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The Assault On Marriage And The Family.

Radical Ideas Put Forward In Name of Ethics and Morality.

Ethel Clews Parsons and Margaret Sanger.

How often will it have to be declared that radicalism is sinking into the very heart of our national life? America, so much in need today of healthful energy and vigor, is absorbing more and more the poisons of ruinous, destroying doctrines. In a quiet, insidious way—and yet with brazen effrontery enough have these ideas crept into the very lives of the people, vitally affecting their actions. There is no institution, no matter how fundamental or sacred, which has escaped the assaults of these "modern" schemes for the betterment of man and woman kind. Even the marital relation and the family, so essential to a well ordered society, have not been allowed to pass by without destructive "reconstruction" and amendment; rather has this basic relationship, in fact, been the shining mark for the attacks of the upheavals.

The latest issue of the International Journal of Ethics furnishes us with evidence on this score. (Vol. xxvi, No. 2.) "When Mating and Parenthood are Theoretically Distinguished" runs the title to the article which gives us our theme, and Mrs. Ethel Clews Parsons, the radical writer on these subjects, is the author. In the same periodical in June of last year Mrs. Parsons stated her views on marital relations and in the present instance she expands on those ideas. Mrs. Parsons would certainly turn marriage topsy turvy, if she had her way, or rather she would wish it out of existence altogether.

There would be no public recognition of the marital relationship; indeed, there would be no such relationship at all in the way we understand it. Parenthood would be publicly recognized in its stead. Parents' certificates would take the place of marriage certificates, such certificates to be issued only to those who would make fit parents; that is, "fit" according to the ideas of the state, whatever that might be. Illegitimacy, as we understand it today, would be done away with. There would be no stigma attached to birth outside of wedlock, for the latter would be really non-existent. "Illegitimacy" will refer to the parents only—under this wonderful scheme, "not to the offspring, and to the former in so far as they shirk their responsibility to their offspring and the state." For instance, "parents of an improper age or otherwise physically defective, uncertified parents will be accounted illegitimate." "Responsible motherhood," based on the idea that "the state cannot afford to search for paternity," will be ushered in. Maternity premiums will be substituted for dowers. "Greater economic responsibility will attach to women and they will have proportionally greater freedom of maternity. To men as well as women parenthood will become a more voluntary and therefore a more significant enterprise."

Revolting ideas, put forward in the name of ethics and morality, products of a new and disgustingly refined paganism! Mrs. Parsons, the exponent of these doctrines, is one of those leaders of the modern woman's emancipation movement whom Mrs. Margaret Sanger, in the New York Call of February 27th, sets down as examples of those who have practiced birth control. Mrs. Sanger, it will be remembered, is the prophetess of the birth control movement in America. "A considerable number of our leaders," she writes in her article on "Woman and Her Fight for Birth Control," "have married and become mothers. But they have had small families. Olive Schreiner, Ellen Key, Annie Besant, Mrs. Havelock Ellis, Mme. Curie and Emeline Pankhurst illustrate this

point in Europe. In America we have Dr. Anna Shaw, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, Mrs. Harriet Stanton Blatch, Mrs. Anita C. Block, Mrs. Elsie Clews Parsons, Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Gilman, and Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, none of whom are the mothers of large families." A roll of honor, Mrs. Sanger considers it, though others will think very differently—those who have a hold on the old, stable morality, based on the law of God.

"In the last analysis," the champion of the artificial control of birth says, "the fight for birth control is a woman's fight. It has been started by woman for her benefit and freedom." Which reminds us very forcibly that in the fight against radicalism and its deceitful doctrines the conservative Catholic woman has no small part to play. By her example must she continue to condemn the false theories of irresponsibility which are becoming in practice more and more in evidence. When she can, too, must she assert her voice and influence against these damaging principles, which in the end spell unhappiness and a decaying nation. Among the people also in social work must she go to prevent the inculcation of these ideas among them and to endeavor in the way which is hers to bring about changes in conditions which will make the tendency to these practices less marked and pressing. This is work for her to deeply consider. It is the true woman's movement for the welfare of her sex and of the social whole.

C. B. of C. V.

Knights of Columbus to Build Clubhouse.

Council 178, Knights of Columbus decided at a meeting Monday night to exercise its option on the Schuyler property in Main street east between North Union and Alexander streets. On this site, which has a frontage of 120 feet, will be built a fine club house, as soon as plans can be perfected.

Although little is definitely decided, the general sentiment is for a three-story structure of substantial architecture. There will be ample room for all the activities of the council with facilities for bowling and swimming. There will be billiard and pool rooms, baths, a gymnasium, reception hall, reading room and assembly hall. The building will cost about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

The local council was organized twenty years ago and now has a membership of 1,000. For eight years it has occupied the upper floor of the Triangle building. The fund for the new home was started in 1907. William F. Shafer, grand knight, presided at the meeting. It will be a year before the new club house is ready for occupancy.

Weekly Church Calendar

Second Sunday in Lent.

Gospel, St. Matt. xvii, 1-9.

S. 19. St. Joseph, Spouse of Our Lady.

M. 20. St. Cyril of Jerusalem, B. C. D.

T. 21. St. Benedict, Ab.

W. 22. St. Catharine of Genoa, W.

Th. 23. St. Victorian, M.

F. 24. The Spear and the Nails.

S. 25. Annunciation of Our Lady.

About 800 priests are under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Chicago, and about 1060 under that of the Archbishop of New York.

Ephraim Francis Baldwin, the architect who designed the original buildings of the Catholic University at Washington and the Cathedral of Savannah, died at Baltimore recently, aged seventy-eight years.

At the mass-meeting in Richmond, Va., for the purpose of raising funds with which to succor the destitute and suffering Jews, Bishop O'Connell was one of the speakers.

St. Patrick's Day March Seventeenth.



GAELIC SOCIETY DINNER

The Gaelic Society of Rochester has announced that more than five hundred tickets have been sold for the fifth annual banquet to be held at the Powers Hotel on Friday evening at 6:30 o'clock.

The speakers at Friday night's dinner will be Francis Cullen, of Watertown, and Thomas A. Kirby of Albion. President Love will be toastmaster. There will be plenty of entertainment, among the numbers being the following: E. J. Ryan, of Victor, songs; Walter Herring, songs; Roy Miller, stories; Walter Edward Burke, songs; Mary Sullivan and Jack O'Brien, child entertainers in costume, several stunts and other features.

The following Reception Committee were named: John Curtin, Maurice J. Murphy, Matthew J. Murphy, James C. Quinn, Anthony McGreal, William T. Farrell, F. L. O'Loughlin, Charles Howe, James E. Ryan, L. A. MacSweeney, C. E. Callahan and B. F. Dunn.

Rt. Rev. C. W. Currier, D. D., has been re-elected president of the Spanish-American Atheneum.

An Amarrmoth pageant entitled "Yesterday and Today" will be given in Boston by the Ladies' Catholic Club. More than 600 people will take part; also singers to the number of 150.

Louisiana is the only state in the United States that observes All Saints' day as a legal holiday.

A high school structure costing approximately \$150,000 to care for practically all of Cleveland's Catholic high school pupils on the East Side is to be built this spring by St. Ignatius' College.

A Word About The Assumptionists.

We have often printed letters from the Augustinians of the Assumption located at Gallipoli and Karagatch, who suffered so severely in the past Turkish and Armenian troubles as well as now, and it may be of interest to know that this Congregation was founded in France in 1843, chiefly for the purpose of combatting the schisms of the East. In its days of prosperity not less than 300 priests and brothers and 400 nuns were distributed through the Orient in thirty regular stations.

In order to make their work more fruitful among the Orientals, some of the Fathers, with the permission of the Holy See, joined the Greek Rite, so that in four of their churches in the East the priests perform the Sacred Offices according to the Greek liturgy.

Among the Assumptionists at Constantinople were some celebrated Oriental scholars, and their review, "Echoes of the Orient," attracted much attention.

The new Bishop of El Paso, Texas, Msgr. Schuler, confirmed 1,000 persons on a recent visitation.

The Archbishop of Cincinnati and the Bishop of Toledo each contributed \$100 towards the purchase of a new piano for Mt. St. Mary's Seminary.

Sister Mary Dolores, for more than forty years a nun of the Order of Mercy, died recently in Mercy Hospital, Chicago.

Father Bernard Vaughan, S. J., says the best equipped fighting man, spiritually and morally, on the globe is the Irish soldier.

Foreign Mission News

Special correspondence by The Propagation of the Faith Society, 318 Lexington Ave., New York City.

"The missionaries would like to have no debts but the debts of gratitude they owe to kind friends."

The Holy See has appointed Mgr. J. V. M. Rouchouse, P. F. M., Vicar Apostolic of Sutchuen, Northwest China, and Mgr. Emmanuel Prat, O. P., Vicar Apostolic of Amoy, China.

Perhaps Catholic Societies will take a timely hint from this item: "Philadelphia's Daughters of Isabella have sent five dollars to Sister Marie de Lourdes, China, to secure baptism for a Chinese waif and have it named Isabella."

We are getting many grateful prayers from those who receive our alms, and blessings will surely follow in their wake. A Sister of Charity in Wenchow says: "The baptism of catechumens has begun and I own to endeavoring to secure their first prayers for our benefactors." A priest in India who is keeping open his schools by American assistance writes: "My little pupils, who profit every day by the kindness of their distant friends, add to their prayers during Mass, a special invocation for benefactors of the mission."

Fr. Patuel, P. F. M., has charge of a hospital in Thank-Hoa, Annam, which is crowded with the sick. He has more patients than dollars, and sends a cry for help across the ocean: "In my helplessness to do better I pray for my benefactors and have the sick people pray for them. It is our only means of showing our deep gratitude for favors hitherto received."

The missions in Corea are among those in dire distress. Mgr. Demange, writing from Taikou, says that his resources are so much diminished that he fears ruin for many of his works. He relies largely upon the funds sent him by the Propagation of the Faith Society and beseeches friends of the apostolate to increase their donations, so that the difficult field of Corea may not cease to bring forth spiritual fruit.

Get In Touch With The Missions.

It will give an added interest to your life, especially if you are leading a quiet or secluded existence, to get in touch with the foreign missions—to feel that you are a personal factor in that stupendous task which the Church has set for herself, namely, the bringing of all the children of the earth to the fold of Christ.

But the greatness of the task need discourage no one, or make him sensitive lest the part he can play is too small. From the penny in the mite-box to the giving of oneself as a missionary there are many stages, and it is easy to choose the most appropriate and then set to work.

For The Holy Season of Lent.

Conscientious Catholic people usually abstain from pleasures during the penitential season of Lent. It is an act of self-sacrifice pleasing to Almighty God and meritorious in His sight. But if the money saved by these sacrifices and penances were given to spread the Faith and save souls, the act would be doubly meritorious and receive a double reward and do double good. A most efficient way to help in this pious campaign would be to send for mite-box and drop into its ever-open mouth the sum usually spent on candy, cigars, movies and theaters.

In France there are 1,340 parishes without pastors.

News From Ireland

Carlow.

M. Sheil has purchased from James W. Byrne, his Bagenalstown residence, situated in the Market square, and is expending a very considerable sum in bringing the shop and house up-to-date. When completed, it will be one of the finest and most extensive premises in the county.

Married—January 26, at the Pro-Cathedral, Marlborough St., by Rev. John Murray, P. P., Arles, assisted by Rev. J. Mooney, P. P., Graignamanagh, and Rev. P. Gorry, P. P., Tinryland, James, second son of the late A. O'Donnell, Curagh House, Goresbridge, County Kilkenny, to Angela, eldest daughter of James Dowling, Linkardstown, Carlow.

The feast day of St. Mogue (or Aiden) born on the Island of Port, parish of Templeport, County Cavan, was January 31. The people of the county place great reliance on the intercession of the saint, who was first Bishop of Ferns, being consecrated in the year 598.

The West Clare Teachers' association at their last meeting, adopted a vote of sympathy and condolence with J. T. Lillis, Querrin, N. S., on the death of his son, James, who was a promisee of their distant friends, add to their prayers during Mass, a special invocation for benefactors of the mission.

Married—At St. Joseph's, R. C. church, Limerick, by Rev. J. Smyth, C. C., Newmarket-on-Fergus, Martin, sixth son of the late David Walsh, Killernan, Miltover, Malbay, to Mary, only daughter of the late Timothy O'Brien, Ballyvannion House, Tomraganey, County Clare.

P. Lynch has been elected president of the Cork Trades Council; D. Kelly, vice president; J. O'Sullivan, treasurer, and J. Good, secretary.

Miss Johanna Agnes Murphy, Cloughleaflin House, Mitchelstown, sister of P. S. Murphy, solicitor, has passed the pharmaceutical final. She served her apprenticeship with E. McSweeney, Cork.

Walter Turner, J. P., having retired after representing the Allan Line for 40 years in Derry, the shipping and commercial community have presented him with an illustrated address and a silver rose bowl and silver salver.

P. J. Ward, B. A., L. L. B., Killybegs, who served his apprenticeship with Messrs. Henry & Son, Dublin, has been admitted a solicitor. He will practice at Donegal and Killybegs.

Married—At Burren Catholic church, the marriage has taken place of Owen Carvill (son of Patrick Carvill, builder and contractor, Ballydesland, Warrington) and Miss M. McLaughlin, daughter of James McLaughlin, mill owner, Milltown.

The death has occurred at Ballynascue of J. J. O'Shaughnessy, L. P., one of the oldest magistrates in the district.

Married—February 2, at the Universal church, Stephens' Green, Dublin, by the Very Rev. Canon Houlihan, assisted by the Rev. Father Ivers Herbert O'Driscoll O'Sullivan, Western Union Cable Service, Valencia Island, to Margaret Josephine, second daughter of Mrs. Margaret Houlihan, Dingle, Kerry.

At a meeting of the Longford Urban Council, J. P. Farrell, M. P., was unanimously re-elected chairman for the coming year, and Francis McGinness, J. P., vice chairman.

Married—At the Pro-Cathedral, Marlborough street, Dublin (with nuptial Mass), by the Rev. J. G. Reilly, C. C., Mark D. Brady, of Dublin, to Kathleen I. Dolan, of Maryborough, Queens county.

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