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'CATHOLIC SCHOOL WEEK'

Purposeful Living, Aim Of Education

In the truly "Progressive" school the child is allowed to express himself quite freely—he may ask a question when the reading lesson rouses a dormant doubt—he may tell an interesting incident, which in fact in history recalls something he has read, heard, or actually seen—he may remark upon the rendition of a musical program, if this program touches upon something he has read or heard in the past. In the Music Hour—he may tell of the coming of the crops, of the lighting of an airplane, of the thrill of first beholding a streamliner, or a contribution of science in the frustration of disease—things that just burst forth during a science talk. Or he may even quote a "Movie Star" who has won unbridled admiration by a hair-splitting adventure in an air crash or a gangster who may recount a sensational display of heroism of the unheralded farmer in the rescue of an untamed bear.



"For God and Country"—This is the motto of Catholic Schools. Here, on standard banners at Sacred Heart School performing their morning duty of raising the colors.

Children actually talk out freely in the "Progressive" school. Does this mean that the child's voluntary contributions are absolutely ruled out in the formal traditional school of a lauded city system—no, in the more quiet formal atmosphere of the classroom of the parochial system where a religious teacher would endeavor to cultivate in her children—a love for life—a love for learning—a love for accomplishing—a love for country—and a love for God!

'AND NOT ON'
The parochial school program is definitely that of a traditional school looking ahead. Hence the procedure that is followed is not the "drill or thrill" method, but the "drill and thrill" method. We combine drill which leads to a mastery of fundamental skills with the thrill of an activity period in which the child thinks through a situation, solves a problem, and becomes aware of his own creative possibilities.

The artist is roused in a boy of ten by a sixth grade mural in appreciation of the 150th anniversary of the American Revolution. The science club with a newly devised electric signal bell—the budding composer sings his own melodies in the fifth grade song group—the future fifth grade musical critic writes her reactions to an overture broadcast by a symphonic orchestra—the eighth grade dawning man of business calculates in his crudely devised banking "set up"—and the shrewd politician of days to come weighs the events of a world of turmoil in the eighth grade history conference.

The mediators of the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades find opportunity for unfolding talent in costume designing in an original dramatization of Alice in Wonderland.

LEARN OF LABOR
Home decorating, stage setting, youthful and healthy social living enter into the young actors' problems of production; and an appreciation of labor and the benefits of co-operative work results. A party after the play offers a few housewifely tasks and an opportunity to display ability and taste in entertaining. Informal puns, dialogues and jokes at the impromptu swaled luncheon bring forth the professional interlocutor and the town hall organizer.

The future molder in religious groups is there, too, in the untiring collector of stamps—the "mint bank" cashier—the "buy a baby" enthusiast—and the willing "volunteer" at Jew and Gentile, colored and non-colored into "Solidarity Feasts."

The Catholic Public school, the parochial school—has its own unique modes of appeal to the child of today as the child of tomorrow—and it lends this child forth into the yet unconquered fields of adolescent and adult life with a knowledge of how to get the best out of life by following the standard of the best, and the most impartial of leaders. Who said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life."

MANY EXHIBITS TO FEATURE CATHOLIC ACTION SCHOOLS

ST. LOUIS—A wide variety of exhibits will be on display at the Summer Schools of Catholic Action to be conducted under auspices of the national Solidarity headquarters, in various parts of the country, beginning June 21. This year marks the tenth anniversary of the schools of "Concrete-Catholicity." The schools will be held at St. Louis University, June 24 to 29; Detroit, July 8 to 13; Our Lady of the Lake College, San Antonio, July 29 to August 3; Fordham University, New York, August 18 to 24, and Chicago, August 28 to 31.

The exhibits will include service material published at the central office of the Solidarity, including pamphlets, books, Solidarity literature, material, supplies and various publications; collection of Catholic Action and Catholic activity posters; a comprehensive collection of books on the teaching of religion; materials for the teaching of religion; and the work of successful teachers and pupils; study club and discussion material.

Catholic Drama Fest
Montreal.—Nine Catholic groups participated in the three-day Montreal Catholic Drama Festival here this week. The final presentation was rated first when Jean McMillery, the adjudicator, selected the production of Act Two "L'Amant Robinson" by "The Fair-Old Film" as the Business Women's Unit of the Catholic Women's League of Canada as the winner of the "Knights of Columbus" Trophy.

Programs Scheduled For Catholic School Week

- (Continued from Page 11)
- St. Patrick's, Elmira, May 11-12.** A musical program featuring Gregorian Chant. A skit based on music knowledge.
 - St. Rose & Paul's, Elmira, May 12.** Correlation of Art with Health and Literature, Health and Safety.
 - St. Stephen's, Geneva, May 10-11.** Featuring General Work. Attractive projects and display of soap sculptures.
 - St. Theodore's, Olean, May 19, 20.** Children will sing a Mass.
 - St. John's, Greece, May 19-21.** Children will sing a Mass. Inexpensive Conception, Ithaca, May 20, 21.
 - St. Rose, Lima, May 19 and 20.** St. Patrick's, Mt. Morris, May 20, 21. General work shown. Mass May 21th.
 - St. Patrick's, Oswego, May 24, 25.** St. Thomas "Religion in the Past of Education." Exhibit organized around that theme.
 - Sacred Heart, Perkinsville, May 11 and 12.** General Exhibit of children's work of year.
 - St. Patrick's, Seneca Falls, May 13-14.** Theme: "Catholic Education Develops the Whole Child." Exhibit will open with a Mass. Weather permitting, there will be an outdoor ceremony worked out in the coronation of the Blessed Mother, followed by Benediction.
 - St. Mary's, Waterloo, May 19-20.** General work of children, featured.
 - St. Joseph's, Waynes, May 26.** Featuring the correlation of the Social Studies and arts. Pupils of the upper grades will participate in a Missa Recitata, May 26th.
 - Holy Trinity, Webster, May 18-19.** Special projects worked out in History, Geography and Religion.

Religion Aids State

(Continued from Page 11)

must be part and parcel, the wool and warp of their daily lives. Therefore, if adults are to keep their five wits, and not suffer mental and moral collapse in times of over-powering defeat, they must have spiritual resources, laid up from early education. Adults will place their trust in God only if, as children, they did so.

Pope Pius XI became almost ecstatic when he warned teachers not to place "too great insistence on the etymological meaning of the word, Education." That is, teachers must not try to draw everything out of human nature; some things must be poured in.

While Terullian said that the human soul is naturally Christian, it does not follow that people just naturally know the truths of the Christian religion. Children and adults, too, must be taught the life of Christ, the deeds of the apostles, and the history of the Church. Otherwise, they will not know them. They do not gain such knowledge by intuition. Another reason, then, why religion should be an integral part of education.

To exclude religion from the content of general education would be like omitting the flour when making bread, or omitting the cement when making concrete, or omitting the works when making a watch. But worse than that, if teachers omit religion, and never speak a word for God and His cause, children may begin to suspect their teachers' faith in God.

Grammar Is Still Big Asset In Life

Grammar, a thorough going hard subject, needs a special word of defense in this ease-loving age. We have ready-made clothes, ready-cooked food, summarized, outlined and pre-digested literature, we have automobile airplanes and curb service; we have movies, elevators, and pressing-whills-you-wait; we have vacuum cleaners, steam heat and aippers. Time-saving devices or time-killing devices.

In fact, we receive so much so easily that there is great temptation today to drift along passively letting other people act for us, speak for us, think for us, play for us—live for us; for just as soon as we begin doing, speaking, thinking, playing, living, we have to work.

Attempts have been made to take all the real work out of English, to stress appreciation almost to the exclusion of grammar. Perhaps our pupils do care on color values and better books but the price is too high. They are losing their power to use English. Why are there so many who, seeing the need of a solid basis for the other arts, would deny the necessity of the art of expressing one's thoughts through the medium of language written or spoken?

PRACTICE COUNTS
If one would be a painter, he had better make up his mind to spend long hours on perspective and proportion, on color values and shading. If he would have, listeners, a young musician may as well decide from the start to master completely his scales and chords. The poise and grace of the ballet dancer is won only by years at the practice bar. There are probably only two groups of people who fully appreciate the amount of work there is in polishing a piece of marble statuary—the artist and the critic and those who are artists and do it, and those who are surrealists and, knowing what might be done, leave it undone.

Everyone agrees on these points. Of course, the critic needs training and the writer needs to expect results without the strictest discipline. To be consistent then, we must appreciate the value of a base of grammar to support a structure of the speech and fine writing.

The basic factors of word study, spelling, grammar are not perhaps too tempting a diet but there is something very satisfying about their assimilation. Whether or not the student can be encouraged in these subjects is beside the point. What is important is that they be mastered so thoroughly that we need spend little more thought on them than we do on the fact that six comes after five and before seven.

Ability to express himself clearly and correctly gives assurance and power even to one with a limited stock of ideas. It can easily be left to keep him busy in the midst of his intellectual superior. Without it, such a one drops out of the ranks of those who can think, and say what they mean and slides into the crowd of "singers" who use inflection and gesture rather than words to convey their thoughts.

POWER IN IDEAS
But ideas are more important than words! The thought is more important than the vehicle. True, but a speaker not quite sure whether a word is pronounced this way or that, or whether "T" or "D" is correct in this case, is about as ill at ease as a dancer not quite sure of his balance. His thoughts may carry across, his ideas may make the listener forget his expressions but he has lost an immeasurable amount of power. His results though good will be far poorer than those he might have attained.

We can't afford to forget that education is a three-valued and permanence must be built on a hard rock foundation. If we let the frills and fads, and pedagogical fancies rob our children of the power-building, challenging, difficult fact-subjects, we are untrue to our duty. We must maintain our respect for spelling and addition, grammar and multiplication tables, vocabulary and dates and give them their due allotment of time in our school programs. If not, we are untrue to the balanced individuals with the ability and desire to succeed in the art of living, but a generation of passive receivers, listeners, reflectors of others' thinking.

World Sodality Day Has One For Ripley

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—In connection with World Sodality Day, May 19, The Queen's Work here, national Sodality organ, has received, for reproduction in its June issue, a photostatic copy of part of a page of the Sodality register file of Capranica College, Rome, which lists "Number 298 on the Sodality's roll is the name of Eugene Pacelli, now Pope Pius XII. Number 297 is Joseph Signoni, who is now the Papal almoner and the official signer of all Papal blessings. Number 304 was to become Cardinal Marchetti, now cardinal vicar of Rome; number 306, Cardinal Magliana, now Papal secretary of state.

Movies Given High Rating By Patrons

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—"Buck Benny Rides Again" received a 92 rating in the latest nation-wide canvass of moviegoers by The Queen's Work here, national Sodality organ. "Little Old New York" was second with 90. In the classification for adults, "Riders" led with 88 and "His Girl Friday" was second, with 86.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

During the last 25 years, we have furnished much of the equipment such as desks, chairs, blackboards, used in the Parochial Schools of Rochester diocese. This material has stood up under the test of years and Schools planning additions or replacement will find it advantageous to consult us on problems on School equipment.

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Catholic Near East Welfare Association

Most Rev. Francis J. Spellman, D. D., President
Rt. Rev. Major James B. O'Reilly, Ph. D., National Secretary
Rev. John J. Corrigan, Assistant Secretary

Corpus Christi

Next Thursday, May 23, is the Feast of Corpus Christi. This is a day when the Church pays extraordinary honor to the Blessed Sacrament. There are places in the Near East where the Blessed Sacrament is not reserved. The Chapels in these places are without suitable Altars. You can help by donating an Altar. Fifty Dollars will erect an Altar in a mission chapel.

TRINITY SUNDAY
Sunday June 4, is Trinity Sunday. The Gospel according to St. Matthew 28:19, verses 18 and 19 "Go, therefore, teach ye all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you and behold I am with you all days even to the consummation of the world."

MISSION CHAPEL
Five Hundred Dollars will build a mission chapel. Build one in honor of the Sacred Heart. The Holy Father will select the site.

GREGORIAN PAMPHLET
A Set of Gregorian Masses can be offered only for the deceased. Write for a copy of our pamphlet on Gregorian Masses. It is interesting. There is no charge for this pamphlet.

LAST CALL
This week we make our final appeal for the little ones in the missions who will make their First Communion next month. Dress one child. Three dollars will take care of everything.

NATIVE CLERGY
After existing at least two years in college, the student for the Priesthood must spend six years in the Major Seminary. Then he is ordained.

In the Near East the Church is developing a native clergy. One Hundred dollars a year is needed for each student in the Major Seminary. Will you sponsor one student?

Six Hundred dollars will take care of a student to Ordination Day. Will you give that much? Perhaps you can afford One Hundred dollars and sponsor a student for a year.

FOR OUR MEMBERS
All our members, the living and the deceased, share in Fifteen Thousand Masses every year.

A CHALICE
New missions will be opened during the next few months. Ten dollars will purchase a Chalice for a mission chapel.

ALL WE ASK
One dollar a year is not a large sum. This is all we ever ask from our members. Why not enroll?

Send all communications to
Catholic Near East Welfare Association
480 Lexington Ave. at 46th St. New York, N. Y.

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