

KENTUCKY IRISH AMERICAN.

Devoted to the Social and Moral Advancement of Irish Americans and Catholics Officially Indorsed by Ancient Order of Hibernians, Young Men's Institute and Catholic Knights of America.

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LOUISVILLE, KY. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1908.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

The Kentucky Irish American extends to its readers and patrons the sincerest wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. It is also the desire of the editor to call the attention of his readers to the advertisements in this issue. Every individual, firm or corporation advertising in the Kentucky Irish American is strictly reliable and deserves the patronage of the purchasing public.

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT.

Christmas should be like the good old times when hearts were young and when life and good-humored gaiety was infused into the festival. When men met together with a hearty handshake and forgot that little cross-word and that misunderstanding in the dead days gone before. When the rose of good cheer would bloom in every household and big and little, poor and rich, would take a lesson from the lonely yet majestic Stable of Bethlehem. Apart from all our ups-and-downs in the world, our wrong this and our wrong that, we can all afford to allow the Messenger of Peace to breathe into our souls His mission of Good Will to men. It is a good old town of ours worth keeping, worth defending, and we should all try to uplift it and help one another on in the commercial, social and intellectual ways in the passage of this world of ours.

CHURCH AND CRITICS.

Many of our separated brethren are still harping on President Roosevelt's letter to the ministers who claimed a Catholic could not be a good citizen, and who consequently oppose any Catholics for election to public office. Commenting on these fellows the venerable and revered editor of the Western Watchman says:

"People who oppose the election of Catholics, to be consistent, should deny them the elective franchise. No elect; no elector. But luckily for themselves and the world the sects are never consistent."

In this respect the Young Men's Christian Association is more consistent. The society will take a Catholic's money, allow him to read their tracts, attend their religious services and use the gymnasium, but no Catholic can either vote or hold office. However, the result has not been very bad for the Catholics. Prelates and priests formed clubs and societies of Catholic young men. Here in Louisville are two flourishing councils of the Young Men's Institute, and both own their club houses. For the more mature men the Council of the Knights of Columbus takes the place of the Y. M. C. A. That council also owns its own home and is making improvements on its property. The Catholics and the Church will continue to attend to their own business despite what the dissenting preachers say.

As to the church and America hear what the Rev. Father O'Gorman, of Philadelphia, says:

"The fundamental doctrine of the Declaration of Independence that all men are born equal, with equal rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, is the fruitage of Catholic doctrine. The Catholic church is no stranger on our soil. Its cross was the first civilizing standard to be elevated on our shores. America treats us well, its banner is our pride and our protection. Behind the aegis of its constitution the Church is enjoying a fuller measure of liberty than it enjoys in the monarchies of Europe."

CHRISTMAS SEASON.

In less than a week Christmas will be upon us—the season of peace and good will. The very thought makes those of us who are engaged in the struggles of the world pause and recollect that however we may be opposed to each other's principles, however our individual interests may clash, we are nevertheless brothers in the human family. We must remember that we are expected to extend to each other fraternal charity and good will. The Christmas tide is a season when men call a halt in the affairs of life, in business and politics and, if only for this brief season, yield themselves to its beneficent and charitable influence.

The kindly feeling exhibited on every hand is one of the surest signs of our redemption—that the holy influence of Christmas permeates all circles of Christianity. It matters not whether in the palace or cottage, in the most powerful or in the

HOLY NIGHT.

Venerable Lady Recalls the Customs of Christmas in Old Ireland.

Preparations For the Feast Do Not Interfere With the Mass.

She Describes Some of the Good Things to Eat and Drink.

DAY OF PEACE AND SERENITY

"Ah, Mary asthore! this isn't like the Christmas eve we used to have in Ireland!"

Mrs. Casey was fixing up her pantry when she dropped this remark, addressing her daughter.

"Tell me, mother, how you prepared for and celebrated Christmas there in the old days. I fancy it was different from the manner in which we do it here."

"Yes, Mary," resumed Mrs. Casey, "if I were there now I would be decorating the dresser with holly and laurel. Instead of the way I am fixing this up with a daub of yellow paper. And then, of course, we young girls had to have the mistletoe handy if the occasion should call for its use. We had no chandeliers in the houses in the part of Ireland I came from, but we could always substitute one. Oh, it makes me sad to think of it," and Mrs. Casey paused in meditation.

"Go on, mother! Surely you do not intend to stop so soon."

"Ah, I will go on, asthore! In the old days all the members of a family were busy as busy could be on Christmas eve. Some went to the woods for holly and laurel to use in the house decorations; some were preparing the Christmas log for its place in the hearth, while the father and mother were busy with the list of 'wants' and in trying to make the cost of purchases tally with the contents of the purse."

"Early in the forenoon—I am speaking of Christmas eve—your grandmother—God be good to her!—would get into the jaunting car with the bill of fare and the money tucked safely in her bosom and start for town. In the evening, after her return, the outside work being done, the family congregated to contemplate the decorations and the contents of mother's basket. And indeed we were usually delighted with our surroundings. The house was literally hidden in evergreens, both within and without. The 'hamper' had been unpacked and its contents set before us. Mother was busy putting up gifts for our poorer neighbors. By and by, one of us must take some butter here, a chicken there, and so on, until, third, the distribution being made according to the needs of the family. This is a custom with our people that has come down the ages, and is but a reflection of the divine passage. 'Behold! I bring you tidings of great joy.'"

"And, ah! would not a glimpse of those Irish Christmas festivities incite anyone to happiness and good deeds? There the oak log, that had been carefully laid aside for months, was crackling and blazing in keeping with its cheerful surroundings; the ovens were kept busy with the cakes and pastries for the morrow; the kettle was 'singing a family song' prophetic of some good cheer before retiring."

"As soon as our household duties ceased the Christmas candles were lighted, and all knelt about and said the Rosary. This being over, we hurried to bed to seek slumber for a few hours. The one on whom the 'drowsy god' had the least effect was selected to sit up and watch for the morning—watch rather for the chiming of the church bells that signaled the early mass."

"Christmas mass in a country chapel before dawn is picturesquely beautiful. The brilliancy of the altar has a heavenly aspect from the dimly lighted aisles and galleries. Here and there you may see some venerable and pious attendant, holding a lighted candle, by the light of which he reads his prayerbook, for on this day he would not forget the sacred privilege for a world. You look out, through the unstained windows, and see the stars glittering in the heavens—those stars that lighted the night of the Saviour's birth in the stable at Bethlehem."

"And just to think that, for more than a thousand years—yes, and with another half-thousand added on to it—our people have thus knelt and prayed at this Christmas mass celebrated in the darkness. It ever comes over Ireland you can see on almost every hill some ruin of an old church or abbey of the ancient days. Now they are blackened, and some mere mounds with broken columns peeping up. But in the long ago our ancestors used to gather in them, just as they did at the time I am telling of. They did that before the English came, and they are doing it yet, and I think they always will."

"From all points throng worshippers to this mass. Over the fields, the highways, in and about they come. It is this mass that breathes all the significance of the great festival, and the participants feel its inspiration and sanctity. It is over as the dawn is breaking, and the homeward journey in the crisp air creates an appetite for the delicacies of the breakfast table."

"The first meal of the day over, the women begin to put all their knowledge of the art of cooking into effect. The Christmas dinner is the most sumptuous and varied of the year: It is a sort of Thanksgiving dinner with the Irish. Besides the sundry meats and vegetables that claim their attention, there is the inevitable plum pudding, facetiously called by the people 'the bag of tricks.' All the members of the family within visiting distance come to the paternal roof for the Christmas celebration. The good wishes are again renewed and the ties of love strengthened. The city clerk is home mixing with the companions of his youth, in having a fling at the wren,

in the hurling match, or football game—sports that make lithic and muscular the child of the Irish parent. The milliner also has set aside her hats, ribbons and draperies, and is taking a hand with her mother in domestic affairs; perhaps she is getting some useful lessons in civility that is exceptionally the most useful, if not the most admirable of woman's accomplishments. Oh! how joyously in many respects do the Christmas bells ring!

"But it is not at the dinner that the Irish farmer's soul is truly comforted while the wit and good feeling flows around. This is reserved for the night, when the shades are drawn and the lamps lighted, and the plum pudding, like a miniature dome, adorns the center of the dining table. A pitcher of hot water and a stately hostess decorates the table with wine, complete the harmony of the prospect. Everyone in the house has a place at or around this happy board—the children, the assistants, the old and the young. The pudding is well flavored and tempts the most delicate appetite. The plates are soon cleared away, and the hour when the deepest feelings of the Irish heart find expression has arrived. Recollections, cheerful and pathetic, are brought forth from the golden store of memory, blessings on absent ones, prayers for departed ones, are heartily expressed; and whether events of joy or sorrow prevail, the belief that the dispensations of an allwise Providence are always for the best tend to close the festival in thankfulness and serenity."

GROWING PARISH.

People of St. Leo's Are in Accord With Pastor.

The children as well as the grown-up people of St. Leo's parish, High Street Park, are heartily in accord with their pastor, the Rev. Father John J. Fitzgerald, in all his undertakings. A few days ago the children of the parochial school entertained him with songs and recitations in honor of his birthday. Later in the day the ladies of the parish called and presented him with a handsome purse.

Last Sunday the Young Ladies' Sodality celebrated its second anniversary. The sodalists attended the early mass and received holy communion. In the afternoon they assembled again and marched in procession to the church, where they assisted at vespers and benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

After the following young ladies were received into the sodality: Misses Virginia Phillips, Mary Farrington, Ethel Sapp, Anna Kraus, Anna Coomes, Geneva Eiler, Elsie Brown, Mary Zuglied, Gertrude Kraus, Lucy Mattingly and Mary Schuermann. The postulants knelt at the foot of the altar of the Blessed Virgin and pronounced their vows of love and fidelity to our Queen and Mother, Father Fitzgerald preached a beautiful sermon on the Immaculate Conception. The Te Deum was sung at the close of the ceremonies.

The following officers were chosen for the sodality for the coming year: Prefect, Miss Geneva Eiler; Secretary, Miss Virginia Phillips; Treasurer, Miss Marcella Kustes; Consultants, Misses Belle Fuchs, Anna Mathers and Agnes Luempp.

SOUND ADVICE.

Wife of Governor Tells Needs of Life On Farm.

Mrs. George L. Sullivan, wife of the Governor of Nebraska, took her husband's place at Omaha last Saturday and delivered an impromptu address before the National Corn Association at the big Corn Exposition. She demonstrated that Peter Finley Dunne, better known as "Mr. Dooley," is not the only one who can have fun at the expense of President Roosevelt's Country Life Commission.

Gov. Sheldon was down for the address, but was delayed, his train being reported several hours late. Mrs. Sheldon, who had been in town attending the exposition, was in the auditorium and was asked by the Chairman if she would fill the Governor's shoes. She assented and spoke upon the problems of farm life. She said among other things:

"That Country Life Commission is working in the wrong direction. It is not social life a farmer's wife needs. It's help. Labor is so scarce on a farm that a woman servant can not be secured for love or money. If anyone wants to do something for the farmer women, let him start some institution that will do washing in the country."

Mrs. Sheldon is a farmer's daughter and Gov. Sheldon is a farmer when he is at home.

BOSTON CAFE COMPANY.

Prominent among the many cafes in Louisville may be mentioned "The Boston," located at 337 West Market street, where can be found at all hours of the day and up to midnight one of the best lunches that ever tempted the appetite. Of course there is an abundance of fine wines and superior liquors on hand all the time. The proprietors of The Boston have always shown themselves to be just in dealing with their patrons, and are men of ability. Their constantly increasing business goes to show that their fair dealings have paid. Those who desire prompt and efficient service would do well to patronize this cafe, and thus aid in making it a still greater success. J. C. Boardman, who directs the business, has a host of friends all over this city and State.

TIE AT MEMPHIS.

Chickasaw Council, Y. M. I., of Memphis, held a red hot election contest Monday night of last week. Three tickets had been put in the field: The Red, White and Green. When it became evident that the Green would win the Red and White tickets formed a combination. The result was a tie between the Green and the combination for the offices of President, Vice President and Secretary. George Laws, who has been President three years, declined to stand for re-election. He was elected Treasurer without opposition. The tie vote was run off last Monday night, and the prospects are that the Green carried the day.

SOCIETY DIRECTORY.

A. O. H.

DIVISION 1. Meets at Falls City Hall on First and Third Tuesdays.

President—John M. Mulloy. Vice President—Thomas Lawler. Recording Sec.—Thos. Keenan, Jr. Financial Secretary—Thos. Dolan. Treasurer—Charles J. Finnegan.

DIVISION 2. Meets on the First and Third Friday Evenings of Each Month.

President—Con J. Ford. Vice President—Dan McKenna. Treasurer—Owen Keiran. Recording Secretary—Joseph T. Lynch. Financial Secretary—J. T. Keaney. Sergeant-at-Arms—James Sayers. Sentinel—William Nash.

DIVISION 3. Meets First and Third Thursday Evenings Each Month, Seventeenth and Mad Streets.

President—Patrick T. Sullivan. Vice President—Martin Sheehan. Recording Secretary—J. G. Heaslon. Financial Secretary—L. J. Mackey. Treasurer—Daniel J. Dougherty. Sentinel—Thomas Noon. Sergeant-at-Arms—Patrick Begley.

DIVISION 4. Meets Second and Fourth Mondays.

Bertrand Hall, Sixth Street. President—John H. Hennessey. Vice President—Thomas Lynch. Financial Secretary—Wm. P. McDonough, 1212 Sixth street. Recording Secretary—Frank P. Burke. Treasurer—Harry Brady. Sentinel—Michael McDermott. Sergeant-at-Arms—John Doolan.

DIVISION 1. JEFFERSONVILLE. Meets on the First and Third Tuesdays Each Month at Pfau's Hall.

President—John Kenney. Vice President—John G. Cole. Treasurer—Bernard A. Coll. Recording Secretary—T. O'Hern. Financial Secretary—Chas. Roberts. Sentinel—Timothy D. Kenney. Marshal—William Dorsey, Jr. Sergeant-at-Arms—Bernard Coyle.

Y. M. I.

MACKIN COUNCIL, 205. Meets Tuesday Evenings at Club House, 530 Twenty-sixth Street.

President—Robert T. Burke. First Vice President—Frank Lananhan. Second Vice President—Samuel Robertson.

Recording Secretary—Austin E. Walsh. Corresponding Secretary—Thomas Bachman. Financial Secretary—Frank G. Adams.

Treasurer—Dan Weber. Marshal—A. Andriotti. Inside Sentinel—Patrick Duddy.

CREAGER'S SCHOOL.

2nd and Breckinridge Sts.,

Respectfully asks the readers to call and see us. Should you desire a BUSINESS EDUCATION, we think we can satisfy you in every particular. School is open all year and students may enroll at any time. Day and Night Sessions.

Home Phone 8668.

J. D. CREAGER, Principal.

SOCIAL SESSION

Brought Great Crowd to Trinity Council's New Home.

More than 100 members attended the social session given by Trinity Council Monday night. President James B. Kelly presided and all routine business was rushed through so that more time might be devoted to the social affairs. An interesting feature of the evening was an athletic contest, in which August Rensselaer and John Flynn carried off the honors. Dr. Wahl of Mackin Council, was a welcome visitor.

President Kelly announced that the installation of officers would take place on the first Monday in January. The Entertainment Committee has arranged to give a dance on New Year's eve, and invitations will be sent out as usual. While the installation will not be public, all young men eligible to membership will be welcomed. Arrangements for the formal opening and bazaar are progressing smoothly.

INSPECTION TOUR.

Dr. Felix Gaudin, Supreme President of the Catholic Knights of America, will make an official visit to Nashville, Tenn., and en route to the Tennessee capital will visit the branches in Alabama, where he will be joined by J. J. Veid, Alabama's State President of the order. The Central Committee of Louisville will make an effort to have National President Gaudin and State President Veid come to this city from Nashville. They are sure of a hearty welcome if they accept the invitation.

PROMOTIONS FOR TWO.

Owen Canty, Grand Secretary of the Y. M. I., and a trusted employe of the Kentucky Distilleries and Warehouse Company, has been transferred to the office at Tyrone, in Anderson county, and will be an assistant to Superintendent Booth. George McCrann, formerly of this city, has been transferred from Tyrone to the distilleries at New Hope. The friends of both young men wish them success in their new fields.

VISITOR FROM SHELBY.

Edward D. Shinnick, editor of the Shelby Record, spent several hours in Louisville last Tuesday, and while in the city visited friends at the office of the Kentucky Irish American. Mr. Shinnick has one of the brightest county journals in the Bluegrass region. He says the newspaper outlook in his territory is very bright.

New Masonic

4th and Chestnut,

SPECIAL XMAS ATTRACTION.

EXTRA MATINEE XMAS DAY.

Return of Louisville's Favorite Singer,

CHAS. E. BLANEY, PRESENTS

FISKE

THE FAMOUS IRISH TENOR

O'HARA

DION O'DARE,

A ROMANCE OF OLD IRELAND.

GEORGE RIEGER

N. W. Cor. 4th and Jefferson Sts.,

Second Floor, Over Hays' Cloak Store.

Watches, Brooches, Beauty Pins, Necklaces, Fobs, Locketts, Toilet Sets, Manicure Goods, Card Cases, Purses, Shopping Bags, Scarf Pins, Sleeve Buttons, Studs, Signet Rings, Hat Pins, Bracelets, Knives, Forks, Spoons, Etc.

Come to Me for Your Holiday Gifts.

Why pay ground floor prices when I guarantee to save you from 10 to 33 1/2 per cent. on the same goods.

Remember, I keep anything that is found in a first class ground floor Jewelry Store.

Thirty-two years in the Jewelry Business, corner Fourth and Jefferson streets.

Elevator on Fourth Ave. Elevator on Jefferson St.

George Rieger, Jr., member of Mackin Council, Y. M. I., will be pleased to serve his brother members. Call and see me.

BIG REMOVAL SALE

Every Suit, Every Overcoat, Every Pair of Pants now in our store must go.

OUR NEW BUILDING

Will be ready soon, but not one piece of goods from our present store goes into our New Building. So Get Next and Get Busy.

Men's Suits and Overcoats \$2.98 and up. Men's Pants 75c and up. Boys' Suits 98c and up. Boys' Knee Pants 13c and up.

Sale Commences Saturday, December 12,

And continues for a short time only. Don't miss it.

M. S. MOSES CO., 534 W. Market St.

MEN'S AND BOYS' COMPLETE OUTFITTERS.

ARTHUR J. KINSELLA, Manager.

Frank A. Menne Factory,

National Candy Company.

Manufacturers of

EAGLE BRAND CONFECTIONS.

WENZEL AND MAIN STS., LOUISVILLE, KY.

UNION ICE CREAM CO.,

Manufacturers of

Pure Ice Cream and Sherbets,

627-633 EIGHTH STREET.

We have our own Dairy and Ice Plant. Separate our own Cream. This enables us to put a better cream on the market at a lower price than our competitors. Home Phone 2144. Camb. Main 1429-y.