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MORAL INTENT OF OUR COMMON LAW.

(J. D. Gillilan, D. D.)

An unseen genius has ever had in hand the welfare of the people. Shakespeare expressed it when he said: "There's a divinity that shapes our ends, Rough-hew them how we will," and Patrick Henry also said the same thing when he cried out in forcefulness of despair: "There is a just God that presides over the destinies of nations." Such is the expression of the universal and often silent faith of the masses. Instinctively, but sometimes unreasonably but not unreasonably, the earth-fellows who are our joint protectors, plan with that blessed subconscious effect so everywhere evident for our safety.

This is seen in a point I wish to

specify. Our common law has in it a point of protection often unseen and unappreciated. The unthinking grumbles sometimes at the sternness of rigid circumstances not recognizing the benefits he has. "Heaven lies about in our infancy" is no less true in our mature days. The beneficent God has provided meat and drink we wot not of.

The state has ever revered the work of the altruistic church. It has given it wondrous license. It is sometimes asked by the neophyte in reasoning, "Why is there immunity given the church in the matter of taxation? Why should it be exempt?" Hear the answer: "The state is doing a bargain counter business with the church and under our republican form of government is as religious as it can or dare be. The state knows that the church is the most effective police agent in the world. It knows that there is no institution that makes for the heart of good citizenship so radically and effectively and constantly as the church. It knows that from her pulpit every week there are uttered words that go for the reforming of the bad, the keeping of the good in the right way, and the creation of that sentiment that makes men love the right, the lawful, the patriotic, and hate all things opposed thereto.

To that end the undenominational (not unreligious) state has provided for the moral and the religious care and training of its people and assists in paying the cost therefor. There are thousands and thousands of dollars tied up in property whose taxes would amount to much annual income; but the beneficent state says "We pay the tax on this kind of property; we con-

tribute, by not taking, for the support of the institution, the church (the only one engaged in producing fundamental and radical reforms), we support this agency for the good it does and can do."

Any reasoning person sees the direct moral import of this governmental action: It means that the citizen is logically expected to patronize the church. He is expected by the very genius of our laws to be found in the place the state assists thus in maintaining for its own strengthening, the house of God on the Sabbath, the day also recognized as an institution for the bettering of the populace. It is therefore not in the provincial right of the citizen to ignore these provisions so graciously made; he cannot say on the Sabbath morning: "I think I will not go to church today, I will take my gun, or my rod and hie me to the hills or the stream; or a will do as I please on this day." The state without a line on its statute books expects its citizenry to be found worshipping and hearing God's word which ever makes for a better and a higher citizenship.

Thus the church is the best policeman in the community and the state recognizes it. The church is the divine expression through human law of the subconscious protection given by law for the religious training of the public, an absolute sine qua non in republican or other sort of government.

Therefore, Mr. Citizen, you cannot be as good patriotically as you ought unless you patronize the place of gatherings for the fundamental political good. The church is thus seen to be a public, not a private creation;

and every citizen has a right as well as a duty within these walls.

An Ohio man has been given \$4,000 for three fingers. It must have been in a dry town, with a suffering Kentucky colonel on the scene.

One real test of the new republic of China will come when it decides whether its Fourth of July shall be safe and sane or firecrackery.

By the time Madero decides to use the methods of Diaz he may discover that their originator has a patent on them.

Classes of rest have been established in the University of Wisconsin. For hoboes or public employes?

Perhaps little Pu Yi was willing at any time during his reign to trade the throne for a hobby horse.

Joint Wage Conference Meets.

New York, March 14.—A joint conference met in this city today to consider the demands for increased wages made by the engineers of the eastern railroads. The conference is expected to last several days. The engineers are represented by a committee appointed by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. A committee of executive officials appeared for the railroads, representing all of the important lines east of the Mississippi and north of the Chesapeake and Ohio and including the Grande Trunk railway of Canada. The engineers ask for a increase in pay ran. az from 15 to 50 per cent and the standardization of wages.

Illinois Fight Hottest in Years.

Yates, of Springfield, opened his campaign, Ill., March 14.—Richard Paign for the republican nomination for governor of Illinois at Peoria to-

day. He intends to keep up an active canvass from now until the date of the general primary next month. Mr. Yates held the governorship in 1900-4. He has managed to maintain a considerable following since he retired from office eight years ago, as was shown when he was candidate for the United States senatorship against Senator Cullom two years ago. He declares himself independent of any and all party factions. Many Lorimer followers are friendly to him.

Mr. Yates is but one of eight aspirants for the republican gubernatorial nomination this year. Governor Deneen heads the list as a candidate for renomination. The governor is taking no sides in the presidential agitation, being friendly to both the president and Mr. Roosevelt, and expects to be in a position, if he is renominated to use the maximum of his influence for the national ticket.

Next to Governor Deneen the most prominent entry in the republican race for governor appears to be Walter Clyde Jones, of Chicago, who is the standard bearer of the ultraprogressive type of Illinois republicans. A third entry is John E. W. Wayman, district attorney of Chicago who is generally looked upon as the "personal liberty" candidate. Len Small of Kankakee, has the endorsement of the so-called Lorimer Lincoln league for the nomination. Charles F. Hurlburgh of Galesburg, John J. Brown of Mardalia and J. McCan Davis are also actively seeking support.

The bitter factional rows in the republican party have given the democrats great hopes of success this year. Only once have the democrats carried Illinois for president and governor since the civil war. This was in 1892 when the electoral vote was cast for Cleveland and the governorship went to John P. Altgeld.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY.

March 14.

- 1743—First town meeting held in Faneuil hall.
- 1780—Don Bernardo de Calvez, Spanish governor of Louisiana, captured Mobile from the English.
- 1794—Patent for the cotton gin was granted to Eli Whitney.
- 1831—Parliamentary reform bill introduced in the British House of Commons.
- 1844—King Hubert I. of Italy born. Assassinated July 30, 1900.
- 1862—Federal expedition under General Burnside captured Newberne, N. C.
- 1864—Sir Samuel Baker discovered Lake Albert Nyanza.
- 1866—Alexander Graham Bell expounded his system of "visible speech" to the London Society of Arts.
- 1883—Karl Marx, founder of German socialism, died. Born May 5, 1818.

WANTED—Position by a girl. Inquire at Merchants restaurant.

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A strong dramatic picture.

"TRUE TO THEIR TRUST" Eclipse
Featuring the children of a lighthouse keeper. A splendid picture.

"THE WIFE OF A GENIUS" S. & A.
A fire in a large hotel, good acting and fine photoplay make this an unusually fine film.

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