

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

WAKE UP! YOUNG CATHOLICS OF CANADA

Are the Catholic boys and young men of to-day taking advantage of the opportunities at their disposal to acquire an education. No doubt the majority find it an impossibility to avail themselves of a college training, but with a little extra effort on their part, the number who do so might be greatly increased. The former, by utilizing the time wasted outside of working hours, may greatly add to their store of knowledge and equip themselves for positions in the higher walks of life. A little grit and self-sacrifice for two or three short years will work wonders. The art of making the proper use of our spare time is one that we should learn early in life.

A great many of the world's prominent men have done so and found in it the keynote of their success. In a young and growing country like Canada, having a population made up of all creeds and nationalities, it is not important that the least percentage of our politicians, literary men, labor leaders, etc. should be members of the only true Christian organization on earth. But how can we expect to be prominent in the class I have mentioned while we lack the qualifications necessary to be admitted. So, wake up, young Catholics of Canada, and attend to one of your most important duties which is to develop talents which God Himself gave you.

WHY HE WAS DISCHARGED

A pleasing disposition is an asset in business as well as in social relations: "I was the most efficient man they ever had on the job over there," says a young man who one year before had been fired from the job of which he speaks, "they fired me and the reason was because none of the other employees seemed to like me, and the reason to the other employees did not like me was not so much my opportunities to show it was simply because I was ill natured."

"When I left that position," he continued, "my boss in a good, frank way told me just why he was letting me go. He told me that I was on the job all the time and that my work was all that could be desired, but that my personal influence on the other employees was not a good thing for the organization in general. He pleasantly advised me to cheer up."

"Strange to say, I did not get angry at the way he talked. I made up my mind I would try out the 'cheer up' policy in my next job; and I want to say that there are not two bigger words in the language than those."

"I came into this job I now hold determined to be good natured at any cost, and no matter what might happen."

"Within a month everybody in the organization was a friend of mine, although I did not allow myself to get familiar with any. I just plugged along in the same old careful way, only I refused to let things bother me."

"I just kept cheerful all the time, and during that same first month I also gained a reputation as being a man of great self control."

"I was actually looked up to in a friendly way, and that's the reason why I got up where I am in the short span of one year. Yes, sir, chronic good nature was the biggest factor that helped me to make good in a big way. Now I have the good nature habit, and its no effort at all."

THEIR VIEWERS AND OURS

A keen writer remarks that the chief trouble with other people is that they think they know as much as we do. Really, that is a very simple statement of the root of the world's contentions and unhappiness. All the great battles of thought—and many of those of physical force—have been fought for ages, all the mighty debates of parliament and congress, all the disputes and wordy warfare down to the last neighborhood quarrel over boundary lines—all simmer down to the primal fact that one set of people think they know quite as much as another set of people.

When our forefathers stated our inalienable right to liberty and the pursuit of happiness, they were wisely silent in regard to our right to cross our brother's territory in search

of these treasures. Everyone has a right to his own opinion provided it is an honest opinion and formed according to his best light; but just how far he has a right to insist that it shall be the ruling power when it runs directly against a neighbor's opinion which is just as honest and legitimate, is a question that affects all our Christian living. A principle we may not sacrifice, but a majority of the opinions for which we are so ready to enter into hot combat involve no principle; they are matters of taste, comparative wisdom or advisable methods. They concern our pride of leadership, or our desire to have our own way because we believe it to be the best way, but they do not really touch upon conscience at all.

To concede, not grudgingly, but with cheerful grace, and in practice as well as theory, that other people are as much as we, is a fine acquirement of common sense and peaceful living.—Catholic Columbian.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

AT SCHOOL

Always start early so that you may never be late for school. Punctuality helps the teacher and the other pupils as well as yourself.

Remember that it is in the school-room that you learn how and what you will have to do when you have to go into the business world. If you are not punctual in school you will not be in business, and then your life will be more or less of a failure.

Always be ready to do everything suggested by the teacher. To do this means that you will have to prepare all lessons beforehand. Minutes lost in school are never regained.

Remember that the teacher takes the place of your mother, and therefore all her commands must be obeyed at once.

Remember that you are sent to school to study.

Never copy in school. To do so is to cheat and do an injury to yourself.

The teacher is there to teach. If you do not understand a lesson tell him so, and she will explain it to you.

Do not ask questions when one does not understand is not a sign of ignorance but rather a sign of intelligence.

Remember that there is no royal road to learning. If you wish to learn you must study, and study means work.

Knowledge is no burden. All the knowledge that you can acquire may be easily carried.

Always do your very best to have a high place in class. Strive to lead if it be possible for you to do so.

It is a custom for polite children to say "Good morning," on entering and "Good afternoon," when leaving the classroom. If the teacher should feel called upon to ask you to do any little service do it cheerfully and do it quickly, but above all, no matter how slight the service do it well.

When a principal or a visitor calls to the class, rise and remain standing till told to sit. This is a little thing in itself, but it is an act of politeness that is fully appreciated by your elders.

If spoken to by your teacher, or by a visitor, always stand before attempting to answer.

There may be things in the class room which are for general use. These may be used at times by order of the teacher or with her consent. Everything else in the class room is the property of some individual and should not be used without permission of the owner freely given—Intermountain Catholic.

FREDDIE'S RESOLUTION

On New Year's day Fred got a sheet of paper to write down his resolutions for the next twelve months. He covered the whole page and laid down fourteen rules of conduct for himself. When his mother happened to see what he was doing, she said:

"If I were you, Fred, I wouldn't make so many resolutions, but I'd make one and keep it. Take my advice: Tear up that sheet of paper; get another one; on it write only this: 'I will not try to be selfish.' Then try and try until you succeed."

Mother knew Freddie better than he knew himself.

So the boy took his mother's advice. He tore up the paper on which he had written his fourteen resolutions.

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tions, got another piece, and on it he printed: I will try not to be selfish.

Then he looked at it with admiration and felt proud of himself, as if he had already acquired the virtue of generosity to an heroic degree.

All morning nothing else of note happened, but in the afternoon Fred's sister, Kate, came in where the boy was in the library, and said:

"O Fred please let me and Agnes have your sled. All the other girls are out coasting, and we'd like to join them for about an hour."

Now, that sled had been brought to Freddie at Christmas by Santa Claus and was the present joy of his life. It was a flexible flyer, had steering gear, was painted a brilliant red, and had the words "Fred's Own" painted on the seat.

The boy was quick with his answer to his sister's request:

"Indeed, I'll do nothing of the sort. I don't want my sled broken by you. Girl's can't manage a sled."

"O do, Fred, please," his sister entreated.

He was just about to say "No" with a big N, uttered in a loud voice when he happened to look at the sheet of paper on the library table before him, and these words stared him in the face: "I will try not to be selfish."

His good angel must have helped on the effect they made on him, for he hesitated a moment, then changed his tone, and said hurriedly:

"If you'll promise to take good care of it and bring it back in about an hour, you may have it."

"O you dear boy," said his sister, "I told Agnes you were too nice to refuse us."

Kate's praise made Fred feel good and drove away the last bit of feeling that lingered in his heart caused by this anxiety about his sled.

The girls took the flyer, kept it about an hour had a royal good time with it, and brought it back safe and sound.

That night when the Recording Angel was balancing his books for the day, he said to himself:

"Well, that was one victory over selfishness, and so there's one good mark for Freddie."—True Voice.

A FLAW IN HIS CHARACTER

I had known him for about four years. He had seemed to me to be a boy of good principles, a hard worker and dependable. I grew to like him very much. I met him a few days ago. He was with his parents. I passed them once within a few feet in a disrespectful manner. I saw the face of the father and the face of the mother—though they did not see me. What pain shot across their faces in that instant! Down, down, down, went the boy in my estimation. I fought hard to retain my respect for him, but there always came back to my ears those invidious words to his father, and I could never forget the pain which his insolence had caused.

Now this lad is good in many ways, but he is a poor son who will cut to the heart those nearest and dearest to him. I am sure that he never would have allowed himself to speak to me that way. Yet, at best, I am only a friend. I wonder why he allows himself to speak in such a way to his father?

It certainly is a puzzle, when you stop to think about it isn't it? How much better it would be if we would stop and think about it—not after it is done, but in time to prevent it.

A boy's true character isn't to be measured correctly by his company manners. I like to see a courteous boy. It goes a long way toward making him a successful man. But I want to know whether all his courtesy is spent on strangers or friends away from home, or whether he is just as courteous at home as he is elsewhere.

Real courtesy is an accomplishment worth acquiring. And the best place to practice it is at home. The boy who forms the habit of being courteous is so far from forgetting himself as to answer his father with cruel and sharp words, as I heard this boy do. His very courtesy, often practiced, helps him to respect those who are nearest to him in the home; and that very respect holds back the words which hurt.

Do you know what I've found out? Well, it's worth passing on. The boy who always says "Good morning" to the home folks in a cheery way, as he sees them for the first time, and the boy who invariably says "Thank you" for every courtesy shown to him in the home, has half won success. Try it.—Eugene C. Foster in True Voice.

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closing the doors of the chapel, they took matters in their own hands and coughed down the preacher. It was their method of showing that they concurred in the opinion of Mr. Andrew Carnegie, who, by a method of indirect bribing, has undertaken to drive religious teachings out of American Universities and colleges. They probably will treat with contempt the criticism of the Daily Princetonian, a University publication, which thus characterizes their shamelessly irreverent conduct: "Yesterday's asthmatic affliction of the Sunday consensives was a deliberately irreverent act of consummate profanity to their God. It was a discourteous piece of premeditated insolence toward the University preacher."

A few years hence the young men who were guilty of that insolence, will be in the midst of the battle of life. The contempt they now display for religion is far from being a guarantee of their conducting themselves in that battle as Christians should.

The decrease of religious sentiment in our educational institutions, which is due largely to teachings exposed in all their moral hideousness in a series of magazine articles, a few years ago, is a serious menace to the future of the country.—N. Y. Freeman's Journal.

THE TANGO

The story that the Tango was recently danced in the Vatican before the Pope has had a long start, and is now far advanced in its journey round the world. The tale has proved so attractive that the Daily News gives a portrait of the lady. The whole thing is a journalistic fable. Those who are interested in its origin will find all they want to know

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