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Socialism.

To the Editor:—

Sir: Being desirous of giving expression to a few plain truths, which in themselves, may become helpful to someone whom the case fits, I am asking your indulgence in granting me enough space in your paper to air them. Also, inasmuch that the Catholic Church has seen fit, in some instances, to place itself upon the opponent side of Socialism, I feel that you may be interested in some slight degree, to hear what Socialism the believing in and delving into—has done, not for me, but to me.

I have only recently awakened to a full realization—that I have been pursuing a phantom and while I do not believe myself capable or able to portray the dividing line between Socialism's exact valuation and unworthiness, still, I am only too conversant with the price one must pay who accepts it literally.

I am a non-Catholic, 26 years of age; my travels and a wide range of reading, my associations with many different kinds and classes of people, have carried me into many queer and oft times, interesting places. I had, until lately become imbued with the idea, fallacious to its minutest degree, that I was a good judge of persons and things; I often found myself drawing the dividing line of what I considered right and proper here, and forming comparisons and questioning motives there. For after a man has delved far enough into Socialism to grasp a working knowledge of its subtleties and import, he inevitably becomes the most obnoxious of all pests, viz., a Materialist. He is now an Atheist, a Socialist, a Materialist, an idealist, a theorist, and a thousand other 'isms' whose ego is inflated to some such proportion as that of a Zeppelin dirigible. His sense of perception of the eternal fitness of things is but a distorted vision that may mean anything at all and that leads to no where.

To make a long story short, let me say, I had a very bitter experience this winter: one that I would not care, to go through again for all of Rockefeller's wealth. There was no one, absolutely not a living person who could help me. You Catholics who have your religion, your priests, your God Almighty to turn to when beset by trouble, may appreciate and understand, when I say, I turned to the only thing I knew of—a form of theoretical comparison of whys and wherefores of the exigencies of my particular case, in an endeavor to disentangle and sort out from a maze of conflicting emotions, the wheat from the chaff. Socialism, which had deprived me and obliterated from my scheme of things, of a faith in God, did not help me very much, when I needed help the most.

So you, who read this, if you happen to ever be tempted or have been tempted to inquire into Socialism, what it is, what it means, what it will do for you; take it from one who knows, be chary of even a distant relationship with it. If you desire to lose every illusion, every visionary day-dream of better things, every promise of the higher ideals and finer sensibilities that life can hold forth, then, by all means, take up the study of Socialism and your wish will soon become a realization. And to he, who would tell you that you can be both a Christian and Socialist, to him I say, it is a lie! For Christianity and Socialism conflict and

clash in so many different instances that the mere thought of there being a possible chance of affecting a union of them, becomes ridiculous.

One could continue in this strain indefinitely, but, sufficient to say, when you have exhausted your supply of adjectives, when the forming of fancy phrases have been brought to their great end worth and fulfillment, when all is said and done, you or I would yet be in the early dawn of ever succeeding in depicting an adequate portrayal of the harm that Socialism can do, if given half a chance

H M

Avon Theatre.

The celebrated photo-drama "The Battle Cry of Peace", one of the most remarkable dramas ever produced, which has done as much as anything to awaken this country to the needs of preparedness, will be the big feature at the Avon Theater the coming week. No more vitally interesting film has ever been made than this wonderful picture which ran for so long at the Vitagraph Theater, New York when the prices of \$1.50 and \$2.00 were paid to see it.

A big vaudeville program will be shown in addition to "The Battle Cry of Peace". The feature on the bill will be the musical comedy trio, Lewis, Belmont and Lewis offering one of the finest singing and comedy acts in vaudeville. Lawrence & Edwards will present their little skit entitled "The Pension Office" in which a veteran of the Spanish war meets his father, a veteran of the Civil War. Kennedy & Nelson, two funny pantomimic acrobats and Rose Berry in a song revue will add much to the bill. Ed Ford's song and dance revue in which four girls execute clever dances has been added as a feature.

The Dead Man's Hand.
Charns as cures for sickness were common in England a century ago. Lady Wake, who was born in 1800 tells of a gruesome cure adopted for the removal of some birthmarks which disfigured her face. Her mother was persuaded that "a dead man's hand laid upon my cheek and hands would effectually remove the marks," she writes "As a man could not be killed for the occasion, it was necessary to get an old man to die in the nearest neighborhood, and I was taken there in my sleep. I remember afterward being constantly stopped by the widow, who always examined my cheek in order to ascertain the state of her husband's body, as the marks, she told my nurse, would certainly fade away as he turned into dust. Whatever the cause of the cure the marks in time disappeared."

Gunpowder and Artillery.
There is abundant evidence that the origin of gunpowder and art dates far back in the dim mists of the past. The Hindu code compiled long before the Christian era, prohibited the making of war with cannon and guns of any kind of firearms. Quintus Curtius informs us that Alexander the Great met with fire weapons in Asia, and Philostratus says that Alexander's conquests were arrested by the use of gunpowder. It is also written that those wise men who lived in the cities of the Ganges overthrew their enemies with tempests and thunderbolts shot from the walls."

Ball That Hit Napoleon.
There tests in the Paris museum the grape-shot ball which struck Napoleon before Ratisbon, April 23, 1809. The bullet, which caused but a trifling flesh wound, was picked up by an officer and treasured by him and his descendants until one finally gave it to the institution, where it is now on view. That was the great Bonaparte's only wound.

St. Michael's.

Sunday morning at the 7:30 o'clock mass the members of the Young Ladies' Sodality and all the young ladies of the parish are invited to receive Holy Communion in a body.

The requiem masses for this week were for Elizabeth Metzger, Elizabeth Rauber, Joseph Assman, John Bloomer, Gertrude Eisenhauer, Ludwig Bloeder, Elizabeth and Jacob Klein and Joseph Bauman.

The funeral of Charles Servatius took place Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock, aged 30 years. Besides his mother he leaves one brother John and five sisters, Mrs. Catharine Meyers, Mrs. Caroline Bradford, Mrs. Mary Trenkler, Mrs. Teresa Schiel and Mrs. Florence Kister.

The funeral of Mrs. Dora Frish took place Thursday morning at 9 o'clock.

The members of Branch 104, L. C. B. A., will hold a Pedro party, Thursday evening, May 14th.

Holy Redeemer.

The funeral of Mrs. T. Muelhauser Peppers took place Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock from this church. Beside her husband she leaves two sons, her mother, Mrs. Agatha Muelhauser and two sisters.

The funeral of Matthew Deninger took place Thursday morning at 9 o'clock from the home of his sister at 55 Casper St.

Mr. Otto Staub of Hudson Ave. has broken his arm. We wish him speedy recovery.

Miss Irene Huer of Berlin St. is improving.

Wednesday evening the sermon was delivered by Rev. Father Edelman.

Friday evening the Stations of the Cross were held.

Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock there will be Stations of the Cross in German and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

St. Andrew's Church

The requiem high masses for this week were for Mr. John Oliver and Mr. George Mattern; Jr. Wednesday evening, the sermon was delivered by Rev. Father Schmitt of St. Boniface Church, his topic being "The Christian Home."

Next Sunday will be regular monthly communion Sunday for the ladies of the Rosary Society. As Friday will be the first Friday of the month, confessions will be heard Thursday afternoon and evening. Holy Communion will be distributed Friday morning at 6, 7, and during the 8 o'clock mass.

St. Francis Xavier.

The requiem masses this week were for John Demer, Matthew Meintel, Frances Weidenborner and Louisa Geisel.

On Sunday afternoon there was a meeting of the Rosary Society.

The funeral of Matthew Meintel, aged 42 years, took place on Tuesday morning at 8:30 o'clock from the family home, 16 Wabash Street, and at 9 o'clock from the church. He is survived by his parents, Hugo and Eva Meintel; his brother, Frank Meintel and seven sisters, Mrs. John G. Miller, Mrs. Wesley Sheets, the Misses Celia, Julia, Lena, Viola and Loretta Meintel.

The funeral of Herbert Matthes, aged 26 years, son of Paul, C. H. and Louise F. Matthes, took place on Saturday morning. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Matilda Matthes of Buffalo; one daughter, Eira May Matthes; his sister, Mrs. Emma Zimmer and his brother, Frank Matthes of Rochester.

Next Sunday is communion day for the men and boys and for the members of the Third Order of St. Francis.

The regular monthly extra collection will be taken up Sunday at all masses.

There will be Lenten devotions on Wednesday and Friday evenings at 7:45 o'clock.

Confessions will be heard on Thursday afternoon and evening Masses on Friday will be at 5:30 and 8 o'clock. Communion will be distributed at 7 o'clock.

C. R. & B. A.

Central Council, C. R. & B. A., will meet at Immaculate Conception Hall on Edinburgh Street, Monday, April 3rd, 1916.

Knights of Columbus.

An adjourned meeting of Rochester Council No. 178 will be held Monday, April 3rd, to pass on a large number of applications.

The membership committee, which consists of a committee from every parish of the city, will attend this meeting to perfect a plan of campaign.

District Deputy John J. Maney will be present to give an address on matters of great importance to every member.

The First Degree will be given Monday, April 10th.

The Knights of Columbus are making a strong effort to assist in Catholic missionary work and they have secured Mr. Thomas A. Daly, Editor of the Standard Times; of Philadelphia, poet, author and humorist, to deliver his famous lecture, "Our New Neighbors," at Convention Hall, Tuesday evening, May 2nd.

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The tramp looked over his dilapidated garments when at a safe distance from the farmhouse

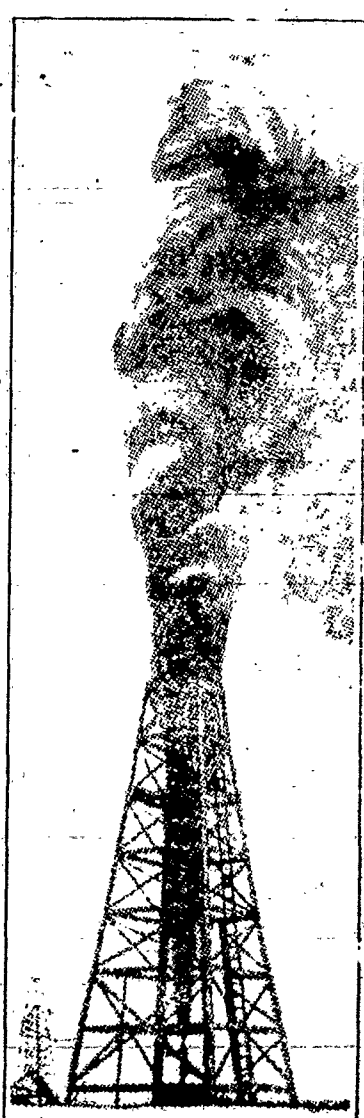
"I can't see," he muttered, "why such a big fuss is made over the dog's instinct in attaching himself to man."

Special Makeup.

Business Caller looking at photograph—This is a picture of Mrs. Peckington, I suppose? Peckington—Yes; that's her when she is getting her pictures taken.—Philadelphia Press.

He that is busy is tempted by but one devil; he that is idle by a legion.

Public Announcement!



We feel it our duty to announce to the public that the proposed York State Petroleum Company has no connection whatever with any other company. It must be expected to have imitators follow after the trail has been blazed. Our advertisement has been copied, and it has been made to appear that others have leases on property on which our paid experts located oil. We wish all to know that our leases cover the "Dugway" for three miles over property on which the oil pool was located—comprising 1,350 acres. We wish to announce also that our stockholders have voted to provide funds to drill the second well, by selling a block of stock at three cents per share. All shareholders will share equally in leases and all wells drilled. Mr. Fuller, our contractor, is on the job assembling the machinery and derrick.

Soon the big drill will tell the story. There were many who could not secure stock on the first allotment who can join us now by acting promptly.

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