

CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

GETTING AN EDUCATION

Perhaps no more absurd fallacy exists than that to the effect that it is impossible to prepare one's self for the battle of life in any place save at a school or college. It is true that no other place offers as good opportunities for acquiring a schooling as a school, but the point must not be overlooked that there is some difference between an education and schooling. Many of America's great men lacked the privilege of obtaining a schooling, yet their acquirements and mental capacity mark them as leaders in the thought of their day. Lincoln was educated, but he was not schooled except in the school of experience. His knowledge of the law was no less broad than his conception of the political problems of his day, yet his was an education acquired by persistent self-instruction. Thousands of young men who are not permitted to attend institutions of higher learning, but who nevertheless realize the advantages of possessing a well-ordered mind and a fund of useful information, can acquire both notwithstanding their inability to go to college. The desire for an education is really more than half the battle. Of course, the desire must be more than a feeble wish; it must include not only the wish but the willingness to work. If in the business world time is money, certainly in educational lines time enters as a necessary part. The principal advantage of attending a school is that the work of the students is guided in channels which experience has proved most advantageous. This, however, is possessed of the disadvantage of narrowness. The free-lance student, if he would seize the opportunities around him, might attend free lectures from rostrum and pulpit upon all sorts of topics; he might at small cost attend travelogues, motion picture shows, musical entertainments, fairs, industrial exhibitions, poultry shows, at any of which, whether he be particularly interested or not, are opportunities for acquiring information and how to use it. The staff from which an education may be acquired is on every hand for those who really want an education and are willing to work and study for it. The mere expression of a wish for an education, however, will avail nothing. It does no good to say that you "would give anything" for an education when you are not willing to give work to the job of acquiring it. Once started in the work it will be found fascinating. If suggestions may be made, let it be said that a good dictionary offers perhaps the most valuable aid of any book—an aid that is indispensable not only to those whose ambition is to acquire an education, but to those who have already reached the happiness of achievement—Intermountain Catholic.

RUST AND WEAR

"No, sir," answered the man who had been advised to carry on his business at a little less strenuous rate, "it's better to wear out than rust out." He said it with the satisfied air with which that statement is usually made, and the friend to whom it was addressed turned away half impatiently.

"That remark is all very well in its right place," he said, "but the majority of those who are so fond of making it never seem to consider that it is possible to rust out in the very process of wearing out, and that it is quite probable they are doing both. A man who makes himself such a devotee to his business that he has no time for good books and helpful friendships, no time to find out what great movements are going on in the world outside of politics and the markets, no time to enjoy the beauty of earth and sky, to take the Sabbath rest free from the office and mail, or to have much share in the interests and occupations of his own family—he may be wearing out, but to my thinking, all the finer parts of his being are rusting out more rapidly still."

The old story of the Frankenstein—a creature constructed by a medical student from bones in the dissecting room, and brought to life by electricity—which finally became the master and tyrant of its creator, is the story of many a carefully built up industry. Good and useful in its beginning, the business has become bigger than the man and dominates him completely. Whoever is wearing out unnecessarily is surely allowing himself to rust out also. He has lost the sense of proportion.—Catholic Columbian.

CHARM

"I mean by charm," writes Arthur C. Benson in a delightful essay on "Charm" in The Century, "not a mere superficial gracefulness which can be learned, as good manners are learned, through a certain code of behaviour, but a thing which is the flower and outward sign of a beautiful attitude to life; an eagerness to welcome everything which is fine and fresh and unstained; that turns away the glance from things unlovely and a violent and greedy not in a disapproving or self-righteous spirit, because it is respectable to be shocked, but in a sense of shame and disgrace that such cruel and covetous and unclean things should be. If one takes a figure like that of St. Francis of Assisi, who for all the superstition and fanaticism with which the record is intermingled, showed a real reflection and restoration of the old Christian joy of life, we shall see that he had firm hold of the secret."

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

POWER OF AN AVE MARIA

Arturo de Gounod was a youth of excellent character, distinguished no less for his virtuous life than for his learning. He surpassed many young men of his age in education and culture; was an artist of no mean order, an accomplished musician, and the possessor of a fine tenor voice. Having come to Paris on a visit to his uncle, the Count of Medina, Arturo devoted much of his time to the study of the fine arts. His fame as a singer soon became known far and wide and in the salons of the society in which he moved his beautiful voice was often heard and admired. One night he sang an Ave Maria, every note of which was soul stirring. His audience listened spell bound, breathless to the sweet, powerful notes. At the conclusion, when the last words died away, the singer was greeted with enthusiastic applause. His delighted hearers

GILLETT'S PERFUMED LYE. "GILLETT'S LYE EATS DIRT". For cleaning and disinfecting—For softening water—For disinfecting closets, drains and sinks—and 500 other purposes.

"PEACE ON EARTH"

A PLEA FOR CHRISTIANITY BY FATHER BERNARD VAUGHAN

In the course of a sermon preached at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, London, recently, Father Bernard Vaughan, S. J., said: "We have been told—I am told over and over again—that Christianity has failed. Look at the war! It is the plentiful lack of Christianity that has failed. We have tried to do without Christianity and we have failed miserably. In our relations individually we have put Christianity aside. In our international relations we have left out the Christianity of Christ and have failed. We have tried to rely upon our natural resources and can only say we are failures. Take diplomacy: diplomacy is set up on purpose to adjust difficult international situations."

AND DIPLOMACY HAS FAILED

Socialism proclaimed that it was going to have such comradeship throughout all the world; Socialism would see that peace was not broken. Socialism has failed. Culture was going to civilize people into such beautiful simple ways of peace that all the rugged ways would be ironed out; and we have been teaching culture from the mouths of siege guns; culture has failed. Science was going to save the situation—science with all her wondrous life-saving appliances—with her keenness of eye and her dexterity of hand. She was going to see that no such thing could ever spring into being as the roar of the cannon and the shriek of the gun. Science has failed. Then we were told by the great powers of earth, "Let us only increase our armaments and build up such armaments as would defy nations linked together. We are for peace, but the only way to secure it is the almighty armament." And the armaments have burst in their hands. Armaments have failed. Lastly, we were to have, and we have had, Hague Conferences and Congresses with diplomats and representatives of every one except the Holy See. They were to see to universal peace and to raise a great building in which it was to be carried out. Instead of peace it is in pieces. Conferences have failed.

LET US RECOGNIZE OUR BANKRUPTCY. All natural resources have failed to keep the nations of the earth from springing at one another's throats and numbering in their joy the slain on the other side. It is very terrible. It is to me most humiliating. Christianity has failed. It is not Christianity that has failed. I am here this morning to say: "Let us begin and try what Christianity can do. Why not try Christianity; put it on its trial just to see if it is worth anything?" It has a good record. When Christianity dawned on this earth the state of things in Europe was, if possible, worse than to-day. Europe was dying and Christ sat at the bedside to inspire humanity and to breathe into it fresh life. It was expiring and Christ saved the situation. Christ inspired humanity, and in Europe there sprang up the Christian family with its love of home and traditions of civility. There sprang up the Cathedral Church and Abbey with its shelter for God's poor. There sprang up the hospital and asylum where the sick and the lame were cared for by God's priests. There sprang up the Christian crafts and guides where commercial difficulties were settled on a Christian basis. There sprang up in Europe Christian education—universities and schools for the feudal lord, and as much for his serf if he liked it. There sprang up Christian nations with their mottoes "For God, King and Country," and those days—days called "days of darkness"—to the children of light were called the days of "Merry England." And the more Christianity you can put into a life the merrier it is.

I have just been reading a modern writer who says this: "When we look over the situation of Europe we are forced back to the question whether it would not be best to give a whole-hearted adhesion to Christ and His Christianity as a new basis for the structure of our social life. All else has failed! Christianity: what is it? In this country outside the Catholic Church there are many different views about Christianity. My countrymen took their Christianity some three hundred and fifty years ago; they borrowed it from Germany and it was fragmentary Christianity—much of the piety, much of the beauty, much of the artistic life, much of the dogma omitted; two sacraments in-

stead of seven, for instance. Since then what has happened? They are still.

BORROWING THEIR CHRISTIANITY FROM GERMANY

They are telling us to-day not merely that Catholics have too much Christianity, but they say to-day that Christ Himself has no personality. I read in Eucken the concept that the personality of God is no longer regarded as an ultimate truth, but merely as unseemly anthropomorphism. In other words, you got your fragmentary Christianity from Germany, and now you get your Christ from Germany and Christ is not a Divine Person. That is the present teaching pretty general in England outside the Catholic Church; that the Christ of history and the Christ of faith are two distinct persons; that in reality the Christ of history is not divine, but the Christ of faith is divine if you like to think Him so—and it helps you to be good in thinking so, but in reality it is not so. If Christ is not what He claimed to be, I say "Away with Him and crucify Him." If Christ is not what He claimed to be, His example instead of being beneficial is most hurtful, because it tells me that here is a man who claimed to be what he was not. He demanded greater love from us than we give to father and mother; He is to have first place in our affections as God, or none at all.

A LEADER AND AN IDEAL

You have tried diplomacy, you have tried Socialism, science and philosophy, you have tried peace congresses. All have failed. To whom are we to go? Come to Jesus Christ. Make your act of faith in Him, and tell Him you will accept the whole of His teaching. There is as much reason for accepting one part as another, because we accept it as coming from Him. It will give you an object in life to follow, it will give you a grand ideal, a splendid leader, and you will find in the thick of the fight, not caring whether you live or die, a leader who will see you triumph at the end of it.

Addressing those of his auditors who were not Catholics, Father Vaughan said: Look at the claims of the Catholic Church and consider them. If the Protestant Church was the right one I would expect that all good Catholics going to the front would become Protestants. But on the contrary, I find that there are hundreds and thousands and tens of thousands of young men coming into the Catholic Church at home and abroad when they are going out to die. Why is that? I think I have a right to tell you. There is something in it. It must be a call from God. It cannot be the music, because the scream of the gun is not pleasant. It cannot be the loveliness of the situation, because to stand waist deep in water is not exhilarating. It cannot be the wonderful ritual, because it is "Corpses, corpses all the way." What can it be? It must be a call from the Divine Master. Have I not a duty as a Catholic priest to tell you this and remind you before it is too late it may be worth your while to enquire?—The Catholic Times.

AN ANTI-CATHOLIC EDITOR INDICTED BY A FEDERAL GRAND JURY

Comrade Philip Wagner, publisher of the National Rip-Saw and Melting Pot of St. Louis, Mo., has been indicted by a Federal grand jury, charged with circulating through the mails "defamatory and scurrilous literature." This action is based on the publication in The Melting Pot of a cartoon in which the sensational preacher, Billy Sunday is pictured as gathering in the shekels for his "evangelistic" work. Both The Melting Pot and Rip-Saw are strongly anti-Catholic sheets.—St. Paul Bulletin.

WHAT ARE THE CHILDREN READING?

When your young daughter sits staring at a paper-bound volume while her school books lie in a neglected heap, just examine the stuff that she is taking into her innocent young head. It may possibly be Louisa M. Alcott's "Little Women," but the chances are that it is a thriller by "The Duchess"—"Married at Midnight," or something else equally trashy and untrue to life. And your boy, too,—does he sneak up to his bedroom with "The Boy Bandits," under his jacket? Every now and then we read some laconic paragraph in the newspaper to the effect that a youthful pickpocket was started on his darksome path through the reading of dime novels. You doubtless think that your children have been too carefully brought up to like literature of this sort. The point I make is just this: The child must read something, and if his feet are not set in the right path he will follow any leader that may happen along—good, bad or indifferent. The books that we read habitually, the mental food that we use day after day plays a large part in the making of our character. The girl, who believes that a lord or a handsome duke will come for her some day with a gold crown hidden under his derby, is laying up a stock of foolish notions that may lead to her undoing. In this world, in which so many things are always tempting us to be more foolish than Mother Nature ever intended that we should be—in this old topsy-turvy place where we "see

through a glass darkly," it is the part of wisdom for us to choose safe, sane and sensible guides—in literature as well as in all else. We do not want blind leaders for our boys and girls when they enter the realm of books.

But let the children read—and see to it carefully that they are not

secretly reading "stuff" which they are ashamed to speak of in your presence. "As the twig is bent, so the tree's inclined," and we can not be too careful that the growing minds of our young people shall be fashioned by the daily perusal of that which is lovely, and honest and true.—The Casket.

SEEDS. RENNIE'S ALWAYS GROW—THE FINEST IN THE LAND. Catalogue FREE. Sold by best dealers. Wm. RENNIE Co. LIMITED. ADELAIDE and JARVIS STS., TORONTO, ONT. Also at Montreal, Winnipeg, Vancouver.

All these Men are Specialists. THE BIG successes of the day are being accomplished by specialists. The Safford hot water heating system is a splendid example. Not only do we specialize on the Safford system as a whole, but we specialize in every part. One result of our specialized methods is the simple Safford hotwaterboiler, which has only nine main parts above the base (ten parts less than the ordinary boiler). Another is the Safford's extra large amount of direct heating surface, having 70 per cent. immediately around the fire, whereas ordinary boilers have but 51 per cent. Another is the rapid circulation of water, due to the fact that the water, after being heated, has only one-third the distance to travel to get out of the Safford's fire-pot that it has in an ordinary boiler. The foregoing facts mean more to you than you possibly realize. A boiler of few parts means one that will be very unlikely to get out of order—one that will be very easy to manage. A large amount of direct heating surface and rapid water circulation means a perfectly heated home and economy in fuel consumption. But to get the whole story of Safford Boilers and Radiators send for our "Home Heating" booklet. It will only take you a minute or two to write a post-card-request for it. And this booklet will show you the road to a more comfortable home in winter and a 33 1/2 per cent. reduction in your coal bills. (That is surely worth while.) THE DOMINION RADIATOR COMPANY TORONTO, CANADA

Practical Painters Welcome Alabastine. It gives handsomer, more gratifying results at 25% to 50% less cost than either wall-paper or paint. Any person can apply it perfectly by following the simple directions and get artistic results every time. Alabastine can be easily removed or you can put on a second coat, a third and fourth coat without washing off, if you prefer. As a clean, modern, sanitary wall finish more beautiful than any other, Alabastine meets twentieth century decorative demands for flat, soft unobtrusive tones. Free We design skilful plans of interior decoration without charge to Alabastine users, and furnish dainty, exclusive stencil patterns, free. Write postcard requesting illustrated booklet "Modern Wall Decoration"—sent free. The Alabastine Co., Limited 56 Willow Street, Paris, Ont. CHURCH'S COLD WATER Alabastine

MADE IN CANADA. Send the boy to school with bodily vigor and mental vim that will put him to the front in study or play. You can't build the boy out of sermons and books alone. Give him SHREDDED WHEAT. a hot, nourishing dish containing all the muscle-building, brain-making material in the whole wheat grain made digestible by steam-cooking, shredding and baking. Warm the Biscuit in oven and pour hot milk over it and you have a deliciously nourishing, warm breakfast. Shredded Wheat is made in two forms, BISCUIT and TRISCUIT—the Biscuit for breakfast with milk or cream, or with fruits; Triscuit, the wafer-toast, delicious for luncheon with butter or soft cheese, or for any meal as a substitute for white flour bread. Made at Niagara Falls, Ontario Toronto Office: 49 Wellington Street East

THE WELL-BRED GIRL

The girl who is well-bred never finds it necessary to announce the fact to the world. Good breeding is as natural to her as breathing, and as necessary, too. She never gossips or listens to tales about her friends. This sort of conversation is not pleasing to her. The well bred girl seldom apologizes—it is not necessary for her to do so, because she is always careful of other people's feelings, and she never talks of her private affairs. The well bred girl never makes her self conspicuous in public places, and does not permit herself to be drawn into any arguments in conversation which might involve others. She is gracious and hospitable giving of what she has with a good will, and never attempts to entertain in a way she cannot afford. Indeed, she is just a simple, wholesome girl, careful of other people's feelings, and always has a ready fund of sympathy for those in trouble.

BEGIN NOW

Youth is the time when habits are formed which will stay during life. It is vain to think that you can be careless and lazy, perhaps even worse, while you are a boy and then become energetic when you grow to be a man. Bad habits are formed in youth and are very hard to get rid of and in most cases the disposition to get rid of them is lost before the age of manhood, and the habits stick. Get rid of them now and form good ones while you may.

The Catholic Church applies the truth, enforces the truth, and drives home the truth to men in their public and private and individual lives. Her Gospel is against hypocrites, against men who believe like gods and want to live like demons. Her Gospel is against false practice, against that crucifixion of truth which means belief without practice.