MARCH 1, 1919

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

ROOM AT THE TOP Never you mind the crowd, lad, Nor fancy your life won't tell ; The work is done for all that By him who doth it well.

Fancy the world a hill, lad ; Look where the millions stop. You'll find the crowd at the base, lad, But there's always room at the top.

Courage and faith and patience There is space in the old world yet, You stand a better chance, lad, The further along you get. Keep your eyes on the goal, lad ;

Never despair nor drop. Be sure your path leads upward, There's always room at the top. -Catholic Telegray

IS IT WORTH WHILE?

When one faces a difficult problem or a crisis in his career, 'his courage is then at its lowest ebb. At these moments one can be forgiven for petulantly exclaiming, "Oh, what's the use?" or "Is it worth But what excuse is there while?" for the man who shirks responsibility or fails to make the best of his opportunities? Can he offer logical reason for doing so? Opportunities to improve one's knowledge to better one's condition, and to make the most of each hour, are plentiful. The one who wishes to advance will ever find willing hands to assist him. But it remains for him to take the initiative. It requires patience and toil to be great. The man who says, "Is it worth while?" or "What's the use?" at this stage, is making one of the gravest errors of his life. If he desires to loaf instead of accumulating useful knowledge that will enrich his future career, he will be another stone in the path of the world's progress.-Trae Voice.

THE ELDEST SON

Often it happens that the eldest son of a family "feels his oats" al-most as soon as he begins to go to work. He becomes hard to manage He is impudent to his parents. He sets a bad example to the younger children. He wishes to keep his wages to spend on himself.

He is laying up sorrow for him. self. The young man who causes his parents to weep, is likely to have children who will bring down his own head with grief to the grave. And the evil influence he exerts on the conduct of his brothers and sisters will draw down punishment upon him. Sons who have grown up, need to

be told all this. So long as they are in the parental home, they are subject to its regulations. They still owe their father and mother respect and obedience. They are bound not to scandalize the younger children any misconduct.-Catholic Columbian

"AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE CROSS'

Our Lord Himself insisted with His disciples on the necessity of bearing the cross. "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." Every Christian is bound to esteem the cross, as an essential condition for the following of our Divine Master.

What do you mean by the cross? We mean everything that hurts our self-love, that causes us pain or inconvenience. The world in which we live is full of such crosses. As we read in the Imitation of Christ, the cross is always ready, and at every turn awaits you . . Above, below, within, without, turn where you will, you shall always find the

How much we have to suffer in body from disease, from hunger and thirst, from fatigue and loss of from various inconveniences

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS WE'RE CHUMS, YOU SEE!

They wonder why I run and tell Of every little thing, And say I'm such a baby boy, Tied to an apron string; But truly I don't blame them much; They're different from me; My mother knows just what is what, Because we're chums, you see ! When things are in a tangle up, And tempers, enarling, too ; When some one needs a whipping bad

(And maybe it is you !) She never scolds or makes a fuse But sweet as sweet can be Will try to help a fellow out, Because we're chums, you see If you've been going wrong, she knows Just how to set you right,

And shows you how your actions look In God's most holy sight ;

While if there must be punishment, About that we agree, Although her heart feels sorry, too Because we're chume, you see She ciphers with me on my slate,

She helps me read and spell, And makes me study hard and learn To say my lessons well. And mother's great at games; she

likes To play as well as we When our side wins she's just as

glad, Because we're chums, you see! I'm sorry for those other chaps. I pity ev'ry one;

They'd love to have a chum like mine, For all they're poking fun

Some mothers are too tired, I know, And others do not care To bother with the little boys-Their plays and studies share. But mine! She's just the very best-Of loving friends to me! And oh! I'm such a happy son.

Because we're chums, you see -MRS. O. B. MERRILL.

GOOD SECURITY

office door.

"Mister, do you lend money here? asked an earnest young voice at the

The lawyer turned away from his desk confronted a clear-eyed, poorly dressed lad of seven years, and studied him keenly for a minute. "Some times we do-on good security," he said gravely.

had a chance "to buy out a boy that's cryn' papers." He had half the money required, but he needed to borrow the other fifteen cents.

lawyer said. The boy's brown hand sought his pocket and drew out a paper carefully folded. It was a cheaply printed pledge against the use of intoxicating

liquor. As respectfully as though it had been the deed to a farm the lawyer examined it, accepted it, and handed over the required sum. A friend who had watched the

transaction with silent amusement laughed as the young borrower departed.

him?" smiled the lawyer. that he came manfully in what he supposed to be a business way and tried to negotiate a loan, instead of begging for money. I know that he has been under good influence, or he would not have signed that pledge, and that he does not hold it lightly or

change. WHAT EVERY CATHOLIC

What every Cathclic should know

in regard to the reception of the Blessed Sacrament by a sick person with the Paris centre. They belong chiefly to the intelligent, well-to-do bourgeoisie or nobinty and to the in his own home. First: The sick room ought to be clean and well ventilated, the bed provided with clean covering and the patient student world. Some are landed proprietors in the provinces; others made presentable. engineers, artists, writers, lawyers, A table ought to be

THE CATHOLIC RECORD

IS FRANCE STILL CATHOLIC?

Gabriel M. Menager, S. J., in America The legal warfare which has for almost forty years been waged against Catholic France and especially against her numerous religious institutions, has been an indictment of the whole people. In outside nations an opinion is current that the French if not downright irreligious, are at any rate too skeptical, indifferent and pleasure loving to think or care

much about religion. Needless to say, Garman propaganda in the form of more or less clever lies, was not altogether unsuccessful in bringing numbers of superficial and ignorant persons to form such an and ignorant persons to form such an opinion. The French, it was asserted again and again, had become a people without stamina, physical, mental or moral; frivolous and irresponsible to the point of positive folly, and conse-quently unworthy of the honored quently unworthy of the honored place they have won for their country among the sisterhood of nations. Thank God, these loathsome calum. nies are not without an incontestable answer. This is found in the splen. did and truly inspiring manner in which the sons of France, from near

and far, have rallied around the flag of their country, and since August, 1914, have been pouring out li'e blood in the struggle against her ruthless and unscrupulous foes. May a simple review of facts give at least a partial insight into the real state of affairs and teach the fair minded not to judge France by her present Government, or by the slanderous statements of her enemies, or even by the countless books trans-

lated for exportation and sold under the title of French novels. By their fruits ye shall know them," is the great test given us by the Master. What must be said of the Catholic spirit of France in view of its spendid achievements? This spirit it is that has produced so many thousands of vocations for the foreign

nissions and such generous financial help for the same grand cause while at home the really marvelous things it has accom-plished and is still accomplishing

would fill pages upon pages. It has been well said : "Every individual soul is a sealed book." a lesser degree is the inner life of a

nation Why, then, judge without having broken the seal? Open the book, investigate. We concede you will find a few blotted pages, but do we not generally judge affairs by a majority and not by a few isolated The little fellow explained that he instances? We do not doubt that some of the good people whom we some of the good people whom we et Loire. La Vendee, the country of have heard stigmatize the French as the Chouans, should be put in a

'What security can you offer?" the atheistic, would think a person very stupid and unfair indeed, were he to

judge Ireland's Catholicism by her so called "Orangemen," or measure so called "Orangemen," or measure her people in the light of her present ruling power. We grant that the French Government has persecuted our French Catholics in every possible way, but we deny that all its

efforts have made of that great Cath olic country an atheistic people. After all, is not persecution as necessary to the spiritual life of a nation as cultivation

of the soil to the seed that has been You think I know nothing about planted in its bosom? Our Saviour tells us to rejoice when persecuted 'I know in His name, for "in the Cross is sal-

vation. stand steadfast and face the enemy courageously, and that France has done. What of all the gilds, "patronages" and associations founded and so splendidly kept up? he would not have cared for it so care Association Catholique de la Jeunesse fully. I agree with him that one who Francaise, started twenty five years ago, at the suggestion of the great keeps himself from such things has a character to offer as security."-Ex-

SHOULD KNOW

workers? It is a society governed by a central council and a president who have their headquarters in Paris but its members are scattered all over France and are kept closely in touch

They can be "C. of E." is igation of a degree before one could be allowed to teach. In 1897, 53, 102 persons fulfilled all the legal re-intermet quirements and were admitted to or anything other than the Catholic quirements and were admitted to teach in the Catholic schools. This Faith, put simply, and lovingly, and sire for better things, but, oh ! the paralyzed arm of the "C. of E. !" And, oh ! the paralyzed arm of all Protestantism severed from the Church! What indeed can its chap lains do for the sick and dying, as the London Tablet remarks in quot young, these schools sprang up again and became more numerous than be-fore. Strange to say, even also 1910, the number of pupils in the Catholic schools has steadily been do as well ?"-America.

THE LENTEN SPIRIT

On Ash Wednesd y, March 5, the Churca ushers in the special season of prayer and penance called Lent by placing blessed ashes on the foreheads of her penitents with the humbling words: Remember man that thou art dust and into dust thou shalt return. Lent hits at the great fact of sin in the world and teaches self-denial and the necessity of aton ing for sins committed.

Christiani y is the religion of the cross and the Church places the cross everywhere to remind her children of the words of her Divine Founder: authorities, the municipalities one If any man will be My disciple 1 t after the other took pride in replac-him take up his cross daily and follow Me. The true follower of Christ must then practice self-denial and is promised the help of his Saviour to nake the yoke easy and the burden light.

The forty days of Lent in memory of our Lora's time of fasting in the desert are set apart by the Church as a season of penance to arouse in the dormant soul feelings of sorrow and detestation of sin and the desire of forgiveness and restoration once more to the friendship and love of our Redeemer who died on the cross for us sinners.

Many men live in the sphere of the senses and are content to ea^{*}, drink and b₃ merry. Others are lifted higher to the realms of the intellect and pass as intelligent beings but this is not the whole of man. He must eat to live and needs brain In certain towns of the same locality to guide him on the way of life but to be the complete and perfect man he must live the spiritual life of the soul and have his spirit illumined with the light of God's grace

We are continually tempted by the world, the flesh and the devil to forget the higher things of the soul and make meat and raiment and not to make meat and rathent and not the Kingdom of God the great object and purpose of life. Lent helps us to restore the balance of life and to own our own souls. The attitude of the soul during Lent is that of repentance and confession: Lord, I am not worthy to be called Thy child.

The Church in her wisdom makes strong efforts to rouse the faithful to free themselves from the bondage of sin and to lead a more spiritual life by her striking liturgy, prayers and special services during the peniten-tial season of Lent. The discipline of fasting has been moderated con-"Really absolute heathen," is the description of the Church of Eng-land men given by an Anglican army self-denial to atone for sin such as

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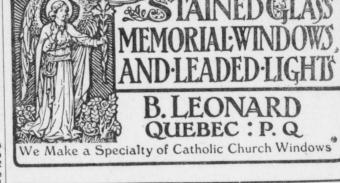
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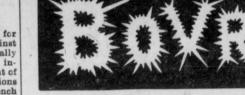
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In vain, to make things harder, hold of these souls. id the Government impose the ob. won, I am sure, if the did the Government impose the ob-ligation of a degree before one could

increasing. Referring to the sta-tistics of one of the late years, we

find an increase of three schools per

whilst for the Catholic schools the

number goes up to 9 per 1,028 pupils. Is not this result remark-

able, especially in view of all the hardships that had to be encount-

ered? The schools are due to the

deep religious vitality of France, which has manifested itself even in

guns alone which succeed in taking

the crucifix out of the Public schools

Taken down by the Government

ing and keeping there the precious

sign of our salvation. It is also vary

consoling to see how little patron

ized, in certain regions, are the

Public schools. B tween 1909 and 1910, for instance, in Ile-st-Vilame,

Loire Inferieure and Mayenne, the

schools and gained by the Catholic schools was 1,000, 2 000 in the depart-ments of Cotes da Nord and Maine

the Chouans, should be put in a separate place with a record of

It is not a little amusing to note

the statistics in some departments. For instance, in one of the regions

of the west there are twenty-four Public schools with ut a single pupil, and twenty-three having each three

pupils and forty-six having only five.

140 pupils in Cath. schools as against 20 in Public

These reckonings are merely local

but they nevertheless prove how

very active the old spirit of practical

religious life still is in that great

country whose glorious title of el

dest daughter of the Church bas ever

been her proudest boast. We ask

her critics to investiga e and get familiar with things French and they

will soon be persuaded that France

whole atheistic, France as a people

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

CHAPLAIN

is still Catholic.

although the Government is on the

the Pablic

number of pupils lost by

nearly 9,000 for six years.

we find :

So in

The important thing is to

Count A bart de Mun, and numbering

in 1914, 125,000 disciplined and activ

Woat of the

1,017 pupils for the Pablic sch

closed by the thousands. Thanks, paralyzed arm of the however, to the charity of the men and women of France, and also to the daring initiative of the religious Church! What teachers, who gave up wearing the religious dress to be able to keep the Faith alive in the hearts of the

chaplain do that a layman could not

as to food and lodging and clothing! How many groan under the heavy hurden that poverty puts upon their shoulders! How many others are tortured by auxiety of mind, by scruples and temptations! Others again feel keenly the ingratitude or uncharitableness of their neighbors, manifested in detractions and calum-nies. Ill-success follows men so often, in spite of earnest endeavors Those who are compar to advance. atively free from worry or suffer-ing in their own regard are often racked by the evils that molest or threaten their dear ones. The only explanation of all these

woes that we suffer is that our present life is only a time of probation, preparing us for the joys of eternity. that are bestowed on those who follow Christ on His Way of the Cross. We are asked to pray that may have a true understand ing of the value and necessity of the

Plant the cross of Jesus Christ in your heart, and all the croses of this world will appear to you as so many roses.— St Francis De Sales.

Harbor no ill feelings toward any one. They embitter your life and benefit no one.

More depends upon the motive If the thought than upon the gift. be selfish, if we expect compensa tion, or are guilty of close calcula-tion, the result will be like the attitude of mind which invited i*.

If the ideas of youth have not an

autumnal mellowness, at least they have all the freshness and elasticity have all the freshness and elasticity of spr ng. It is good and whole-some to talk with the young, not for what they may learn, but for what they impart.—Canon Succhan. here? It is but to keep the nerves at strain, To dry one's eyes and laugh at a fall, And baffled, get up and begin again. —Browning.

Second: A table ought to be placed in the sick room near the bed in doctors, wealthy merchants or agriculturists; all are cultured energetic such a way that it may be seen by the patient. Let the table be covered with immaculate linen and upon it men, determined to extend the reign of God to the best of their ability. The Apostolic spirit is the link that place a crucifix bat ween two candles. binds the young members of the"A. C. J. F." together; they purpose to There should be a vessel of holy

water. Third: Let the candles be lit before help Catholic France and to be. Third: Let the candles be lit before the entrance of the priest into the wherever their lot is cast, the de-voted helpers of the clergy, towards dwelling.

whom their attitudes is one of filial deference. After the age of thirty, Fourth: The family should be present as far as possible during the members may continue to belong to the Association, but its chief activiadministration of the Sacrament and offer their prayers for the sick perties are as its name implies, in the

hands of the young. Another point which is often mis Fifth: Let there be placed on the table a glass of pure water and a piece of clean linen, and a spoon. The linen is to be put under the chin of the sick person before he receives. The water may be given after the understood by the partially enlight ened critic, relates to France's act ual educational status. On more than one occasion the writer has heard it remarked, "No wonder France is atheistic, it has no Cathoreception.

Columbian.

here ?

Sixth: As soon as the priest ar rives in the sick room with the Blessed Sacrament, every one should lic Schools !" A mere glance at what Catholic France has been doing in this line will prove a revelation The "eldest daughter of the Church" Hessed Sacrament, every one should kneel until the sacred act is closed, unless the patient has not yet been to Confession. In this event the family should, of course all leave the has always made it a law to pro pagate the Faith and the greatest means which the has ever used room, until absolution is given. have been the schools. When in 1882 religious instruction was pro-Seventh: If time and condition of the patient permit, the preparatory scribed from the Public schools

rayers for Holy Communion may be recited by one of the attendants before the arrival of the priest.—Catholic the la vs of laicisation, French Cath olics did not forget their role of ed

And what if I fail of my purpose

of the undertaking amounted to 56, 000,000 francs. But the result surpassed all hopes.

chaplain in a letter printed in the Cowley Evengelist. It strikingly giving, attendance at the Lenten dedepicts the helpleseness of the Church of England chaplain in the

"Really absolute heathen," is the

face of death. The writer says: The saddest fact of all is the "C. of E." men, really absolute heathen, of E." men, really absolute heathen, and no sense of Christianity as a power. The ministration of a "C. of E." padre to his dying men is the saddest and most pathetic experience possible. I went to a lad who was dying and told him sc. But he

prever. By meditating on the passion and death of our Lord we enter more

possible. I went to a lad who was dying and told him sc. Rut he couldn't be "bothered with God and that," only could not swallow his soup, and wanted some change of food. There must be a radical change if the "C. of E." is to lay



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ucators. Faithful to the voice of Leo XIII., they said with the Belgians, "Wherever a Public school is built, let us have, across from it, a Catho-lic school." Huge was the task in deed. Up to the year 1901 the cost