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Priest Arrested at "Ex-Romanist" L. J. King's Lecture.

[Rev. Jas. H. Steinbrunner, in
Toledo Record, April 23.]

For the third time in eight months the notorious faker, self-styled ex-priest and ex-Romanist, L. J. King, of Toledo, gave an exhibition of his diabolical buffoonery at Sherwood, Ohio, during the last few days.

I closed a series of seven lectures at the town hall last Saturday night and the same evening hard bills were distributed by King's agents announcing his return for three nights and a matinee performance, April 20, 21 and 22. Without permission or provocation on my part, but solely no doubt for advertising purposes, my name was used on the hand bills with the general invitation for all Catholics and Protestants to attend. I determined to face him on the last night and with the Rev. Father Plummins, of Defiance, and about eight other Catholic men gained admission after paying our way into the hall shortly before the orgies began.

When we entered, King sat at a table robed in what was supposed to be a priest's cassock and Roman collar, with a large crucifix attached to a cord around his neck and tucked into a belt from which also a pair of rosary beads were dangling. An altar draped in black with covered chalice, six candles and a large cross stood prepared in the rear of the stage.

In the course of his remarks, King repeatedly stated that he had been a Catholic for twenty-five years, confessed his sins to a drunken priest, took communion and was confirmed in the Catholic Church. Also that he is an ex-priest and with another, whose name he mentioned, the only genuine ex-priest in the country who is married. His blasphemous statements concerning the blessed Eucharist provoked a young Catholic lady, a Miss Schneider, of Defiance, who was present with her father, to contradict him publicly. I was biding my time, noting some of his outrageous statements about priests and sisters, convents and supposed immoralities existing therein, also as time went on and he grew bolder, some very insulting remarks directed at me personally.

Finally after a tirade of about an hour and one-half, during which he would whoop and shout, clap his hands and cry the air, stamp his feet and cry defiance in fact carried on like a maniac, charging much and proving nothing—he left the stage a second time. It was then that I stepped toward the center of the hall, called him by name and asked for a hearing to answer his lying charges. He tried to howl me down. I insisted and demanded a hearing, but no! Then I appealed to the audience for permission to answer his charges only to receive the same reply, a defiant no! With that I said:

"Well, ladies and gentlemen, if you will not permit me to answer this man, I will say no more, but leave the hall. Let there be no disturbance."

There was quite a commotion and a crowd of ruffians blocked the door and would not let me pass. Things were near a riot for a while with no provocation whatsoever on my part or any Catholic present, except that I had asked for a hearing. It seems that trouble was looked for and when others caused no disturbance King's sympathizers brought it about themselves. I was not permitted to leave the hall, the doors being barred and guarded, so I quietly returned to my chair.

For an hour and a half longer we were compelled to listen to King's lying diatribes and insults offered not only to Catholics in general and to priests and sisters in particular but to every decent man and woman that happened to be present. He then staged his blasphemous mockery of the Mass and supposed Carmelite investiture of a nun and making of her vows, burying her alive and her tortures in a convent dungeon. During the last scene all lights in

the hall were turned out except one on the stage where the lower part of the supposed Catholic altar served as a dungeon and whence the screams of a woman mingled with sighs and groans were heard to express her tortured tortures. Six others, men or women I know not, were disguised and played the part of nuns during the performance.

The climax came when the audience was ready for dismissal. It seems that some 30 or 40 patriotic (?) sympathizers had been deputized if necessary. These in fact caused all the trouble. They had knocked down the town marshal and thrown him out of the hall bodily, a man about 60 years old. After some whispering between King and one of his traveling companions, the foul-mouthed champion of the prince of darkness called out from the stage:

"Yes, yes, arrest all the disturbers of the meeting. Ladies will wait till the men have left the hall."

That was the last I saw or heard of King. And with that six preservers of the peace (?) pounced down upon Miss Schneider, violently took her from the hall and locked her up in a cell. Then they returned and laid hands on me saying that I was under arrest. I protested, but received no explanation whatsoever. The Mayor, a shoe man by name of Miller, immediately had us released and apologized for all that happened. I am convinced that the last incidents were nothing else but a ruse to distract the attention of those present and give time for King to get away, which he did in a waiting automobile heavily guarded.

Filial Respect in Japan

Fr. Relave, P. F. M., sends this little story illustrative of the value placed on parental respect in Japan:

"In the time when feudal lords, or daimyo, held sway in Japan, one of these individuals was returning on a certain occasion from Tokyo (then called Yeddo), when he met a man carrying an aged woman on his back.

"The lord acknowledged the respectful salutation of the man, and asked him who he was and why he was carrying such a burden.

"I am," said the individual humbly, a farmer living in your province, and this is my mother. She is old and has not long to live, but before she died she wished to see your lordship once more and offer you her respects. That is why I have carried her here upon my back."

"The daimyo was so touched by this exhibition of filial piety that he made him a valuable present.

"Some time after this episode the same lord met another man also carrying his mother upon his back, who made him the same speech in explanation of his eccentricity. The servant of the daimyo warned his master that the man was not moved by love for his mother, but rather by a hope of receiving a gift. But the master replied: 'This person is perhaps not honest in his intention, nevertheless outwardly he is giving an example of filial devotion; therefore I shall reward his worthy action. And he bestowed an alms, as he had done in the first case.'"

At the recent election of a new General of the Society of Jesus, Father Malbone was confirmed in office for the General's Italian assistant; Father Oppenals for his German assistant; Father Fine for his French; Father Barachina for his Spanish; and Father Walmsley for his English. A few weeks ago, an American assistant was appointed.

A French prisoner wrote to Emperor William asking his permission to return to France to see his dying mother. The Emperor at once granted his request. After her death he returned to the detention camp in Germany.

There are no less than 105 Catholic publications in the small kingdom of Holland.

Consequences of Drought in Africa.

* Lack of rain, with its attendant evil, famine, is always a terrible affliction for a country from natural reasons. In Africa it has also had other serious consequences.

In former times it caused a great increase of slavery. Men sold their own children to procure a little basket of millet or potatoes. Unlucky the women who risked going alone into the brush away from the villages! They were often seized by marauders, who sold them as slaves in exchange for a little food, to trafficking strangers, come into the country to profit by its famine and misery.

During a similar time of extraordinary drought, our negroes laid the blame on their king, one of whose principal duties is to "make" rain by means of incantations and sacrifices. They urged him to sacrifice himself, they reproached him, they threatened him.

It was not uncommon, before the European occupation, for civil war to break out on account of the lack of rain, and the petty kings, considered incapable and ignorant, were de throne.

Often, to get out of a difficulty, they would pretend to discover that a certain person whom they would point out had deprived them of their power. This victim was declared "robber" of rain. They would cry "haro" on him who caused the evil, and the king would turn off on this unfortunate being, for a time at least, popular vengeance.

The missionaries themselves were sometimes accused, more or less openly, of stopping the rain when it would have hurt their enterprises,—for example, when they were building a house.

Foreign Mission News

A terrible massacre of Christians has taken place in Persia. With the permission of the Turkish troops, the Kurds have killed about eight hundred Armenians and Syrians. This happened at Salmas. It is also reported that the Catholic mission in Urumiah City has been attacked and forty men shot. It is not yet known whether any of the native priests were massacred or not. Ambassador Morgenthau sent orders to Urumiah to protect the Christians, but the message did not arrive in time to save the victims. It is feared that unless intervention comes very soon the Syrians and Armenians will be exterminated.

By a decree of the Propaganda an Apostolic Prefecture has been established in the Zambesi district of Rhodesia; it has been entrusted to the Jesuits, who have been working there since 1879.

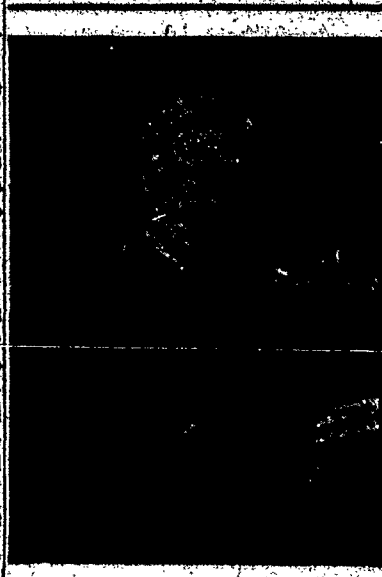
Among other sad results of the war the historic monastery on Mount Carmel is closed, and the Carmelite Fathers have left the Holy Land. The French and Italian monks have gone to Italy and the Spaniards have returned to the houses of their order in Spain.

Bishop de Guebriand, Vicar Apostolic of Kien-Tchay, says that since the beginning of the war not a single Mass stipend has reached him; eleven of his priests have departed, and he fears that the entire mission will be wiped out, as it is only newly founded and needs fostering care. He asks pecuniary help, good counsel, or even a prayer.

The catechist is necessary in all mission countries, but he is especially so in Japan, where the language forms one of the great difficulties for the apostle. It has been said that one must live twenty years in Japan before one can speak the language fluently. Therefore the native assistant who can address the people understandingly and who is familiar with their manifold forms of politeness is of inestimable value. One perpetual membership will support a catechist six months in Japan.

Bishop Colton of Buffalo Dead.

Buffalo, May 9.—Rev. Charles Henry Colton, bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Buffalo, died at 9:44 o'clock Sunday night at the episcopal residence, 1035 Delaware Avenue, from uræmic coma. He was 67 years old.



Rt. Rev. Charles Henry Colton, D. D.

Bishop Colton's death was due indirectly to tremendous and constant overwork, much of which has been occasioned recently by executing plans for the dedication of the new million dollar St. Joseph's Cathedral, just completed at Delaware Avenue and Utica street, in commemoration of his silver jubilee as bishop here. Mr. Baker said that the dedication of the edifice which was set for May 31, would be postponed indefinitely.

The prelate's death followed an illness of little more than sixteen hours.

Shortly before he lapsed into unconsciousness he turned to Monsignor Baker and said: "I shall be all right after a little rest. I don't think I am very ill."

Dr. Harry H. Eberhart, Joseph Burke and Allen H. Jones were in almost constant attendance upon the bishop. Shortly after 9 o'clock the physicians decided to hold a conference and retired to the bishop's office. As he left the room, Dr. Burke told Monsignor Baker: "The bishop should receive the last sacrament."

The ceremony was performed by Monsignor Baker, who also gave the prelate the last blessing. The doctors had scarcely left the room when Chancellor Thomas J. Walsh of the Buffalo diocese, who had not left the bishop's bedside through the day, noted that the prelate was sinking.

The doctor hurried to the bedside, reaching there just in time to see the patient's breath his last. Charles Henry Colton was born in New York in October, 1848. He was ordained in New York on June 10, 1876. Practically all his service until 1903 was in St. Stephen's parish, New York city, first as an assistant to the late Father McGlynn and later as the rector of the parish.

He was consecrated bishop of Buffalo on August 24, 1908, succeeding Bishop Quigley, who had been raised to the archbishopric of Chicago. He is survived by one sister, Miss Josephine Colton.

His Holiness converted Castel Gandolfo, a Papal residence a few miles from Rome into an asylum for children orphaned by the earthquake.

In the Sacred College of Cardinals and belonging to the Roman Curia, are two brothers, both aged and among the most distinguished and meritorious Cardinals; both have filled responsible diplomatic positions. They are Cardinals Vincent and Serafino Vannutelli. The former is 78 years old; the latter about 70 years.

James M. Wilson, a non-Catholic, bequeathed \$5,000 to the Sisters of the Good Shepherd in Denver.

The new Holy Cross school at Lexington, Ky., cost \$36,000.

News from Ireland

The Rochester Central Council of the Catholic Relief and Beneficence Association gave an informal dinner Wednesday evening at the Coburn House for its supreme officers. Nelligan's Orchestra played. About 150 persons were present. The dinner hall was decorated with palms. The singing of psalms and popular songs was enjoyed between courses.

M. G. Langan of Scranton, Pa., supreme president of the organization, headed the speaker's list. He spoke of the growth of the C. R. and B. A. in the past year, and referred to the initiation of the class of 100 candidates in Buffalo by the supreme officers Tuesday. President Langan is on a visiting tour to councils in New York state, in Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan.

Others introduced by Trustmaster Rev. George V. Burns, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, were Supreme Medical Examiner James V. Sheehan, of Syracuse; Supreme Trustee, J. F. Buckley of Scranton; Thomas F. Horan, of Pittsburgh; Mrs. Mary Flynn of Council 90, Buffalo and Rev. J. Emil Gellert, pastor of St. Peter and Paul's church; Rev. W. Byrne and Rev. James T. Wood of Corpus Christi church.

The arrangements committee for the dinner was as follows: Chairman, Edward J. Ryan, J. E. McKenna, Mrs. William Bruckel and J. A. Hamm.

Gift to Frank J. Schwab

The staff officers of the First Regiment, Knights of St. John, Wednesday evening presented to their colonel, City Assessor Frank J. Schwab, a two-carat diamond scarf pin. The presentation was made at a dinner at the Powers Hotel in honor of Mr. Schwab's tenth anniversary as commanding officer of the regiment.

The dinner and gift were a surprise to Mr. Schwab, who went to the hotel on the invitation of one of the staff officers. There he found his staff in uniform, standing about the banquet table. The pin was presented by Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph H. Weis.

Mgr. Jarlin, Vicar Apostolic of Peking, was entrusted with autograph letters from Pope Benedict XV. to the President of the Chinese Republic. The Bishop was received by the President with all the ceremony accorded foreign ministers.

On the "Little St. Bernard" hospice near Aosta, Northern Italy, at an altitude of 6,930 feet, is a remarkable botanical garden, in which are grown the mountain flora of the Alps, the Pyrenees, the Himalayas, Balkans, Carpathians, Caucasus and the mountains of America, Japan and New Zealand.

In New York, a court decided against permitting entry, free of duty, of stained or painted glass windows. Many churches are affected by this decision, which will be carried to the U. S. Court of Customs Appeals.

A young man named Edward Stewart Merrill, 31 years of age, Buffalo, was the victim of a fatal accident on the main road from Buffalo to Niagara on the evening of the 8th inst.

Lady Macaughan was elected a member of Ballinacorney Board of Guardians on April 8.

The late Mrs. M. Starr, Carrickfergus, died possessed of personal property valued at \$4,725.

On April 8, at the Bridgeway Convent, Tully, the Golden Jubilee of Sister Teresa Hughes was being joyfully celebrated. Her Lordship Most Rev. Dr. O'Connell presided at the ceremonies. A large number of clergy and friends attended.

Edward Thomas, 19 years of age, Carlow, a soldier in the British army, was killed recently in the front.

At Cork, on April 8, a well-known named Concert Band suddenly broke out for a walk.

John Logan and Hugh Mac... have been added to the list of magistrates for the county of Down.

The death is announced of William Colbourn, proprietor of the "Londonderry Sentinel."

John Montgomery, of Carrick, died suddenly a short time ago.

The Downfall Guardians at their last meeting appointed Mrs. Margaret Fenny, Ballinacorney, as nurse for the Downfall Dispensary, in place of Mrs. ...

The late J. W. Cleland, of Carrick, left estate valued at \$12,000 to his brother James.

Dr. J. J. Morry has been appointed medical officer for the Factory and Workhouse for the Downpatrick district of County Down.

Owing to the stoppage of the Imperial Grant only half the usual weekly supply of coal was supplied to the National League, Dublin.

The Father Matthew Hall was opened in the Hall, Church street, Dublin, on April 4.

The death of Thomas McKelvey, Irvinestown, occurred recently.

Mrs. Delany, Loughrea, Antrim, died on hearing that her son, who had joined the British army, had been killed in action.

William John Foley, Tralee, was a successful candidate at the examination for assistant surveyors held by the Local Government Board on February 3 and 10th.

The Athy Guardians have extended sympathy to the widow and family of the late M. Keenan, R. D. O., Ballyroe, Athy.

A farm consisting of about 20 Irish acres, belonging to Mrs. P. Kelly, Clonmaha, near Monaghan, was bought by George Warrall, Athill, Monaghan, for \$3,650.

Two sudden deaths have occurred at Limerick: James Lyden was found dead in bed, and Margaret Tuttle collapsed on arrival in her home.

The chief inspector of factories has appointed Dr. M. J. Hawley to be certifying surgeon under the Factory and Workhouse Acts for the Ballinacorney district of the County of Mayo.

Mr. Hale, postmaster, Castlebar, has been transferred on promotion to the general post office, Dublin.

Henry McDonnell, of Tullamore, Stewartstown, was found dead in his home a short time ago.

The late Monsignor Benson's estate is valued at about \$30,000.