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Friday, June 4, 1919.

Winning Its Way.

Gradually, the labor program of the National Catholic War Council, at first hailed as refreshingly radical, is winning its way. Here is a comprehensive tribute by the "Catholic Tribune":—
"That program," writes the editor, "was outlined in nucleus 28 years ago by Pope Leo XIII. and its general principles have been advocated by the Church of Christ for nearly twenty centuries. In his famous encyclical on the condition of labor, the working men's charter, the illustrious Pope Leo applied those general principles specifically to industrial and social conditions. Men like Dr. John A. Ryan (the pioneer of the minimum wage movement), Drs. Edwin and Frank O'Hara, F. P. Kenkel and other Central Society leaders, studied that document and applied its tenets to American conditions. But the majority of American Catholics ignored it. Yes, some of us who did not know that a Pope had laid them down called its principles socialistic. Only a few years ago a large Catholic organization debated whether it should endorse the minimum wage principle! No wonder some of us find the reconstruction program of the National Catholic War Council 'quite radical.' Perhaps, it would have been better for the country if this sane and sane 'radicalism' had been driven home more generally years ago."

"Americanization"

Those harebrained enthusiasts who are prattling glibly about "Americanizing" the immigrant in this country and eliminating the Church which cares for the spiritual welfare of thousands of these immigrants, are making a grave mistake. Proselytization will not make good American citizens.
Just read what Dr. O'Grady, of the National Catholic War Council says we have done without waiting for the enthusiasts from Washington:—
"The Catholic Church has always attempted to teach the immigrant the fundamentals of citizenship. It has taught loyalty to country, conformity to its laws, the necessity of participating in the affairs of government, and justice and fair play. Its doctrines place human rights above the rights of property.
"Read the program of the National Catholic War Council, if you desire to find where the Church stands in regard to industrial democracy.
"In order to teach the immigrants religion, human rights and the fundamentals of citizenship, the Church has been compelled to adjust itself to their languages and their racial ideas. Very few Americans appreciate the difficulty under which the Church has labored in this regard. If it

had antagonized the immigrants in matters of language and of race, as many would-be Americanizers have done, it would have been compelled to sacrifice the many other good things which it has done for them.
"As a part of the reconstruction program we are
"1. Endeavoring to have Catholic societies everywhere cooperate with the public authorities in promoting the study of English and civics among immigrants, was 'unmoved when the New Yorker's mail was curtailed. Now, however, that Mr. Burleson has undertaken profane hands on the far-citizenship work we intend to foster and develop it."
"2. Wherever Catholic parish, es, community centers and Catholic societies have undertaken citizenship work we intend to cooperate with the public authorities in promoting the study of English and civics among immigrants, was 'unmoved when the New Yorker's mail was curtailed. Now, however, that Mr. Burleson has undertaken profane hands on the far-citizenship work we intend to foster and develop it."
"3. We are organizing committees in the Catholic parishes with a large immigrant population for the purpose of studying civic and industrial problems.
"4. We are conducting a nationwide campaign for the motion of industrial justice and the more equitable distribution of wealth.
"5. We are publishing a text

A Question.

In all probability, John McInerney will not command the support of all the motorists in his demand that all owners of cars should be compelled to take out casualty insurance as much for the protection of the careful driver as to insure more careful driving on the part of the minority of reckless drivers but it goes without saying that there will be more support for this proposition than for the one to extend to New York State the law now made applicable to "New York City only" under which the owners of cars must be licensed as well as chauffeurs and prescribing revocation of license for reckless driving.
And yet, why should the owner of a car be permitted to operate his car without first demonstrating that he knows how to drive? Is it because the wealthy owner feels it a blow at his pride to place him on a level with his hired chauffeur? Well, the war has obliterated a lot of class distinctions and snobberies and many more will be eliminated. The refusal of the Canadian parliament to permit her Canadian subjects to accept British titles or decorations is but a sign of the times. Titled aristocracy and hereditary nobility are soon to disappear from the earth and our American rich aristocracy would do well to heed the signs of the times of which this demand that the reckless owner-driver be on a par with the licensed chauffeur so far as being liable to revocation of the privilege to handle the wheel and steering gear is concerned.
Careful owners know how to run their cars; they are mindful of the rights and safety of others, whether pedestrians or fellow-autoists and they never will lose their licenses. But the reckless, speed-maniac should be curbed or restrained, whether he be the car's owner or a hired chauffeur. And the quicker some chaps come to realize this the better it will be for the motoring fraternity and the public as well.

Right About Face.

Albert Sidney Burleson may be one of the most respected citizens of Texas. He may be one of Colonel House's most versatile democratic lieutenants. Possibly, there may be dozens of accomplishments he possesses.
But as Postmaster-General in charge of the postal affairs of the United States he is out of place. It will not suffice to call him a joke because his administration of the post office department is really a tragedy.
Mail service in the cities has long been in chaos and one could never figure within three days when a letter mailed in Buffalo would be delivered in New York city. The railway mail service is

demoralized. By his infamous "zoning-plan" the Sunny South race, as many would-be Americanizers have done, it would have been compelled to sacrifice the many other good things which it has done for them.
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It has been difficult for me to restrain my indignation as I sat here and listened to you," said Mr. Lowell, in reply to Mr. Burleson. "I represent 125,000 farmers, who have been demanding of me that I come here and protest as vigorously as I know how against what you are doing to their mail service.
"We didn't protest during the war because we were willing to put up with it as a war necessity. But the war is over. You ought to have good mail service in operation and you have not got it. So far it is simply a widespread conviction on the part of all who have anything to do with it that your 'improved system' of rural routes is as poor or worse than anything we ever had."

If you have not subscribed to the "Community Chest" do so before the campaign ends.

It is incredible that any Rochester business man or fellow-manufacturer would go on record as opposing Henry Ford locating a factory in Rochester because "he will raise wages and injure the rest of us." There must be some other reason for opposition if opposition there really was.

There was no division between young and old war veterans in Rochester such as threatened a split in Albany with separate parades.

The Knights of Columbus do well to honor their departed Brothers but there was an added significance in the memorial mass of 1919.

Sea planes have crossed the Atlantic but it will be some time before that method of travel comes into vogue as a regular method with European passengers. Dirigibles yet may prove the ideal transatlantic air service.

One unexpected effect of the war is the stimulus given to life insurance. The object lesson of the government's "war risk insurance" has led thousands of citizens to purchase life insurance where previously they would not listen to an insurance agent let alone taking out insurance.

In the death of A. B. Lambertson, Rochester loses one of its most public spirited citizens. Next to the late Dr. E. M. Moore, he is entitled to credit for Rochester's magnificent park system.

Why is it necessary now for the British and French to maintain mail censorship to neutral countries? Afraid America will capture a little foreign trade!

We repeat: Is it because Brussels is a Catholic city that Geneva was chosen as the permanent seat for the League of Nations?

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