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Friday, May 18, 1917
Should Be Curbed!

If there be any power vested in the United States Government to put a stop to the scoundrelly methods of the rascals out in Chicago who are boosting the prices of wheat and flour it should be exerted to the utmost limit.
 If there be any power vested in the United States Government to put these scoundrels behind the bars that should be utilized and to the utmost limit.
 If there be no such power then Congress should amend existing laws so as to confer it.
 Were the profits of high prices going to the farmer-producers then so much fault could not be found. But such is not the case. The profits are going to non-producers, men of great wealth accumulated by gambling in the necessities of life. Such men are no asset to any country. Like the burglar their talents are used to plunder the portion of the community least able to bear the robbery.
 We send the petty gamblers to the penitentiary with short shrift. Why not apply the same rule to these wholesale gamblers in millions—who play a sure thing with loaded dice?

Mayor Rebukes Bigots.

There is one mayor in New Jersey who deserves the commendation of all right-minded citizens for his broadmindedness and his name is Frank H. Eckert, mayor of West Hoboken.
 Recently Mayor Eckert appointed Rev. Conrad Eiben, C. P., a member of the West Hoboken free library board.
 Right away several of those fake "patriotic organizations", whose real object is to sandbag anything and everything Catholic, entered a protest to the Mayor against Father Eiben's appointment. They conceded his ability; they conceded his erudition; they conceded his peculiar qualifications for the particular position. But they held "it were unwise to appoint Father Eiben because of his religion."
 Mayor Eckert did not bow to the dictates of the bigots. Instead he curtly informed the objectors that "such grounds have no bearing with me, as a Catholic or person of any other religion is the same to me if his other qualifications are equal. If there was any doubt in my mind regarding the appointment of Father Conrad, it has now been done away with because of these objections on religious grounds. It is not because of his ability to conduct the affairs that come before that body. I will certainly insist now that he take the appointment."
 While Mr. Balfour has made many eloquent speeches in the United States he has not yet given any assurance that he is for Home Rule for Ireland.

No Hysteria!

The Catholic Journal has already referred to the need of repressing what may well be termed "hysteria" in the preparation for our share in the great war. That scoundrelly and cold-blooded speculators are preparing to take advantage of the American hysteria is perfectly apparent to unbiased observers.
 When we are warned that there is to be a famine in food stuffs, clothing, coal and other necessities and their rush to place large orders at once for hoarding—just as the speculator with draws into cold storage huge supplies to be held until scarcity of products forces prices sky high—the cold-blooded speculator chuckles gleefully as he watches prices go up and up and up as the result of hysteria publicity campaign engineered by his press agents.
 While it is well to be prepared we should reflect that by hysterical over-purchasing we are piling up permanent trouble for ourselves because experience in the United States is that once prices ascend it is next to impossible ever to bring them back to the minimum before the advance began.

If we all buy seeds and plant the unadaptable back yard, the seed merchant may profit but we are apt to discourage the farmer from increasing his acreage and, should our home garden be a failure, the crop will be short and still higher prices will be the inevitable result unless the war is brought to a sudden end.
 Colonel Roosevelt says he will lead an army into France, where upon the unthinking, without reflection whether T. R. has had experience as a military commander, whether to send him to Europe would be a contemptible slight on the regular military officers whose life has been given over to service in that arm of the country's defense and not rushed into at the psychological moment to secure the maximum amount of personal advertising, shout vociferously "Send Roosevelt to France!"

Manufacturers of flags, Joffre and Viviani button makers, uniform makers, moving picture men, fanatics of all sorts, dreamers and fakers, one and all are "doing their bit" to work the American people into hysterical frenzy so that they will not perceive the cloven foot peeping out from behind the flag which shrouds some diabolical scheme to fool the people.
 The "press gag bill" before Congress would have made it well-nigh impossible to expose any of these precious schemes, thank fortune, it looks as if this nefarious piece of legislation is to fail.

Think slowly, safely and sane these days.
Important Gathering
 From June 25th to June 28th, the Catholic Educational Association of the United States will be in session in Buffalo.
 This is one of the most important annual gatherings held by Catholics in this country. Men and women who are leaders in educational matters will attend and many important and weighty problems will be discussed and considered. Exchange of views will be of great benefit in solving problems which are presenting themselves every day.
 Undoubtedly, many Rochesterians, aside from those directly in charge of the conference will take advantage of the nearness to Rochester to be present at the meeting in order that they may enjoy the discussions and learn the first-hand of the progress made in Catholic educational work in the United States.
 The Catholic Journal's best wishes go out for a most successful convention.

Well, it is not likely to snow on Fourth of July.

Viviani

We note that no Catholic prelate and very few Catholic laymen participated in the welcomes extended in the cities of the United States to Viviani, head of the French commission now in this country.
 It could not well be otherwise. No matter how much sympathy we may feel with France or with what kindly remembrance we recall French and in the War of the Revolution and the Civil War, no matter if the war has forced changed relations we cannot forget the part Viviani played in forcing the Catholic Church into what was intended to be utter oblivion in France, in tearing the Cross from Catholic Churches, in hampering Religion and in banishing God officially from France.
 While it is true that the persecution of the Viviani's, the Briand's and the rest of the bigots has proven a blessing in disguise to the Catholic Church in France, we as Catholics cannot forget the not distant past and we cannot unite in welcome to one who recalls such unpleasant memories, however much we may sympathize with the mission upon which he and Marshal Joffre have come to our shores.

The Legislature has adjourned sine die and not even Governor Whitman is sorry, we fancy.

Local option for cities is finally upon us. Now the voters will say whether Rochester shall be wet or dry and we shall no longer have to rely upon the allegations of agitators as to the real state of popular opinion.

Well, the farmers will not be able to collect all their sheep damage money from the cities this year.

Why should the newspapers of the country donate their advertising space to the United States any more than the meat packers should be expected to give their meat free to the Army?

Mother Zemaide, superioress of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny, at Madagascar, has been awarded a prize of \$2,000 by the French Academy, in recognition of her work as an educator.

We wonder if Kansas really is "bone dry." If it is then prohibition really prohibits in Kansas something which has not been so.

We have not heard that Caranza has exterminated the Catholic Church in Mexico. And he will not, either, no matter how hard he tries.

It is a well-known fact that not even an unfrocked priest has violated the seal of the confessional.

Before the war ends we predict that we shall have a wider knowledge of our South American neighbors.

Why was John R. Mott selected for the Russian Mission? Why was John Mitchell not put on.

It is to be hoped that the Rochester street car employees and the New York State Railways will be able to settle their differences without a strike or without any appreciable friction.

In the Church one can now fore-see the great dearth of priests to minister to souls. It does look as if it were now "Religio Depopulata."

The late C.P. Moorman, a multi-millionaire of Louisville, willed the Little Sisters of the Poor \$5,000.

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 Selling out all our silver, flatware and hollowware—reductions of 20 per cent. on staple goods—and up to 50 per cent. on odd sets and pieces. An opportunity to save on silver of quality. Henry Oemisch Co., 56 East avenue.—Adv.

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