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The Socialists And Dr. Ryan's Yale Address

Propensity of Former For Getting Things Wrong.

The Two Points of View Clearly Drawn.

A short time ago Dr. John A. Ryan, of St. Paul Seminary, the well-known author of "A Living Wage" and of the debate with Hillquit on Socialism, delivered an address before the Yale Society for the Study of Socialism, the Yale Chapter of the Intercollegiate Socialist Society, on "The Catholic Church and Radical Socialism." Immediately the Socialists in their account of the affair, with their fatal propensity for getting things wrong, gave an erroneous version of what the speaker had said and as a result precipitated a short discussion which has brought out in a quite clear manner the difference in the points of view of Catholic social thought and of Socialism.

The New York Call of February 24th in an editorial on "The Rev. Doctor's Dilemma" declared that Dr. Ryan had said that "the teachings of Jesus have no social or economic bearing." The Call, of course, made much of this purported statement and dilated at some length on the error of such an attitude. "The wise old church that installed Rev. Ryan as a teacher," declared the Call, "knew better than he, when it combined in his person the two subjects of political economy and moral theology. If there was no connection between the two theories why were they given to the one man? Moral theology," as the church maintains, is founded in the last resort on the teachings of Christ. And what is political economy founded on? Has it a moral basis? Rev. Ryan again and again distinctly implied that it had, when in his debate with Hillquit he denounced Socialism as unjust and immoral. The political economy Dr. Ryan teaches is founded on what he considers morality, and all morality finally finds its base in the teachings of Christ. And that is good Catholic doctrine. Rev. Ryan to the contrary notwithstanding.

Dr. Ryan immediately replied to this editorial, his answer appearing in the Call of March 8th. It ran as follows: "In your issue of the 24th inst. you represent me as saying at New Haven that the teachings of Jesus have no social or economic bearing." Had I really uttered such stupidity as is expressed in this sentence, the greater part of your editorial discussing it would have been abundantly justified. Of course, I never said that, and am at a loss to know how you attributed it to me, since none of the printed reports convey any such an impression, and they all show that a great part of my address was devoted to a presentation of the fact that Christ's teachings have very fundamental social and economic implications. At the end of the lecture, in response to a question from the audience, I denied that Christ was a "social revolutionist," or, was put to death for acts of sabotage committed in the temple and I pointed out that there is nothing in the Gospels or in his life to indicate that he was founded or intended to found a social or economic system, or to overthrow the social order then existing. The difference between this position and the one indicated in the quotation at the head of your editorial ought to be obvious to any person of ordinary intelligence.

The Call, in a note below Dr. Ryan's letter, stated that its version of his speech had been obtained from a correspondent in New Haven, "the accuracy of whose reports has always been found to be unimpeachable." But in the non-Catholic, are represented at issue of March 15th we learn that the "unimpeachable" correspondent right honestly acknowledged himself to have been in error and that Dr. Ryan did not really say what had been reported as his utterance.

Dr. Ryan experienced the same trouble in New Haven where one as all other reasonable plants Anthony Demson, Socialist, in Stores No. 9 North St., and West writing to the local paper, made Main St., in Hotel Rochester. H. P. Neun, a jumped attack on what had

been said, although the paper itself had given a very creditable report of the meeting. Dr. Ryan in answering this attack impliedly showed the difference between the Catholic view of the attitude of Jesus and the Church to social and economic relations and that advocated by Protestantism on the one hand and by Socialism and its queer but logical offspring, the doctrines as put forth by Bouck White and others who have gained inspiration from the "higher criticism of the scriptures," on the other. He recommended that his assailant read the excellent little book, Garrigues' "The Social Value of the Gospel," from which much would be learned on the Catholic attitude.

And this attitude is this: not that Christ came to destroy society or to lead a revolution of the oppressed classes for a mere economic reward, an idea which is most absurd and an open and evident distortion of the words and whole life-purpose of the Man of Galilee, not on the other hand that he came with merely a message of individual salvation; but that His message was first and primarily spiritual and secondarily social, the latter necessarily following from the first. He did not come to establish any social or economic bearing. The particular system of society, but to lay down principles and rules which must serve as the foundation for every true social system; and if a proposed system cannot meet the requirements of these principles, it will be found unsound and deserving of condemnation. It was the putting into practice of these principles that led in the Middle Ages to that "Golden Age of the People" of which the Socialist Hyndman has written.

The Socialist, with his economic interpretation of history, with its evident one-sided view of life, can see in Christ merely a social agitator and a revolutionist. This sombre and morbid view would make of the life of the Son of God a failure and a mockery. It is imperative that Catholics should bring forward the correct ideas on these important matters. Dr. Ryan has contributed much towards this end and these recent discussions have given him further opportunity to bring these correct principles to the attention of honest inquirers outside the Church.

C. B. of C. V.

It is interesting to see ourselves as others see us, or at least as pagans see us. The present war is affording that opportunity.

In a Chinese newspaper published in Shanghai, we read the following: "Europe calls us barbarians, but it seems to us that if the acme of European civilization is to invent means of destruction, it is preferable to remain barbarians."

"Those nations which were boasting of being the most advanced in the way of progress, have proved the most brutal; is cruelty a product of civilization?" "Our old scholars who despise the profession of arms, may see now what Europe wants to teach us; the rights of a nation are in proportion to the fear her armies inspire!"

Again we call attention to the need of reading matter felt by our lonely missionaries. An apostle in the Philippines writes:

"I receive two missionary publications and I am very grateful to the kind person who was so thoughtful as to send them to me. I read them always with the greatest interest because they tell me about the labors and sufferings of other missionaries, and thus give me a little encouragement in the midst of the difficulties I have here."

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A Flock And A Shepherd, But No Fold.

After sixteen years' labor in a field which he considers one of the most difficult in China, Fr. Odilon Baldit, P. F. M., has retired to St. Raphael's Sanatorium at Montbeton, France, to try and regain his shattered health. This sanatorium belongs to the Paris Foreign Mission Society, and to it the weary apostle repairs when no longer able to sustain the heat and burden of the day in the field afar.

Fr. Baldit's post was at Tong-tan, in the Kwang-tong province. The few hundreds of Christians which the district possessed were scattered to the four winds of heaven—two or three here, two or three there, and sometimes only one Christian in a whole village. To seek out this flock and keep it in touch with the sacraments of the Church was a Herculean task.

The section was also infested with bandits. Fr. Baldit, himself, narrowly escaped becoming their victim several times and twenty Christians were killed by them. Exposed always to this danger, a sort of reign of terror perpetually existed among priest and people.

There is but one way to overcome adverse conditions of this nature, and that is to form a Christian settlement around the chapel. Union is strength. The Christians would no longer fear the armed robber bands and the priest would be spared his incessant journeys.

Catholic News Notes

At Lafayette, La., the new Institute of the Holy Rosary, costing \$40,800, was dedicated. The Holy Rosary is the Industrial School for Colored Catholics.

In the name of the peace meeting recently held in Philadelphia, Mr. John Wamaker cabled the Holy Father expressing the meeting's appreciation of the Pope's efforts to bring about peace. This cablegram gave the Pontiff much pleasure.

Cardinal O'Connell has purchased a summer residence at Nantasket.

The debt on the churches of St. William, Dorchester, Mass., and the Immaculate Conception, Newburyport, Mass., have been canceled. The latter has a surplus on hand of \$4,000.

Baltimore has an Italian Catholic orphan asylum, just incorporated. The Pallottini Sisters are in charge.

An \$11,000 apse is to be added to the Brooklyn Cathedral Chapel.

Milwaukee is to have a four-story addition to the Convent of the Franciscan Sisters.

The first Friday in April this year is Good Friday.

Rt. Rev. P. J. Garrigan, of Sioux City, Ia., has resigned as rector of the Cathedral of the Epiphany, and Rev. T. Finnegan has been appointed his successor.

In its new St. Vincent de Paul Church, New York will have an edifice costing \$500,000.

Plans for a new Polish church in Thompsonville, Conn., are being drawn. The new edifice is to be located on Alden avenue.

Easter Flowers and Plants

We will have our usual large stock of plants. Also Cut Flowers of every variety. Especially fine Violets and Roses. H. E. Wilson, 88 E. Main St.

News From Ireland

At Ballymena, on February 17, Captain Hugh O'Neill was elected as Parliamentary representative for Mid-Antrim, a constituency rendered vacant by the death of his brother at the front.

Traffic rates between Scotland and Ireland were increased on March 1, from 10d to 2s. 6d. per ton.

Judge Craig in the Belfast Recorder's court extended a cordial welcome to Dawson Cotton, on his joining the solicitors' bar.

Hugh McGettigan, Armagh, flax instructor under the Department of Agriculture, will attend the Monaghan market during the flax season. He was previously stationed in Monaghan. T. O'Donovan, who held the position has resigned.

A marriage was performed at Westminster Cathedral, London, by the Rev. Chancellor Daly, between Captain L. S. Smithers, Seventeenth Infantry, son of the late Major General O. F. Smithers, and Grace, daughter of W. H. O'Meara, M. D., Carlisle.

At the Catholic church, Kilkree, by the Rev. Father Glynn, P. P., Edmund Shanahan, of Clonria, County Limerick, was married to Bridget McNamara, of Lisdean, Kilkree.

Benedict Arthur, of Castleland, has been appointed as accountant in the National bank, Edgeworthstown, County Longford.

While attending 12 o'clock mass in St. Finbar's church, Cork, on February 14, an old woman named Mrs. Albina Curtin, died suddenly.

A motor boat, the property of a fisherman named Beacom, of Portstewart, with its crew of three men, has been missing since February 16.

At Holy Cross church, Doe, by Rev. Father Canning, C. C., Jim, second son of James O'Donnell, Dunfanaghy, was married to Bridget, eldest daughter of Arthur Coll, Meenderrygamp, Gweedore.

On February 16, a man named Stephen O'Neill was found drowned in the Liffey at Guinness' jetty.

The total amount subscribed in Ireland to the Belgian relief fund is stated to be £80,000.

A marriage was celebrated at the Cathedral, Killarney, with nuptial Mass, by Rev. W. Keane, P. P., Valencia Island, between James Arthur, third son of Townsend Jolley, Valencia Island, and Barbara, second daughter of Michael O'Sullivan, Lohar, Waterville, Kerry.

M. Moylan, Rathclough, a member of the Thomastown Board of Guardians, has been appointed to the commission of the peace.

A boy of 12 named John Scanlan, died at Tullyglass after eating a hemlock root.

E. Keane has been elected master of the Westport Union. D. J. O'Connor, assistant clerk and P. McGinn were also candidates.

The death took place on February 11 after an operation in a Dublin Hospital, of Miss Bridget Kiernan, jr., Clough, Granard. On February 19, at Killow, occurred the death of John McCarthy, aged 78 years.

Patrick Power, a farmer of sixty years, who resided at Graiguevella, about seven miles from Carrick-on-Suir, was found dead in a small stream a short distance from his house.

Why Catholics Don't Go To Hear 'Billy' Sunday

"Why don't Catholics go to hear the great revivalist?" the revivalist Billy Sunday asks the question with answers from one of the Lenten sermons of Father F. H. Casey, S. J., in St. Joseph's Church, Philadelphia.

In replying to the question, which he says, is often put to him, Father Casey observes that the revival seems to him "a clear proof that there is a vast amount of Christianity hidden away down in the hearts of the masses, and that the great need of the day is 'the men and means' to bring it up and work it into their lives."

As to why Catholics don't go, Father Casey said that: "The attitude prevailing in the tabernacle is a protest against the defective, mutilated Christianity that has been offered them from Protestant pulpits during the last half century," and here is the fundamental reason why Catholics stay away from the tabernacle:

Mr. Sunday is also preaching an incomplete Christianity from which are cut away numerous dogmas as dear to us as life itself. Our absence is our protest. Moreover, Catholics know that the service is a Protestant service, conducted by a Protestant and held under Protestant auspices."

For these reasons Catholics don't go to hear Billy Sunday. They don't go because, in short, they are Catholics. Perhaps, some day the great Protestant revivalist may himself be of the number, which was Father Casey's prayer in conclusion.

"May we not," said he, "pray that Billy Sunday himself may some day 'hit the trail,' the trail that leads to the old and venerable Church that was built upon a rock."

"The 'trail' is there all the time, and the venerable Church, both open to the possibility of Father Casey's prayer.

Rt. Rev. Joseph Rainier, Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and rector of St. Francis' Seminary, observed his seventieth birthday Wednesday, February 10.

During January, Father Wynhoven in New Orleans, provided 2,706 beds at his St. Vincent Hotel, found employment for 108, gave shoes to 24, furniture to 14 families, and sent the sick poor to hospitals.

The contract for the new \$100,000 addition to the chemical laboratory of the Catholic University has been given.

The War Department has granted the use of the abandoned barracks at Fort Walla Walla, Wash., to the Sisters of Charity of Providence, whose St. Mary's Hospital was recently destroyed by fire.

A Eucharistic Congress for all Canada will be held in Montreal July 18-15; His Eminence Cardinal Begin of Quebec will be its honorary president, and His Grace Archbishop Bruchési its acting president.

The cost of the war of nations has risen to the enormous sum of fifty million dollars a day for the ten warring countries.

Mrs. Mary McGann died recently in the Catholic Home, Newry Ireland, on her one hundredth birthday. She retained all her faculties to the last.

The rebuilt Cathedral of St. Dunstan, at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, is finished at a cost of \$250,000.

Spring Flowers

Tulips, Hyacinths and Daffodils, H. P. Neun, 9 North St., and P. Neun, 9 North St., and West Main St., in Hotel Rochester.

Annual Play

Under the direction of Don Manning, the Knights of Columbus Dramatic Club presented a three-act drama, "The Talented Young Man," by Thomas Norton, at the Lyceum Theatre on the evening of Monday, April 19.

The play deals with the social aspirations of Thomas Norton, a talented young lawyer, who is risen to the office of State Attorney and has ambition to become the gubernatorial candidate. His political boss, a corrupt politician, has a plan to have the young attorney succeed in the gubernatorial election. As a result of the political boss' ambition, the young attorney is forced to become a politician himself. The play is a satire on the political boss and his influence on the young attorney. It is the first drama which will have an amateur stage.

Edward F. Conway, a leading role in the play, is a young man of the name of M. Avell, will play the principal female character, Norton's fiancée. Other cast are: Eugene Boyce, Maloney, Rhinhardt, August Zimmerman, Don Manning, Thomas Seaman, and Abeth Clark and Miss Nan Conway.

How Is The Time For Catholic Parents To Introduce Children To Good Reading?

This is the time for parents to introduce their children to good reading.

The shutting out from the eyes of the publications that give rise to good ideas is a great evil. It is a tragedy that a Catholic child should grow up without the daily spread of the good news of the Gospel. The child should learn to read good and pure books, and the foundation of the sufficient. Children should have a craving for anything they can read. The shape of reading will be very devoured. Let them read what is worthy. Let them read what is important, what is interesting, what is of consequence to them as intelligent children of the Church.

The child is to be pitied whose ideals of life are gathered from the least of horrors of the newspaper or the so-called comic paper or the voluminous Sunday supplement. This kind of reading is poison to the mind. It is disastrous to the soul. It should be kept from the children as carefully as we keep from them deleterious food and drink. Even more so, because the issue at stake is immeasurably greater. The death of the body is grave; but can it compare with the death of the soul?

Catholic children should be supplied with reading that will strengthen them in faith and morals against the temptations that are sure to come to them in later life. They should be given an opportunity while they are young to become acquainted with Catholic history—with the deeds of Catholic heroes and saints, with the work of Catholic scientists, Catholic poets, Catholic writers of all kinds, so that as they grow up they will know and be proud of the Church as an institution and of the notable men and women who in all ages have drawn from the Church their finest inspiration. Northwest Progress.

The Rochester Chamber of Commerce is a body of multifarious and varied activities.

The Gorgeous Rhododendron

No Easter shrub excels the Rhododendron for magnificence. We have fine specimens in delficate lavender and rose tints. H. P. Neun, 9 North St., and P. Neun, 9 North St., and West Main St., in Hotel Rochester.