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On Tipping the Hat.

In the current Ave Maria, Father Carroll has some pointed observations on the Catholic custom of saluting the clergy.

"..... "Tipping the hat," it is called in traditional speech. It is the salutation of Catholic men and boys to a priest of their Faith. It is not given to recognize renown, place, intelligence, accomplishments, beauty or scholarship. It is bestowed on a priest because he is a priest. He may be as unrecognized as a ripple on the river, as homely as any Buddha ever fashioned out of stone - but he is a priest. Laymen, and their grown sons and their small boys, lift or tip or touch the hat when they meet him. Or, anyhow, they used to. That is, they used to in Ireland, in the United States, in England, and in many of her possessions. When one is not what Tennyson calls a "travelled man" one may not compass the earth in a generalization.

"Is the act of greeting still observed in our country? Yes and no, depending on localities, training, people, priests. In cities where there is much ado about Anglo Saxon civilization, hats stay on; where crosses are numerous above buildings, hats are raised or tipped. If there be exceptions, put not the whole burden of reproof on laymen. Priests will have to assume a share of it. They go by unanswering - forgetting or neglecting. They may say they do not 'want to be bothered'; it is 'too much trouble.' They are hardly justified in saying that. Individually, the custom may suggest to some "salutations in the market place." It is not. The symbol is expressed as a voluntary act of respect. The dislike of this or that priest for the salute of tipping the hat should not cause him to discourage the custom. It is ancient, significant, beautiful; the visible sign of love and loyalty.

"There are Catholic laymen in business, professions, colleges who insist the custom is undemocratic. Free speech, free press, free hats - and so on. Yet these same free-hat men will lift the hat to a lady acquaintance and smile, displaying all their gold front teeth. And that is 'chivalry.' Well, is there not a divine chivalry when a renowned head specialist, a resounding man of torts and retorts, a bank president whose eye pierces a borrower to his soul's depths, - is there not a divine chivalry when he lifts his hat to a young, small curate, just ordained, so timid he asks his pastor if he may mark with ashes a child not quite within the use of reason? The salute is a recognition of a state, not a servitude to a man. So if a college student meet a clerical prefect that has fayed him with discipline, he should lift his hat and say to his spirit, 'Remember, I lift this hat, not to a prefect, but to a priest.' He will do his duty thus, and yet minister to his sense of outrage. Therefore, Catholic men and boys: Fight the good fight, keep the Faith, lift the hat."

First Friday.

Don't break your series of nine Fridays. Make up your sleep some other time. By the looks of the breakfast room this morning there must have been a good many cuts at the early morning classes. (It happens every year, of course, that men who are cut to the limit come back and follow their practice of sleeping over - and lose, by that indiscretion, credit for a semester.)

Sign The Adoration Lists.

The First Friday Adoration, a privilege we enjoy throughout the year, by virtue of a concession granted by the Most Reverend Bishop of Fort Wayne, requires of us that we guarantee the constant presence of adorers. Sign the lists to make sure of this.

PRAYERS: Deceased - a friend ofocco Schiralli; Frank Walsh (tomorrow is the 10th anniversary of his death). Ill - Harry Lockett's mother (to undergo a serious operation); the mother of Sister DeLellis; an uncle of Norman Duke. Two special ints