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Friday, Nov. 16, 1917.

Time Will Tell

Right or wrong, for good or for evil, the people of the State of New York have voted—the men of the people we mean—that the women shall have the right to vote. To be sure, not a majority of the men who voted last week Tuesday took the trouble to vote at all on the suffrage constitutional amendment, but enough Socialists took the trouble to do so, plus the pro-suffrage enthusiasts to carry it. Let us hope that the thinking women, the right-minded women of New York State will so exercise the right of suffrage that the Sangerite advocates of birth control, the bigots of the Socialist type, the faddists and anarchists—yes and militant feminists—may not revamp our laws so fast that liberty perishes in the land. Because the Socialist party is the party of the most arbitrary autocracy ever known. It is not sufficient to exercise the legal right to enroll as a Socialist in the registry booth. If you do not pay your dues in the Socialist local, if you do not obey each and every tenet of the Socialist creed, you cannot participate in a Socialist primary to nominate local or County or State or national officers no matter if you are a legally enrolled Socialist forty times over. A paid up Socialist due card outweighs any legal right conferred by the State or nation. Thinking women will have to vote to hold down the women of social and political type we have just mentioned.

Sacrifice

We read in the papers constantly of the sacrifices which this one or that one is making in order to take up Y. M. C. A. or some other war activity. Certainly, there are some splendid "pious agents" on the road these days and they are earning their remuneration. But not all the sacrifices are made on one side. There are a few being made by Catholic men and women. For instance:—Walter Kernan, of Utica is one of the leading corporation attorneys and financial advisers in New York state, if not in the country. His income from private practice was enormous. Besides, he was a vice-president and general counsel for the New York State Railways, the trolley holding company of the New York Central interests and wielded a great influence in trolley circles all over the country. But Mr. Kernan, although in the prime of life and vigor, has given up his private law practice, has resigned his positions with the trolley interests, and sailed for France to take charge of the foreign work in connection with the disbursement of the \$3,000,000 war fund that is being raised by the Catholics of the United

States and administered by the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Kernan receives no salary for this service and neither does any officer of the Knights of Columbus for the administration of the fund or its disbursement. These K. of C. officers receive no other salary than the Order pays them for ordinary service. The Order donates their service to the cause. The only expense the War Fund is charged with is that of rent of offices in Washington. All sacrifices and services are not on one side in this war.

One and the Same

We have said repeatedly that the better Catholic a man is, the better American citizen he must necessarily be. Conversely, he who attacks the Catholic Church attacks the foremost defender of American institutions. This fact is beginning to be realized by the United States Government officials.

They are jacking up the Tom Watsons and the rest of the "Guardians" for seditious persons, now that the war is on although they could not see the obscenity of their written and published stuff in times of peace and permitted them to be sent through the mails to stir up class against class.

However, we are thankful the officials are waking up. Witness this interview with United States Marshal Moore, of Ohio, who is trailing Billy Parker, an anti-Catholic and anti-Government agitator:—

"I want to say right here that, even if Parker didn't say one word against the government, but confined his activities to talking against the Catholic Church, that we would arrest him for disloyalty, as he and all of his kind who go around telling lies about the Catholic religion are consequently stirring up strife and trouble, and, therefore, working against the perfect harmony needed for the successful conduct of the war."

Tom Watson

Tom Watson must be even a worse specimen of a man than I thought he was. While we apologize, in a way, for consuming so much space, we feel that our readers will justify us after they read the following "picture" of the Hon. Tom, by Congressman Howard of his own home state of Georgia:—

"If Tom Watson had his choice of being a humming bird or a buzzard, he would prefer to be a buzzard. That's the kind of a man he is."

Which Mr. Howard amplifies, viz.:

"You can walk along the street in New York and meet a thousand and horses, if there are that many left in that arch home of the automobile, and you can stop and scratch them on the forehead, and each one of them will prick up his ears and look pleased. Then you will come to one that will just naturally reach out and try to bite you as you walk by him. That's Tom Watson. He is that last horse."

"Tom Watson is a man who never said a good thing about a living human being. All the people he speaks well of are dead. Before America entered the war he attacked President Wilson in every issue of the Jeffersonian for not going to war with Germany. As soon as we went to war, Watson turned right around and attacked the President for going to war."

Watson has a lot of money, which he gets in small amounts, as Mr. Howard explains: "Money is his God. He gets dollars, only a few at a time, from any man, but coming steadily and coming in shoals, by the kind of game he plays, and that's why he does it. Read his paper. Did you ever find anything in it that didn't end up with a plea for a subscription to something or other? He claims

to be a Baptist, and attacks the Roman Catholic Church.

"It's popular to attack the Catholic Church among the mountaineers of Georgia. So he puts a guard around his house and pretends the Pope wants to kill him. Then the crackers and the tenant farmers think he is a hero, and buy his paper and subscribe to any fund he tells them to subscribe to."

"His brother goes into farming and grows a watermelon that he calls the Tom Watson melon."

"Tom advertises it on the back page of his paper, and all the crackers buy Tom Watson melon seeds, and the brothers divide."

Who are the followers of Watson?

Once more listen to Representative Howard:

"There are two classes of people that follow Watson. Through the mountains of Georgia, the two Carolinas, Tennessee and Alabama, there is the cracker class. They are the purest Anglo-Saxon blood there is in this country today. They have never mixed the breed. The only trouble with them is that they think education is a disgrace. All they can do is to read and write a little, and all of them can't do that. Those that can read Tom Watson, and they believe anything he wants them to read."

"The other class is the tenant farmer. He is the lowermost limit in a white man. He is poor, ignorant, shiftless, without ambition, and glad of it."

"Once in a while one of them gets ambition enough to set his son up on a forty-acre tract. Then the son buys a mule, and, after a while, gets a carryall to go with a mule. Then he is out of that class. And when he drives along the road to church on Sunday, with his family packed into the carryall and a dinner basket in behind, and the mule shuffling down the road, pulling the load, the tenant farmers all stand in their doors and say: 'Durn him! I wish that mule would run away and kill the whole pack!' That's the kind of man the tenant farmer is, and the whole lot of them follow Tom Watson."

"Those are the two classes that follow Tom Watson, and they will follow him any place and do anything he says. There are about 30,000 of them, and when Tom Watson wags his finger they all wag their beards."

That is a pretty good portrait of the sort of man who will print the stuff that Watson prints about Catholics and the Catholic Church. It is couched in the words of a man who knows.

Well, Rochester seems to like "Uncle Hi" for mayor.

Rochester and Monroe county were not so strong for suffrage. Neither were Onondaga, Albany and other up-state counties. But the big Socialist vote pulled it through.

The New York Sun, non-Catholic daily, pays high tribute to Cardinal Gibbons' oration at the dedication of the Knights of Columbus building at Camp Meade as "one of the most powerful and stirring messages uttered to the people of any belligerent nation since the war began."

There was a deal of inconsistency and lack of historical knowledge displayed by those who talked and wrote about the Luther celebration. One of these called Luther a "loyal Catholic priest." How can a man be loyal and a rebel at one and the same time? He may be a patriot and a rebel but he cannot be loyal to something he rebels against.

Merton E. Lewis has reason to feel gratified at the splendid appreciation of his home friends as evidenced in the tremendous vote given him here in Monroe county.

Socialists increased their vote last week Tuesday. Let us hope this is not a permanent increase.



FATHER KOENIG'S NERVINE
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