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Friday, December 10, 1915.

Quite True.

Speaking about crusaders to "mind everybody's business but our own" the Rochester Herald aptly says:

Well, one trouble lies in these crusades themselves. The crusade is itself just one of our disreputable flim-flam games. Analyze one to the bottom, and you will find more of the spirit of graft in it than you will find in almost any business that crusaders attack. Crusades are invented to provide jobs and sinecures for a lot of people without other means of support. They are engineered by charlatans, nine times out of ten. We could write a book on this subject, and we could call names. We shall not call the names, and probably we shall never write the book, but we will advise our readers to shun a crusade as they would shun a plague which had broken out in the community. Indeed, a crusade is a plague, worse than any of the ten which beset the Egyptians, for unlike them it cannot be terminated by sending away a few aliens. Our alien population is our chief defense against the crusade, which thrives as a rule, only among native-born Americans.

Strongly Justified.

Rev. J. Harding Fisher in "America" lays down the real crux of the discussion over the Chicago physician's claim that Society has a right to destroy defective children when he says:

Plato declared that children are the property of the State, and are to be preserved or sacrificed as State interests demand. The neglect of the defective child in Chicago is simply a repetition of what was done in old pagan Greece and Rome, and of what obtains today in China and other pagan States.

To this view of society, the Christian idea is irreconcilably opposed. Man is not a chattel of the State, he does not exist primarily for the State. The contrary is true. Catholics do not and cannot admit that the State forms a moral person, which is an end in itself, and which has for its ultimate good its own preservation and evolution into something a little more perfect. We are not State idolaters; we deny that individual members of the State are only "so many links in the historical evolution of humanity." The end of society is the promotion of the common good, to be understood according to the law of God. The individuals who compose society have certain natural rights which are inalienable and others which can be forfeited only by crime. Among the latter is the right to life. As long as an individual does not forfeit his right to life, he cannot be lawfully deprived of life either positively or negatively, that is,

he may not be executed or denied such needed succor as can be given him.

Defective babies are human beings, and they have not forfeited their right to life by any voluntary criminal act. They cannot, therefore, be lawfully exposed to death or surgical aid such medical or surgical aid as they may stand in need of. And this is true even where they give no present hope of ever ceasing to be defective. To deny them such aid merely because they are likely or certain to be a burden to the State is too brutal a proposal to deserve consideration.

Somewhat Queer.

There appears to be a peculiar trend of public sentiment, or is it clever press agent work to make it appear to be public sentiment?

We refer to the persistent insinuations that all public men are grafters and to the seeming public insistence that only self-advertisers are the men eligible to hold public office. The provisions in law that no man who may have invested his savings in securities of any railroad, fighting or power corporation may be a public service commissioner unless he first disposes of these securities, no matter if he sell them at a loss or merely executes a fake transfer to his wife, brother or confidential secretary, tend to bar successful men, who would make of ideal public service commissioners and opens the way for men who are long on theory and self-advertising but long on performance and practical experience. The savage attacks upon Public Service Commissioner McCall, nine times out of ten, once investigated and exonerated by the same legislative Committee making the second onslaught, and the Governor are another indication that there is an accelerated public sentiment abroad that intends public servants shall be responsive to popular clamor rather than to their conscience and their oath of office.

If this continues and public servants are subjected to one legislative investigation after another rather than permitted to perform their duties without interference, is there not possibility that we will find our public officials a set of mediocre men who are more intent upon retention of their jobs than upon returning service to the public.

Feasible.

There has been much discussion of a desultory nature relative to improvement of the Catholic press of the United States. Many there are who have agitated for Catholic dailies without adequate knowledge or conception about the magnitude of the task or the enormous and prohibitive expense thereof.

Others have talked as though they would like to abolish half of all the Catholic weeklies and strengthen those that would be left. The trouble with that plan is: Who would have the power to make selection, to separate the sheep from the goats, to decide which weekly went to the limelight.

Well, Thomas Watson is in the limelight. Robert L. Phalen, editor of the Casket says "It is better for a Catholic home to have the poorest Catholic paper in the world than no Catholic paper at all" and we heartily and unqualifiedly concur.

Our opponents are fond of quoting Scripture when by so doing they can bolster up their cause or think they can. But when we prove by scriptural quotation the Divine commission to the Catholic Church to teach all nations, then, our opponents retort that Christ never said what the Scriptures say He did or, any way, He didn't intend to be understood that way!

religious, and a corps of experienced readers would peruse them carefully, not only for favorable but unfavorable mention of the Church and her individual members. This could be digested, summarized and forwarded to all the Catholic papers of the country. Unfavorable material could be answered and refuted in a similar manner.

This plan of a central cooperative news distributing bureau is not new. It has been tried out several times. In fact, we believe that such a bureau is running now on a hap-hazard basis, suffering chiefly from lack of funds. To carry on a Catholic Associated Press Association costs money and a considerable sum, too. Half a dozen wealthy Catholic laymen could not hit upon a better way to help the Church and to confront our enemies than to contribute a few thousand dollars apiece to finance such a cooperative Catholic news bureau until it had achieved a record and until the Catholic weekly press be able to support such a bureau out of its own funds.

This plan, as we have stated, in our opinion is feasible and practical. Who will head the list of contributors or subscribers to the Catholic News Bureau, Unlimited? Why not a Rochesterian? Rev. Father FitzSimons, M. R., of St. Mary's parish, is to be congratulated upon recent improvement in men and additions to the edifice which make St. Mary's interior a beautiful example of correct ecclesiastical architecture.

The beautiful snow appears to have arrived at last. One burning question for the Henry Ford pacifists to settle on the way across the ocean: whether or not any member of the party shall be permitted to disturb Dr. Pease's equanimity by smoking tobacco.

German interference in the United States or Mexico will not be tolerated. As to interferers of other nationalities—their case will be reserved for deliberate consideration, ultimate decision and action—possibly in 1918.

Has Henry Ford a foreign peace at all cost publicity agent? Some alleged cable despatches read not unlike the output of the United States Ford press bureau.

It is well to think carefully before rushing into print or publication. Inside of a month the Legislature of 1916 will be grinding out its annual grist of statutes to regulate our every act and doing.

Why these persistent and bitter onslaughts on the Public Service Commissions and the State Industrial Commission?

If ever a strong, virile Catholic press were needed in the United States now is the time.

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The Catholic Journal would make a good Xmas gift.

Wouldn't the Kiddies Be Happy to Get a Pair of These?



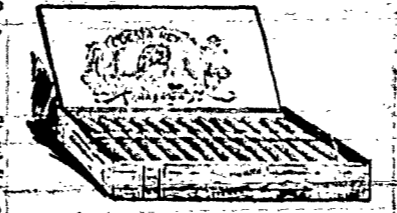
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PIPES—French Briar 25c and upwards. Imported Block Meerschau 33 and upwards. Long German pipes with Weitzelwood stems 50c to \$1.75. Also B. B. B.
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HUMIDORS—A fine line to choose from \$1.50 to \$8.00.
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A comparison of quality and price will undoubtedly decide you in our favor, WHERE THE SELECTION IS LARGEST AT

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A most acceptable gift is a Glove Certificate which enables the recipient to select his or her gloves. Oftentimes one doesn't know the exact size or the desired shade, so by purchasing these certificates this is alleviated.

The glove rush is on; it seems, everybody wants to give a pair of Burke's Gloves. Our reputation for quality and style is well known.

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Heavy walking Gloves with one clasp, prix seams, tan gunmetal. \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$2.00.
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Boys' one-clasp cape Gloves in tan, unlined or silk-lined, also silk lined gray mocha Gloves. \$1.00.
Wool Gloves for boys and girls in wrist length and extra arm-lengths. 25c and up.

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Toy Department on 5th Floor.
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The original metal building toy. The one with the most interchangeable parts, the one that builds the most models.
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