

The Catholic Journal

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Is It Muzzled?

In the Associated Press under the thumb of the Menace and its horde of wolfish hatters of the Catholic Church?

We ask this question because of the following article taken from the Michigan Catholic:—

The Catholic Advance received the following when about to go to press: Joplin, Jan. 21st. Advance Pub. Co., Wichita, Kans.:

Rev. Father Rossman's suit for libel against the Menace decided in favor of priest, damages \$1,500. The local Associated Press agent has been ordered from the head office in New York to kill the item, hence it will not appear in the newspapers.

Just before going to press last week news was received that Phelps, Brown and Walker, of the Menace staff, had been arrested at Joplin while attending the trial resulting from the suit Rev. Father Rossman brought against them.

It may be of interest for our readers to know that the item about the indictment of the Menace corps of editors and owners, did not appear in Rochester in either the Post Express or the Democrat & Chronicle, the two Rochester papers which receive the Associated Press despatches.

Significant.

Significant, indeed, is the following editorial published in the St. Louis Church Progress:

"It is of public record at Washington that four years ago, or in 1910, there were 5,516,163 persons over ten years of age in the United States who could neither read nor write. Moreover, according to the same public record, there were at that time 2,273,603 illiterate males in the country over twenty-one years of age.

Who is chargeable for this astonishing ignorance in Protestant America? Surely, not the Catholic Church, which supports over 1,700 schools of its own in which are being educated over 1,700,000 children.

a quarter million A. P. A.'s in the United States. But it is a conclusive fact that whatever their numbers, they all come from this deplorable source of ignorance.

We have contended and still contend that the basic reason for bigotry is ignorance. But the moving spirits behind the present wave of bigotry are not ignorant. They are educated persons who utilize their superiority of brain power to hypnotize ignorant and unthinking people into ungovernable hatred of Catholics and all things Catholic.

Do Likewise!

Self-respecting Protestants who receive unsolicited copies of the Menace and its Rochester imitator could well emulate the example of Victor Blehdon, of Buffalo, who wrote the following letter to the Missouri scavenger:—

February 2, 1915. The Menace, Aurora, Mo.: Sirs—I do not subscribe to your paper, nor do I care to have it sent to my office, or as was done twice, to my house.

I am a business man and have always found that the most prosperous business is that which was and is conducted by competent and honest men. In my opinion the same refers to any religious society. Therefore, I believe if one-tenth of what you print in the Menace is true, the Catholic Church would not be the strongest of all the denominations.

Whereas, I am for a free press in this country, I do not believe that a paper like yours can produce anything but hatred among mankind, and therefore I believe, for the general good, it should not be permitted to circulate. Personally I am a Protestant and so born, and so intend to remain, but please take notice of my request.

Yours truly, V. R. Blehdon.

Woman's Suffrage.

Whether the coming constitutional convention takes up the matter or not, the voters of New York State will have an opportunity to pass upon the merits of the proposition to strike from the election section of the State Constitution the provision that only "male" citizens may be permitted to vote, so that women may vote at all elections.

Men and women may honestly favor woman suffrage or they may disapprove. Many of us do not believe it would be a good policy to have women vote. We have a right to that opinion. Those who favor it have a right to their opinion.

Both advocates and opponents of woman suffrage will have an opportunity to test their respective strength at the polls next November.

Well, illiteracy as a test for intending immigrants, will not be applied yet awhile.

Were all our Catholic legislators asleep at the switch when they permitted the Griner-Tallett "Bible-reading bill" to emerge from committee without any hearing and go to third reading?

Will the Knights of Columbus in Rochester be the leaders in a movement to give us a Catholic association like the Protestant Y. M. C. A., or the Brick Church Institute?

King Winter seems inclined not to relax his reign for a while.

Veto Sustained.

While it is regrettable that the vote was so close, it is a matter of congratulation to the citizenship of the country that the necessary two-thirds vote of the House of Representatives could not be secured to override President Wilson's veto of the Burnett Smith immigration bill because it imposed an illiterary test. Two former Presidents have vetoed immigration bills for the self-same reason and in both cases the two-thirds vote could not be secured to override the veto.

When we look over the younger generations descended from illiterate immigrants and see the splendid specimens of manhood and womanhood they are, we cannot repress the reflection that if these had been denied admission to this country, these younger generations would not be with us now to enrich our country with the fruits of their labor and to enrich our citizenship by sturdy American manhood.

All honor to our President for his courage! And all honor to the Congressmen who had courage to stand by him. We wonder why Representative Danforth, of the Monroe district voted against the President? Congressman Dunn could not vote as he is in a hospital recovering from an operation.

The latest addition to Catholic literature is The Echo of Buffalo, N. Y. It is gotten up attractively and presents a fine appearance.

And still the Rochester imitator of the Menace appears minus advertising patronage.

St. Louis Knights of Columbus have donated an altar to the Catholic chapel of the General Hospital in that city.

The Catholic Theater movement has entered upon its third year of profitable work.

There are two bills now before Congress to forbid such publications as the Menace circulating through the mails.

"Pastor Russell's advertising sermons" are no longer to be accepted by Chicago dailies.

We regret the passing of the Rochester Labor Journal. It was a clean wholesome paper and deserved a better fate.

Well, we do seem to have a fair share of beautiful snow.

Business seems to be taking an interest in public matters these days.

Are the Hughes public service commissions to be a thing of the past? Such is fame. Upon their advent upon the public stage they were hailed as the panacea of all social and civic ills.

Public sentiment will agree with Governor Whitman in his contention that no state officer should receive a salary higher than that paid to the chief executive of the State.

Catholics in Ontario, Canada, number approximately 687,000 under 1,085 priests.

The British Admiral D'Arcy Irvine, who is now eighty years old, was received into the Church in Rome recently.

Cardinal Bisleti has been made protector of the Academy of Noble Ecclesiastics, Rome. This institution is the training school of the diplomats of the Holy See.

According to report, the Benedictine Monks of the Abbey of Maredosus, Belgium, will settle in Ireland.

The Bishop of Ning-Po, China, in a letter urges zealous young men in Ireland, especially young Irish priests, and students, to come to China, where a harvest of souls await them.

SIBLEY, LINDSAY & CURR CO.

The Furniture Should Be Bought This Week.

Let us make the fact emphatic—this February Furniture Sale is for one week only. THIS WEEK. It does not drag itself out over several weeks. We could not afford to continue indefinitely such offerings as it presents.

It is a sale that means snap and go and action every minute in order to maintain its existence as an important store event.

Not next week, but this week—NOW—is the time you must get here to do your selecting and purchasing if you are to profit by the unusual values offered.

The week is nearly gone. Do not let it slip by without getting your share of the good things which this Furniture Sale places before you.

Sibley, Lindsay and Curr Co.

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She Didn't Say. If a Maori wishes to speak words of insult to another Maori he calls his adversary some kind of fool. Any kind will do, living or dead.

She Knew, All Right. "Madam," half a dozen men hastened to assure her, "this is the smoking car."

The Largest Frog. Among the rare specimens not open to public inspection in the Harvard zoological museum is what is claimed to be the largest frog in the world. It weighs about six pounds, is twenty-seven inches long from tip to toe and of a slaty black color.

Compulsory Change of Name. A notable instance of compulsory change of name occurred in Scotland in the seventeenth century, when the clan Macgregor was ordered to abandon and forget its ancient patronymic.

Those Who Buy Them. The man who can't afford to buy one; the man who prefers to own a good team of thoroughbreds; the man who doesn't mind the first cost.

Do Postmen Get Letters? The above question was asked by Charles Dickens. Do you suppose the postoffice clerks care to receive letters? I have my doubts. They get into a dreadful habit of indifference.

APPEARANCES. Never be influenced by external appearance in forming your judgment of a person's worth. This is an important rule, for many a noble spirit is covered by habiliments of poverty, while not infrequently a showy exterior conceals a villain of the basest kind.

Knights of Columbus and all other Catholics! Assist the only Catholic Magazine Agency in the Country in its Campaign for Common Unity and the Protection of Holy Church.

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