

The Uncertainty of Life

The death of Monsignor Castellote y Pinazo, Bishop of Jaen, illustrates afresh the uncertainty of life. He had been preconised Archbishop of Seville at the last Consistory, and was preaching his last sermon in his old cathedral when he was suddenly taken ill. Within an hour he was dead of cardiac congestion.

UNITED STATES—A Priestly Line

For over half a century a priestly line of O'Briens has labored in St. Patrick's parish, Lowell, Mass., where a handsome church, erected in the place of the beautiful edifice destroyed by fire in 1904, has just been dedicated. The church burned in 1904 was erected by Rev. John O'Brien—'Father John.' He was assisted in his work in Lowell by his brother, Father Timothy, and when both of these priestly brothers died and went to their reward, another Father O'Brien (Rev. Michael), a nephew, was appointed pastor, and later permanent rector. When he, in turn, laid down his work on earth, it was taken up by the Rev. William O'Brien, who is now permanent rector of St. Patrick's.

A Priest Scientist

Father Odenbach, head of St. Ignatius' College, Cleveland, has 'accidentally' discovered a method whereby he can intercept wireless telegraph messages by means of the copper roof, on the college, some steel pins, and the lead from an ordinary pencil. While listening to the sounder connected with the coronograph on the top of the college by which lightning is recorded, Father Odenbach, who had substituted the lead pencil and pins for the usual expensive coherer in the instrument, heard the sounder tick off some Morse code. Investigation showed he had intercepted messages received at the wireless telegraph company's station there from the Detroit office.

GENERAL

The Sisters of Mercy

On December 12 (says the 'Edinburgh Catholic Herald') was observed in all lands where the Order is established, the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Sisters of Mercy. Seventy-five years ago Mother Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Order, made her religious profession, which marked the beginning of a religious community whose main purpose is to assist the poor, the sick and the untaught. Catherine McAuley, who afterwards became the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, was a resident of Dublin, where her charity toward the poor, and motherly care of young girls were well known long before she had any idea of founding a religious Sisterhood. With the permission of his Holiness Pius VIII., the Institute of Mercy was established on the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy, September 24, 1827, and on December 12, 1831, Mother Catherine made her holy profession. The Order received the approval of Pope Gregory XVI., May 3, 1835, and the Rule, and Constitution were solemnly confirmed by the same Pontiff, June 6, 1841. Before Mother Catherine died she had the happiness of seeing her beloved institution flourish in many parts of Ireland and England.

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Domestic

By 'Maurcen'

Moths.

Soak a piece of paper or rag in some spirits of turpentine and place it for a day in your bureau, trunks, closets, and everywhere you are afraid moths will make an attack. Two or three times a year will be quite sufficient.

How to Treat Your Umbrella.

Plenty of people have yet to learn the proper care to take of an umbrella. These useful conveniences should not be allowed to dry while open, as this strains the silk and makes holes in the seams. Nor should they be placed to dry with the handle upward; in this case the moisture lodges in the centre where the ribs meet, causing the silk to decay. They should never be put into the wardrobe without unrolling, or after a long period of dry weather it may be found that the continuance of the pressure has cut the silk between each rib. An umbrella should always be left to drip with the handle downward, unless the handle is valuable and easily injured by the damp; such an umbrella cannot be cared for according to any fixed rules.

Eat Green Vegetables Every Day.

Green vegetables do not contain, from our standpoint, true nourishment, but they are of equal value as waste and should be taken at least once a day. Vegetables not containing starch may be eaten raw; but such roots as turnips, carrots, and beets must be scraped or grated. The dense fibre renders them difficult of digestion. The green vegetables, watercress, the cabbage family, turnips and rutabagas, radishes, celery, lettuce, spinach, green peas, string beans, cucumbers, summer squash, parsley, dandelions, chicory, sweet peppers, onions, leeks, carrots, chives, shallots, asparagus and radishes all contain a volatile principle which gives them flavor, and which when they are boiled too long or too rapidly is driven off, leaving the vegetables rather tasteless.

Receipt for a Happy Life.

In the year 1500 Margaret of Navarre wrote the following 'Receipt for a Happy Life.' More than four centuries have passed since then, but wisdom is ever young, and her quaint words are as full of good counsel now as when she penned them:—'If you would have a happy life, take three ounces of patience and three of repose, and mix together with a pound of conscience. Add as much as the hand can hold of innocent pastimes, and of hope and pleasant memories 3 good drachms; moisten these with the pleasure distilled from a cheerful heart. Add to love's magic a few drops; but be sparing of these, for sometimes love brings a flame which naught but tears can drown. Grind all these things together, and mix with an ounce of merriment to enliven; yet all this may not bring happiness unless in your orisons you lift your voice to Him who holds the gift of health.'

Children's Faults.

Many people (says a writer in an English magazine) who have ideas upon the subject of bringing up children will criticise a parent for indulgences that seem unwise. The attitude of most people is critical, yet the child that has too much bringing up is often as badly off as the child that has too little. The mother who watches every breath drawn by her child has seldom better results to show for her anxiety than the more wholesome let-alone policy of another mother. The emphasising of a fault in a child will often cause its recurrence.

A little girl I saw lately had a most unbecoming habit of squeezing her nose and mouth into a little pucker. I felt afraid the habit would spoil the features of a very pretty child, and spoke to her mother about it. 'Why,' said this sensible woman, 'I think the more we speak about it the more she does it.'

Constant attention called to a habit or trait will often bring it to mind, and the child will seem determined to live up to its reputation by 'showing off' the unpleasant way or trick it has acquired.

Maurcen

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