. If popular sentiment favored the law that ended the controversy as there would be no reaction. If, on the contrary, popular sentiment was against the law, the reaction would be of such strength as to force repeal of the obnoxious law.

The question at issue is: Are laws meant to be enforced or obeyed or shall they become a dead letter?

Not So Bad!

Many persons have not accepted Royal S. Copeland as measuring up to the traditional United States Senator, as remembered of Hill, Miller, Root, Depew or Platt. Possibly, the fact of his writing daily talks to readers of a certain newspaper syndicate has not tended to enhance their feeling in this respect.

However, the fact remains that Royal Copeland is not such a fool as some people may think. He possesses gray matter. In his recent talk before the Rochester Ad Club he put forward a suggestion worthy of serious consideration. In Rochester we have a custom of each spring and fall of welcoming, at a public dinner and function, the newly naturalized citizens. Senator Copeland suggests that the native born citizens who arrive at the age of 21 be invited to a similar function and have the honors, privileges and responsibilities of American citizenship impressed upon them.

Undoubtedly, many young citizens, men and women, native-born, do not realize just what they possess and it is well that they should know. But it is a somewhat sad reflection that schools and parents do not adequately prepare young citizens for their debut.

It is well to mark permanently the historic spots as the site of the Liberty Pole.

It is to be hoped that Dr. George Deane, when he told the New York State Medical Society that the "family doctor" would soon be a thing of the past, The one that the parish priest, the doctor and the lawyer are to be replaced and joined again in the community, at least.

Taxation Folly

One subject affects and interests everybody—and that is taxation.

There is such a thing as trying to levy a tax and making it so serious that the enterprise sought to be taxed either stops short—and no tax at all is collected—or is not expanded, in which event the normal increase in taxes collected does not materialize.

There is much common sense in the following excerpts from the Rochester "Journal":—

Excessive taxation, discouraging effort, results in increasing the idle class, the number of lives devoted to self indulgence and pleasure based on income safely put beyond the tax collector's reach. Men will not use their brains creating industry, employing men, building new enterprises, merely to have their profits taken from them by unjust and excessive taxation, while THEY are left to bear the LOSSES that go inevitably with the careers of all enterprising men.

In actual war, when you take one man's LIFE, it is of course all right to take another man's PROPERTY, not only his income, but every dollar that he has, IF THE NATION NEEDS IT.

Nothing is sacred, neither the right to property nor the right to life, when the life of the nation itself is at stake.

But there is no excuse for continuing idiotic, excessive, discouraging taxation in peace time. As well continue military conscription in peace. For self-respecting men here in America, nothing could be more unworthy, more undemocratic, than the effort to create an enormous class of self-confessed INCOMPETENTS, contributing nothing to their government, seeking to put upon a few more able men, or richer men, the entire burden of government.

Taxation is a problem that interests the so-called "little man" more than the big man.

Tax the very rich man as you will, the big man will always have ENOUGH. You may drive him away from useful work and cause him to close up his factory or his other business by taxes that discourage him. But he will have ENOUGH LEFT FOR HIMSELF.

But the men that lack work when his factory is closed have a DIFFERENT story to tell.

Heavy and discouraging taxes, laid of course with the best of intentions, but based ON THEORY AND NOT ON COMMON SENSE, will injure and drive out vitally necessary industrial enterprises.

Unwise taxation, excessive and "theoretical," will injure industry, discourage enterprise and diminish prosperity everywhere.

Such taxation is not statesmanship. It is dangerous, foolish, theorizing. The people of Wisconsin and of every state where such taxation is paid or planned, should read once more the story of the goose that laid the golden eggs.

Industry and enterprise are the American producers of golden eggs. LET THEM LIVE.

Rochester's Community Chest is filled once more.

Henry Ford does not seem to bargain well with Uncle Sam.

Organized Labor wisely refrains from provoking a contest between Labor and Capital—because that is a misnomer. Labor is Capital and Capital is Labor.

Dr. Jacob Schurmann, as Ambassador to Germany is an example of promotion in our diplomatic service. He made a good minister to China. No Catholic home is complete without a Catholic paper.

If the Common Council directs the Corporation Counsel to draft a new Charter, he'll do it. But the Bureau of Municipal Research does not pay his salary, hence the Corporation Counsel will not write a Charter at its request.

As a lecturer against evolution, William J. Bryan will draw a large audience. As a popular orator on Socialism, Eugene Debs is a puller. But as a Presidential candidate their vote-pulling power is negligible.

Certain items in the daily press recalls for the moment that there will be a municipal election this fall.

Within a twelvemonth every bank in Rochester will have a brand new home, either finished or on the way.

Uncle Joe Cannon and Chauncey Depew are a shining example of the American youth in spirit despite the march of years.

Andrew Mellon has common sense. He thinks the best kind of a tax is one that the Government can collect.

Trees and shrubs begin to take on their spring and summer garb.

Justified

While undoubtedly not so intended, nevertheless the appeal of a local publicity agency for business and support was phrased so unfortunately as to convey the idea that organizations and movements must employ a publicity agent or service because the newspaper men of Rochester are either venal or incompetent.

The "Democrat & Chronicle" very pertinently comments:—

"It is not often that newspaper writers pierce the cloak of anonymity that keeps their work on the plane of disinterested public service and their personal feelings in the background. They generally are content to go their way, content if they measure fairly up to the high and historic ideals of their profession.

"It seems, however, that the action of the Press Club the other night in expressing the public resentment of its members at what seemed to them an attempt to belittle their most prized ideal—discretion—was just and warranted.

"The newspaper writers have no grudge against the paid press representatives of Rochester organizations who conduct themselves with modesty, submit their matter in moderate amount and on its news merits, and when a big story is about to break make it easy for the newspaper's representatives to get to the leaders of a movement or to the executives of a corporation to get first-hand information.

"It is a notable characteristic of the men at the head of affairs in Rochester, however, that they prefer generally on important matters to deal frankly and directly with the newspaper's own representatives than through any agency or bureau.

"This sort of confidence that the leaders of Rochester's affairs always have reposed in the city's newspapermen adds weight to the attitude of the Press Club toward the bureau that seeks to interpose its judgment between some of those whom Rochester newspaper men have been proud to serve and with whom trustworthy relations have been maintained.

"It would be an unfortunate situation indeed both from the point of view of the organizations or activities affected as well as from the point of view of the public if the newspapers of Rochester should lose their direct contact with the leaders of the city's affairs, or in fact with those active in any affairs that are of legitimate interest to the public.

Always Catholic

It is fine to read in the current "Columbia" an article from the pen of our distinguished former townswoman, Katherine E. Conway. It is captioned "Why Always Catholic?" and we quote the opening sentences.

The question as to whether a Catholic must necessarily reflect his religion in his literary work, even in his offered contributions to a Catholic publication, has come up several times lately, and in various connections. It has been addressed to the present writer on the strength of a poem in a high-class Catholic magazine, in this form: "But must one's expression always be Catholic?"

The obvious answer was, of course, that a Catholic literary expression is not limited to sermons—an expression, on the part of the lay Catholic, which would be an intrusion on another vocation. Catholics may write ardent love stories, in which the love tokens exchanged need not take the form of pearls, rubies, and poems, humorous or tragic, in which it is not necessary to embody a formal confession of faith. But even in these cases, there is an implicit Catholicity in the subjects or matters avoided; and conformity to the Catholic ethical standard in what is expressed.

Wherefore, if a Catholic really believes what he professed religiously, that his faith is precious beyond all worldly assets, and that it should guide him alike in all his acts and omissions, should he hesitate to reveal himself in any effort or under any circumstances, as fully and completely a Catholic? Especially why should he thus hesitate in the genial atmosphere of such a household of faith as a Catholic periodical must be? There is scant need for him to day, to fear such revelation in any enterprise into which a Catholic may legitimately venture. Even here in Massachusetts, we Catholics are out of the catacombs.

In literature, editors of the secular magazines no longer look askance at a contribution from an author whose name is openly associated with the Catholic Church; provided that his topic is within its scope, and up to the generally recognized standard of excellence. With all humility, even a Catholic publication may be free to determine its own scope.

Rochester real estate values do not diminish even if unemployment does increase.

Battle On

No matter how much Vice-President Dawes may scold the United States Senate; no matter how much popular applause he may secure for his move to revise the Senate rules, it is painfully apparent his first task is to convert the Senate itself and this is to be some job.

Senators Moses, Copeland, Capper and others already have poked fun at the Dawes outbreak while a writer in the "New Republic" goes further and pokes fun at the Vice-President himself, saying in part:—

Hope is expressed by the writer of the article that the newspaper men gathered to hear the Vice-President will not succumb to the temptation to cheer on the General in his attack, since "the truth is Mr. Dawes does not deserve newspaper commendation or indorsement and applause at this time, and he would be a better man and a better public servant if he did not get it. One of the troubles with him is that he has had too unmerited much of it. It would, as a matter of fact, improve Mr. Dawes' usefulness to the public if he were made to feel, if possible, that just now he is neither a heroic nor an admirable figure. Undoubtedly, he has good qualities and some ability, although just as undoubtedly the latter has been considerably overrated. If some of this shaky belief in himself as a bold, dashing and Rooseveltian fellow, whose role in politics is to lecture others on their delinquencies and shortcomings, could be taken from him, his good qualities would become more obvious to the discerning, and himself less ridiculous and offensive. If the unvarnished truth is told, Mr. Dawes, beginning on inauguration day with his speech which evidenced an astounding lack of good taste and balance, and ending with his absurd excuse for failure to be at his own post of duty at the critical moment, made an exhibition of himself, in two short weeks, unparalleled for lack of dignity and judgment. He left Washington without having gained either great liking or much respect from those who came into contact with him. It would seem that Mr. Dawes, himself, would not want immediately to begin such a campaign as he has outlined, that he would want a period of peace and quiet, during which the memory of his harangue to the Senate and his costly nap at the Willard might fade."

Pilgrims from all over the world in the Eternal City constitute an object lesson for the rest of the world as to the loyalty and devotion of Catholics for our Holy Faith and our love and respect for God's viceregent on earth, our Holy Father.

Apparently, the city manager plan, as carried out in other cities, is unworkable here. It is discovered that Rochester's charter makers have shrewdly interwoven our affairs with the state statutes that either constitutional amendment or further legislative enactment will be necessary before the Western city manager plan can be grafted onto Rochester's municipal government.

It is patent that we should give the new selective immigration law more careful study than we have yet given it. There are discriminations in its provisions that should be explained more fully or eliminated altogether.

Hindenburg's election has not yet changed the map of Europe.

Illinois University

May Queen A Member of the Newman Club

Champaign, Ill., May 13.—Charlotte Woodward '25, a member of the Newman Club of the Columbus Foundation at the University of Illinois, was elected May queen by popular vote of the 8,000 students at Illinois. She was crowned in the annual May Fete given in the Illinois Stadium on Saturday. More than three hundred young students participated in the pageant.

Miss Woodward has more activities to her credit than any other woman student at Illinois. She is a member of Sigma Kappa social sorority and of Sigma Delta Phi, honorary public speaking society. She was president of Sha-Al, inter-sorority society; president of Illinois Literary Society, and vice-president of her class in her sophomore year.

She was appointed honorary colonel of the student brigade of the R. O. T. C. and as such led the Military Ball given last February.

Miss Woodward was on the social committee of the Woman's League, Dad's Day Committee, Mother's Day Committee, Inter-Illinois Committee, Sophomore Mixer Committee, Homecoming Committee, Military Ball Committee, Student Activities and Organizations Committee, and the Senior Alumni Drive. She was in the cast of two student operas "San Toy" and "Oh Boy." She is also in the "Woman's Glee Club."

Miss Woodward has been a soloist for four years at St. John's Catholic student chapel in Champaign, of which the Rev. John A. O'Brien, Ph. D., pastor of the Columbus Foundation, is pastor. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Woodward of Oak Park, Ill.



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Weekly Calendar Of Feast Days

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Sunday, May 24.—Sts. Donatus and Rogation, Martyrs. Donatus was a nobleman of Nante who on his conversion showed such great zeal that he drew many others from the worship of false gods. He was beheaded after torture in 287. Rogation his brother was executed at the same time.

Monday, May 25.—St. Gregory VII was born in Tuscany in 1013 and educated in Rome. He was elected Pope in 1073. His long struggle with Henry IV resulted in the latter seeking Absolution at Canossa. Later, however, Henry relapsed, set up an anti-Pope and besieged Gregory in the castle of St. Angelo. Gregory died in exile in 1085.

Tuesday, May 26.—St. Philip Neri, the Apostle of Rome and one of the most illustrious of the saints who were the glory of the Church in the Sixteenth Century. He devoted his life to bringing joy into the lives of the people with whom he came in contact.

Wednesday, May 27.—St. Mary Magdalene of Pazzi, was born in Florence in 1566 of an illustrious family. She persuaded her parents to allow her to embrace the religious life and at the age of eighteen was professed in the Carmelite monastery of Santa Maria degli Angeli. She was twice chosen mistress of novices and finally made Superioress. She died in 1607.

Thursday, May 28.—St. Germanus, Bishop and Abbot, was known as the glory of the Church in France during the sixth century. He was chosen to fill the see of Paris and in that capacity became noted for his great charity. By his eloquence he converted King Childbert and inspired that monarch to found many religious institutions and give large sums for charity. The saint died in 576.

Friday, May 29.—St. Cyril Martyr, who still a boy gave his life for the Faith at Caesarea in Cappadocia. This was during the persecutions of the third century. Cyril was burned at the stake.

Saturday, May 30.—St. Felix I, Pope and Martyr, succeeded St. Dionysius in the Government of the church in 269. It was during his reign that Paul of Samosata, Bishop of Antioch, was excommunicated for gross heresy concerning the Divine Nature of Christ and the mysteries of the Trinity and the Incarnation. When the persecution of Aurelian broke out St. Felix was among those who obtained the crown of martyrdom in the year 274.

Brother Guild Guest Of Catholic Actors

New York, May 15.—Members of the Catholic Actor's Guild were hosts to members of the Episcopal Actor's Guild at a reception at the Hotel Astor here today.

George W. Howard, vice-president of the Catholic Guild, presided, and acting as hosts were Milton Lackaye, Gene Buck, Fiske O'Hara, William Courtright, Thomas Meighan, Brandon Tynan, John Miltenr, Andrew Mack, J. P. MacSweeney, John Wray, Wallace Ford, George LeGuere, Tom Lewis and Arthur Hurley.

Among the guests were George Arliss, Grant Mitchell, Frank Gilmore, Walter Wilson and Albert Phillips.

Former Protestant Prelate Testifies To Irish Tolerance

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Dublin, May 12.—Dr. Bernard, who was formerly Protestant Archbishop of Dublin and is now provost of Trinity College, was one of the guests at the Irish Club dinner on the occasion to take advantage of the occasion to declare that he did not believe there was anything in the nature of religious intolerance in the South of Ireland. He continued: "Anglo-Irish people, like myself, who love their native Ireland, have read with great surprise some of the things that appeared in British newspapers about ourselves and our countrymen. To our friends in England I will give one word of advice, and that is—do not believe all you see in the newspapers about us. South-corn Ireland does not encourage intolerance. As for Irish Protestants, they intend to remain in their country."

Bohemian Catholics Of America to Hold Convention June 10

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Chicago, May 15.—Bohemian Catholics from virtually every state in the Union will assemble here June 10 for the fourth national convention of the Bohemian Catholics of America. Upwards of 100 delegates will attend, and hundreds of visitors are expected.

A solemn High Mass will open the convocation, the Rt. Rev. Valentin Kohlbeck, O. S. B., officiating. Father Francis W. Jedlicka, of Chicago, spiritual director of the National Alliance of Bohemian Catholics, will preach the sermon. The convention will take up all departments of religious, civic, educational and social life as it affects the Bohemian Catholics of the country. Immigration will come in for special consideration.

Bishop Murphy Will Return To U. S. For Jubilee

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Milwaukee, Wis., May 15.—The Rt. Rev. Joseph A. Murphy, S. J., Bishop of Bithra and Vicar Apostolic of British Honduras, who for many years was a member of the faculty of Marquette University, will return next summer to observe here the golden jubilee of his entrance into the Jesuit Order.

Maltese Catholics Hold Great Annual Thanksgiving Parade

London, May 8.—Malta has just held again its famous procession, observed annually from time immemorial in fulfillment of a vow. Tradition has it, says a Malta message, just received, that when the island was afflicted by a locust invasion the people of Malta made a vow to St. Gregory that a procession of all the parishes, guilds and chapters of the island headed by the Archbishop would take place each year. This year people came from every part of the island to take part in or witness the great procession in honor of St. Gregory and in thanksgiving for the deliverance of their forbears of long ago.