

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL
 PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AT
 470 Main St. E. cor. Windsor St.
 4th Floor, Rochester, N. Y.

BY THE
CATHOLIC JOURNAL PUBLISHING COMPANY

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
 One Year, in Advance, \$1.00
 Entered at second class mail matter.
 ROCHESTER TELEPHONE 2222
 BELL TELEPHONE MAIN 1267

Friday, March 21, 1919.

Not Given Credit

It is seldom that the Catholic Journal refers to the public schools, as such, but, under the circumstances, it must not be blamed if it republishes the following editorial from the "Ave Maria":

The National Educational Association, whose purpose is to place all education in this country under Federal control, is not at all modest in its claims for the public schools. Witness this statement in a document from the "N. E. A. Press Service": "The schools have been tested by this war as never before. The men who went to the front received their education in the public schools. The loyalty and success of this product is the measure of efficiency of the school."

With all due respect we beg to differ.

A large percentage of the men who went to the front—a considerably larger one than that of their non-Catholic brothers-in-arms—received their education in the Catholic schools. The loyalty and success of the public school graduates shone forth, not because, but in spite of the non-religious training to which they had been subjected; and that loyalty and success have assuredly not been greater or more conspicuous than in the product of our Catholic schools. A chaplain friend of ours, writing from Italy, says of his American soldiers: "Excellent and well-instructed Catholics these boys are. The hall-mark of the Catholic school is on them all and I have become certain that this same Catholic school is, in the Providence of God, just about the cornerstone of the Church." The efforts of the N. E. A. will bear constant watching—and strenuous opposition.—Ave Maria, Indiana.

Welcome Twenty-Seventh.

It is with proud hearts and thrown-out chests that New York state and, especially, the city of Rochester extends greetings and congratulations to the survivors of the gallant Twenty-seventh Division, which includes so many of our Rochester guardsmen and volunteers.

The record of the Twenty-seventh is a gallant and a thrilling one, while a more extended account doubtless will appear later, the tale of the Division's work on the firing line, under leadership of General John F. O'Ryan, as told in the magazine section of the New York Sunday Times of March 9th, fills a New Yorker's heart with pride. Lieutenant-Colonel Leslie Kincarr, formerly a member of Assembly from Syracuse, tells the tale modestly and without frills, but the bald statement of facts shows a wonderful record of achievement and accomplishment. These New York boys faced seasoned veterans af-

ter but a comparatively short period of intensive training but American pluck and bulldog perseverance triumphed over years of military training.

Hail to the victors, peace to the ashes of those who fought and fell over there.

Sad Commentary.

It is a sad commentary on the way "true Americans" are degenerating, when one reads in the conservative New York Times such a declaration as this: "If you happen to believe in law and order, or marriage, or love of country, or religion, or even in the rights of capital as well as labor, be sure to keep it dark. And if you don't happen to believe in free love or the domination of the unpatriotic over the earth, and above all if you don't believe in Socialism, keep that dark, too! For it's very unfashionable to be the least bit conservative nowadays, and very, very fashionable to be radical. If they found you out, certain college professors, settlement workers, and New Republicans, generally, who are engineering this fad or crusade, as you call it—would at once point at you with a finger of scorn as (a reactionary), and they would certainly make fun of you."

To read the daily news in the papers convinces one that this is true. And this fad or whatsoever you choose to call it is not confined to the "soap box orators" or the workers in the I. W. W., nor yet to the foreigners, so called. The worst radicals, the most virulent "Reds", the most dangerous menace to the body politic are what Theodore Roosevelt won't to style "those parlor socialists." These idle rich, who have exhausted all the normal means of amusement and activity and having neither capacity nor ambition to do anything really useful, turn to abusing the free institutions of America. Lacking courage or inclination, most of them, to really lead a revolution they encourage "the real force devotees" with money and words and themselves escape both blame or consequences. Many of these parasites—for that is what they are—never did a day's work in their lives and never earned a dollar. Their fathers' agents manage their business and furnish the funds that are being used to destroy the source of the givers income. This would not be so bad were it not for the fact that society itself is also undermined.

Because the law's barriers are interposed between these parasites and their lustful appetites, they cry out "Away with law! Down with governments." Were they ignorant foreigners they would be arrested, imprisoned, deported. Their position protects them in their course, which is another blow at society and this fact helps to make for unrest among the masses.

It was a sad awakening to the conservative, well-meaning persons who furnish funds to endow the University of Rochester to learn from a newspaper poll back in 1906 that more than a majority of the instructors in that institution of learning proposed to vote for William Randolph Hearst for governor and yet Mr. Hearst is conservative compared to some of the 1919 professors in American colleges—Scott Nearing, as a mild example.

Suppose the Federal Department of Justice turns its attention to the parlor Bolsheviks for a bit?

Father Kelley, "fighting chaplain of the Twenty-Seventh" has come to Rochester, we saw him and we were his.

Let us hope that the new K. of C. Club house will be so equipped as to furnish our Catholic boys with a common meeting place for all activities—including athletics.

Rochester certainly honored St. Patrick's memory.

May Be Loaded.

Advice and admonition by the New York "Tribune" to those who would violate the inherent rights, not only of the community but also those of the individual, may well be pondered by more than openly-professed would-be anarchists and revolutionists:

Under Article 212 of the New York State Penal Code, treason, for which the punishment is death, is defined, among other things, as "a combination of two or more persons by force to usurp the government of the state or to overturn the same." As to when resistance to a statute is treason, it is said: "Where persons rise in insurrection with intent to prevent in general by force and intimidation the execution of a statute of this state, or to force its repeal, they are guilty of levying war."

All and several who may have in mind any attempt to create a new order by force and intimidation should be careful how they blow down the muzzle of this statute. It may prove to be loaded. But one way exists to change a statute in a democratic state, and that is by an orderly ascertainment of the will of the majority and its expression through freely chosen representatives. The right of revolution went when popular rule was established. Democracies deny the right of minorities to coerce them, and if a particular idea is favored by a majority, this majority can easily and legally have its way.

Some states are lacking in statutes to deal with preachers of violence, for it has been assumed that no group would ever dare to challenge the right of the majority to rule. But New York happens to be equipped to meet foes developing within with the same weapons it has for foes coming from without.

Sensible Advice.

Discussing the disclosures before the Senate investigating committee of proposed revolutionary plots against the United States, the New York "Evening Post" pertinently says:

The sum of the matter is that Americans should neither fall into alarm nor settle back into a fool's paradise. There is immense exaggeration in these stories of revolutionary plots, yet they have withal a substance that thoughtful men will not disregard. We must not allow ourselves to be taken by surprise. The discontent is undeniably there; the exotic agitation; the cries unfamiliar to American ears; the talk of revolution. Where to shall this thing grow? That is what we have to find out. Panic will not help us; maudlin sympathy will be of no avail; weak surrender will only postpone the evil day. The American way is to hear what is said; to judge what can and ought to be done to remove grievances; to seek to do justice to all, by the methods through which we can most closely approximate ideal justice; but to stand inflexibly for law and order and to put down violence by the swiftest and most merciless means. So long as that remains the American temper, we shall have great political changes and social readjustments; but we shall have no revolution by force of arms.

While there were a few non-Celtic patronyms noticed in the list of vice-presidents for the Irish mass meeting last Sunday, evening, we feel sure that their hearts beat true in the cause of Irish freedom.

Whatever else may be said the majority of the ingredients in America's melting pot are not of Anglo-Saxon origin.

It is plain either that Mr. Burleson had nothing to say about the selection of the new collector of the port or that he is impervious to the onslaughts of the Rochester "Herald."

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