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Friday, March 26, 1919.

And Why Not?

Those uninformed and bigoted persons who are objecting to any discussion of the Irish question at the Peace Conference because it is purely a domestic problem for Great Britain to solve by itself, are respectfully requested to study the reports, meager though they are, that the other sections of Europe are pressing their claims for self-determination. Even at the expense of the Italians who were just as much our allies as were the French and English, it was proposed to erect two independent nations out of the conquered Austrians who should have been kept in the background, just as were the Germans until the peace treaty was presented for signature. Undoubtedly, this was but simple justice except that Italy who helped to win the war, should not be circumscribed and hemmed in to make a sea coast, out of proportion, for one of the proposed new nations.

Greece, Serbia, little Balkan states that have disturbed the peace of Europe for years, are demanding self-determination and bid fair to get it, but Ireland, subjugated and held in unwilling vassalage for centuries, must not be permitted to even present its claims to the Peace Conference because, Jacobite, its conqueror insists that while she is willing to take, it has nothing to give and stubbornly refuses even to consider a proposal to arbitrate. In the words of the resolutions adopted in the great Rochester mass meeting of friends of Ireland:

"We call upon the President and Congress of these United States of America to urge the Peace Conference, now in session at Paris, to apply to Ireland the great doctrine of national self-determination and to recognize the right of the people of Ireland to select for themselves without interference from any other people the form of government under which in future they shall live."

"We urge this claim in the name of America, insisting as the history of these United States proves that no other people have contributed more than those of Irish blood to the creation, the upbuilding, the development, the preservation and defense of our great country."

"We urge this claim in the name of humanity, because we believe that war cannot be ended and a just and permanent peace cannot be brought about unless the doctrine of self-determination be applied to Ireland and the people of that country be permitted to decide for themselves the form of government under which they shall live."

Next Tuesday will be a big day for Rochester when the boys come home.

Discussion Good.

While acrimony should be avoided in the controversy, calm and sensible discussion of the proposed League of Nations plan and scope is commendable. No project as such stupendous magnitude, involving a great measure, reversal of the policy pursued by the United States since the Republic was established, should not be endorsed hastily but should be studied from every angle before a decision is reached. Such a course will insure support if a favorable decision is reached. But to rush through such a project willy-nilly by the application of the mob lash will not make for future stability of the plan. Just because an American citizen refuses to accept blindly the ipse dixit of interested aliens to howl him down as a "pro-German" will not tend to make him a peaceable citizen. That course will breed Bolshevism more speedily and surely than all the frenzied appeals of all the soap box orators now running wild.

This is a time for calm, temperate reasoning; a time for sane argument and appeal to the sober sense, not the passions of our citizenship.

Then and Now.

"The power of the community must support law or the law must be without effect. The bayonets of the minority cannot long successfully seek out the persistent disobedience of the majority, the majority must acquiesce or the law must be null. This principle is strikingly illustrated in the efficacy of the English repressive laws in Ireland. The consent of the Irish community is not behind them, though the strength of Ireland is, and they fall utterly, as all laws must, which lack at least the passive acquiescence of those whom they concern."

These words are reproduced from President Wilson's book, "The State Elements of Historical and Practical Politics" written in 1889, when he was professor of jurisprudence and politics in Princeton University.

Reign of Terror.

Reliable reports from Russia are convincing as to what would happen to churches and religion and morals, if the Bolsheviks of Russia and the Reds of other lands ever prevail all over the world.

Churches will be looted and desecrated as they were in the French revolution and even to a greater extent than were the sacred edifices in France and Belgium by the German armies and more completely because the Germans could plead exigencies of warfare, while the Reds are utterly opposed to religious authority, to Religion itself and to all moral restrictions. Catholic schools undoubtedly would be razed and a rigidly godless system of education would be installed, if indeed any educational system worthy of the name is desired or permitted. Marriage will no longer be held inviolable or desirable as witness the Russian horrors where the soviet council decreed that all women are to be considered common property and subject to common use. Even the Mormon uses his women better and respects womanhood more than the Russian beasts just now in control of that once great country.

It behooves all good American citizens to unite in repressing sedition and in upholding the principles enunciated by the Fathers of the Republic and upon which we have achieved our national success. Carroll in the Declaration of Independence; Commodore Jack Barry in the early navy; Sheridan and a score of others in the Civil War; O'Ryan and hundreds more in the great world war just ended, give the lie to any charge that the Irish were not interested

in fights for human freedom and equality of opportunity to all men in all lands everywhere.

Very True.

Those who knew the hard-headed Ohio politician who made William McKinley president of the United States will readily credit the following in the San Francisco "Monitor": "The late Mark Hanna is credited with saying to William McKinley: 'Believe me, Mr. President, the day will come, not in our time, perhaps, but it will come, when the red flag of anarchy and socialism will raise its head in America, and then it will be found that the great bulwark against these evils will be the old Catholic Church.'"

A recent book on "What is Democracy?" from the pen of Professor Bailey, a student of agriculture, strongly emphasizes this point. He also remarks that: "I find the root of democracy in spiritual religion rather than in political freedom or organized industrial efficiency. It expresses itself in humbleness of spirit. Then I may say that real democracy is the perfect expression of religion, and a perfected religion is the destination of man."

Men must learn moral responsibility and obedience to the laws of God before they can be saved by any form of government or economic system devised by man.

Out in Wisconsin, where Victor Berger preached Socialism and sedition, how many volunteered to defend the national honor? When John Purroy Mitchel was defeated for Mayor of New York he at once entered the army. His socialist associate candidate, Morris Hillquit, did not follow his example. He keeps right on maligning the Government.

That remarkably eloquent address of Francis Cullen at the Irish meeting in Rochester will linger long in the memories of those privileged to listen to it. It is a matter of congratulation that he is a native American, a product of New York's schools, albeit thoroughly imbued with the Irish spirit and faith.

The fact of the matter is, England is playing the most dangerous game of her history. Heretofore she tried to fool the poor, oppressed Irish only, now she is striving to fool the world, and the world will not be fooled. Jews are set in the United States, Canada, Ireland, England, and wherever the great issue is understood. And that issue is: the war was fought for democracy and democracy must be extended to Ireland too. The sooner Great Britain stops her acting and becomes honest, the better for the world, but for herself especially, for she is nearing the brink of a precipice, a fact she would do well to recognize before it is too late. America.

Young Priest Who Anticipated Life.

Work in China Dies at Maryknoll Seminary.

The American Foreign Mission Seminary at Maryknoll announces the death of the Rev. John J. Massoth, one of its first priests. Father Massoth was a native of Kansas and made his preliminary studies at St. Mary's College (Jesuit Fathers), St. Mary's, Kansas. He was ordained under the title of the diocese of Des Moines, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York, by the Rt. Rev. Patrick J. Hayes, now Archbishop.

After ordination he was assigned as a professor at the Venard Apostolic College, the preparatory school for Maryknoll, and looked forward with keen anticipation to his life-work in China. While caring for the students during a recent epidemic of influenza, Fr. Massoth contracted the malady which developed into pneumonia. He died at Maryknoll but at the

urgent request of his aged parents, who could not travel, the body was forwarded for burial to the young priest's home at Piqua, Kansas.

HASTY BREAKFAST BRINGS FAINTNESS

Some Food Facts That Everybody Ought to Know

The food we eat is like the fuel that is fed to an engine. When during the forenoon following a hasty breakfast of toast and coffee you feel faint and hungry it is your body crying out for fuel. Many people who are under weight, thin, pale and run down, are actually starving to death because they do not get the proper amount of nourishment from the food they eat. Such people can gain weight only by taking food that is easily absorbed by the system and such a food tonic is Father John's Medicine which has a tremendous food value.

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