

Senator Smith On The Smith Educational Bill.

Essays to Respond to Critics of Centralization Scheme.

But Fails to Answer Principal Objections.

In an Associated Press dispatch dated July 29 and printed in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia, father of the Smith Educational Bill S. 1017 "for the creation of a Department of Education . . . and for other purposes," takes issue with some of his critics. According to the statement before us Senator Smith said:

"The claim that the bill takes away the right of parents to educate their children is false. The bill can only be considered an assault upon religion by those who oppose public schools and by those who believe ignorance on the part of the masses increases religious faith. The charge is really an attack upon public education. I cannot believe that the real leaders of the Catholic Church or the rank and file of its members in the United States are opposed to public schools or to an opportunity being given every child of obtaining an education at public expense."

An Appeal To Prejudice.

Needless to say, the Senator's reply to his critics is tinged with an appeal to prejudice rather than to the fact. He claims that the opposition directed against his bill is based on religious sentiment and on antagonism to public education. Such a statement may sound well in the course of a senatorial speech, but it does not correspond to fact. For in the first place, the authors of the opposition to the Smith bill are not opposed to public education, i. e. to education dispensed in the public schools of city, county and state; and, in the second place, some of the opponents of S. 1017 have submitted to Senator Smith and to his fellow-Senators as well as to the members of the House of Representatives a number of valid reasons for their opposition, the bulk of which have nothing to do with religious conviction, while all are free from hostility to public education. If Senator Smith will not consider these arguments but prefers to appeal to prejudice,—the more's the pity for his position and the more apparent the weakness of his cause.

Unanswerable Arguments.

Before the Senator again essays to indulge in playing to the gallery let him read and answer the arguments submitted to him and his colleagues in the pamphlet entitled: "For the Freedom of Education." Let him read and answer the following statement of protest against his bill drawn up by the chairman of the Legislative Committee of the Catholic Union of Mo. This protest asks for the defeat of the Smith (and the Towner) Bill for the following reasons:

1. The burden of taxation, resting upon the people, is already too great to permit an increase of at least Two Hundred Million Dollars for a novel educational experiment.
2. The proposed Act would tend necessarily to vicious centralization of political power, still further reducing the individuality and self-reliance of the several States.
3. There is enough unfinished business within the constitutional sphere of Congress and the federal Government to occupy their time and powers without intermeddling in matters peculiarly within the jurisdiction of the several States. Danger of Centralization.

When the Senator has found time to digest and, if possible, to fairly meet these contentions, let him disprove the weighty arguments contained in the pamphlet: "Reasonable Limits of State Activity," written by His Eminence Cardinal O'Connell, which strongly oppose that very centralization which the Senator's bill fosters. Then let him read and answer the following declaration of protest against his proposed measure, adopted by the National Benedictine Educational Association at its convention recently held at Peru, Ill.:

1. Federal cooperation with our free and self-controlled educational activities we recognize and welcome as an ally of educational freedom. Federal domination we condemn as educational tyranny.
2. The Spirit of Liberty, the fountain-head of our National Constitution, serves to condemn any governmental agency that tends to disregard or abolish the God-given right of each and every American father to create and control for his child a school which satisfies the dictates of his conscience.
3. Power to create and control the school depends on the power to control the money that creates the school.
4. Consequently, Federalization of all school moneys, the essential feature of the Smith-Towner Bill, is the death-knell of Educational Freedom.
5. Consequently, the voters of America will employ all legitimate agencies, and the final sanction of the ballot-box, against a measure subversive of the Educational Freedom guaranteed to our families and our States by a Constitution that has lately been rewritten in the life-blood of their sons and brothers. . . .

Desire To Control Education.

And after the Senator has sought to find a satisfactory answer to these well-founded charges, he is welcome to provide that his bill does not favor centralization of power in the hands of the federal Government, and that it is not derogatory to the rights of the individual States. This will be a difficult task for so eminent an authority as Henry Litchfield West, author of Federal Power, Its Growth and Necessity, former Commissioner of the District of Columbia, an earnest advocate of an increase of federal power, notes that the desire is strong to control federally the education of the youth of the country. In his book, published in 1918 and recommended by Theodore Roosevelt as "an exceedingly creditable piece of work," West points specifically to the proposed federalization of education. On p. 106 he says: "The end of federalization is not yet. It is practically certain, for example, that within the

next ten years the Bureau of Education, now a modest attachment of the Department of the Interior, will reach colossal size. There is in Congress a growing belief that the dispensing of education in wholesale fashion is a governmental duty, without regard to the efforts put forth, or the facilities provided by the States. . . ."

Thus Mr. West, himself an advocate of federalization, confirms the arguments as to the fact of the tendency towards centralization and towards the ignoring of State rights. He prophesies federalization of education, recognizes that a governmental department, if created, will act "without regard to . . . the States."

Plain Facts Wanted.

If, after the Senator has disproved or disqualified the arguments advanced above he is still able to argue his case, let him get down to brass tacks and state exactly what his bill proposes to accomplish. It is only fair that he should name the individual States in the Union which he aims to insult by asking the Federal Government to do for them what they should be doing but fail to do in the field of education. If New York is fulfilling its duty, let it be understood that New York does not come in for the burdens and blessings of Mr. Smith's many-ciphered appropriations; but if his own state, Georgia, is delinquent, let him brand Georgia as delinquent in a matter which primarily concerns the parents residing in that State, and secondarily all citizens, the communities and the State Legislature of Georgia.

Let Mr. Smith prove his assumption that public education is at all the province of the Federal Government. We do not believe that he will be able to prove his position or give a single satisfactory reason for the passage of his bill in the Congress and Senate of a democratic country. C. B. of the C. V.

K-C PEACE MEET BEGAN NEW CATHOLIC EPOCH.

For First Time in History of U.S. Practical Education Aimed Against Unrest Will be Scientifically Managed.

The results of the Knights of Columbus Peace Convention, held in Buffalo last week, are being felt in terms of intensified activity in every jurisdiction of the Knights of Columbus represented by delegates to the convention. With approbation from the Church, in the form of eabled praise from Pope Benedict XV, and with the cordial encouragement of the State, in the form of testimonials from Secretary of War Newton D. Baker, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin Roosevelt and Admiral William S. Benson, Chief of Naval Operations, the Knights launched their warfare on Bolshevism and all extreme radicalism—this warfare to take the form of a nationwide educational system destined to make for improvement in the lot of all taking advantage of it.

The 1800 councils of the K. of C. in this country are being rapidly brought into line as focal points for the educational campaign. The Knights voted \$50,000 to provide for the initial functioning of the scheme, which was perfected by the K-C educational conference held in New York two weeks ago, the plan being the embodiment of the advice of some of the nation's best known educators.

The course of studies, which will be available to the 600,000 members of the K. of C. and others at a low fee sufficient to pay operating expenses, will include: Accounting, banking and finance, marketing, foreign trade, management, business law, commercial correspondence, private secretaryship, junior clerkship, filing and personal development, languages. Industrial courses to be offered include: Airship construction, auto mechanics, motion picture operating, electrical trades, jewelry making, plumbing, industrial relations, employment management, printing, lithography, decorating, welding, ventilation, heating and civil service. Stress is laid upon the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States—their theory and practice and application to everyday life. The courses in citizenship will be modified to suit the needs of different localities.

Teachers will be chosen from men of standing in every community and the text books will be the best available. The schools will be made as self sustaining as possible by the charging of small fees to the students.

The Knights have consulted with labor leaders in all matters affecting unionized trades and they have received promises of the most cordial cooperation and constructive advice.

A central bureau is being established, and its headquarters will either be in New York or New Haven, the national headquarters of the K. of C. This will be the strategic center of the K-C warfare on Bolshevism, and at this office will be received the reports of progress that will determine the modification or extension of the program at present determined upon.

James Byrne of New York, Joseph Scott of Los Angeles, Gustave Streubemuller of New York, Thomas W. Churchill and Arthur Somers, former presidents of the New York City Board of Education, Edward D. Davine of the Detroit Board of Education, Rev. John J. Wynne, S. J. and other famous educators are directing the work under the supervision of a K-C committee consisting of Supreme Knight James A. Flaherty of Philadelphia, Supreme Secretary William J. McGinley of New York and Supreme Advocate Joseph C. Pelletier of Boston.

This educational campaign was the principal achievement of the K. of C. peace convention. But many other important matters were disposed of. The Knights went on record as favoring complete independence for the Irish nation, the resolution to this effect being passed amid great enthusiasm. Besides being addressed by Secretary of War Baker and Assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt and Admiral William S. Benson, the Knights were officially complimented for their work by French High Commissioner Marcel Knecht and Cardinal Gibbons and Bishops Turner and Shahan congratulated them upon their war record and prophesied great things of the K-C educational campaign.

The Knights also went on record at their convention as ready to cooperate with all authorities, federal, state and municipal in investigating profiteering with the necessities of life and they adopted a resolution calling for rigid suppression of immoral motion pictures. The Knights will run their education work, a purely civilian enterprise, so that it will harmonize with their camp school and employment work.

The Broken Tea-Pot.

We sat around the Festive Board, by the Turf Fire's ruddy glow, It was Christmas Night in Dear Old Ireland many years ago, When you and I were young, and the World looked bright and fair, With the Love Light in your eyes, and your wealth of Chestnut hair. The tall candle at the window, over the scene shed its mellow light, Through Garlands of Holly Green, with berries ruby red and bright. Though they all have crossed the Valley, the picture seems like yesterday, So their fond faces I recall, and your winsome smile portray. Mother's China Tea-Pot is broken, no more the Genii I behold, Soothing reminder of the Past, with its stripes of Beaten Gold. The trust you placed on me, my life it seems to prolong, Oh, meet me on the Golden Shore, and bring the Babe, along. (MICHAEL W. SCANLAN.)

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

- Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
- Gospel, St. Luke xviii, 9-14: The Pharisee and the Publican.
 - S. 17, St. Hyacinth, C.
 - M. 18, St. Agapitus, M.
 - T. 19, St. Clare of Montefalco, V.
 - W. 30, St. Bernard, Ab. D.
 - Th. 21, St. Jane-Frances de Chantal, W.
 - F. 22, SS. Timothy and Comp. MM.
 - S. 23, St. Philip Benizi, C.

Catholic Schools Will Open Sept. 3d.

The Nazareth Academy in Lake avenue, the Catholic school for girls and Nazareth hall in Raines park for boys will open on September 3d.

Pupils intending to register for the school year at either school are required to report on or before August 20th.

Catholic Relief and Benefit Association in Session.

A special two-day session of the Catholic Relief and Beneficial association was concluded at the Hotel Rochester Wednesday afternoon. The purpose of the meeting was a readjustment of the rates now in force in the association, and about 150 delegates, the most of them women, were present to discuss some solution of the problem confronting the order.

The heavy calls made on the treasury by the war and by the influenza epidemic brought about a condition requiring immediate relief, and the delegates discussed many plans for strengthening the treasury, but nothing definite could be decided on, so as a final move it was decided to appoint a committee of three to settle on a method, the committee to have the same power as the full convention.

Corpus Christi.

The funeral of Cornelius Haggerty, of No. 29 Avondale park, took place Thursday morning at 8:30 from the home and 9 o'clock from this Church. Burial was made in Holy Sepulcher cemetery.

Knights of Columbus of Geneva Will Build New Home.

Geneva, Aug. 14.—The Knights of Columbus Council have decided to purchase the Coursey property on Main street, between Castle and Seneca streets on which it is intended to erect their new home. It was reported that the option on the property was held for \$12,000 which was ordered taken up by Grand Knight Robert J. Wyatt.

If You Need.

Letterheads, cards, invitations, folders, statements, circulars, envelopes, billheads, or anything else in the printing line, come in and see us.

Late News of Ireland

Carlow

Miss Helen Violet Forbes, whose marriage to Major C. A. Branfill, M. C., has taken place, is the only daughter of Capt. W. B. Forbes, R.N., and Mrs. Forbes, Rathwade, Baganalstown.

Died—At Knockloe, Tullow, Mary, widow of the late Mike Kenny, at an advanced age.

Cork

Rev. John Power, D. D., rector of the Catholic mission at St. Albans for the past eight years, has died from pleurisy and pneumonia. He was born at Castlecor, County Cork, 49 years ago.

An exhibition of food values, under the W.N.H.A., was opened in the Christian Brothers' Schools Fermoy, by E. J. Quinlan, J. P., Ch. U. D. C. Illustrated lectures are given each evening by Miss Brennan.

Dublin

Work has begun on the boring of a tunnel under the Liffey at Dublin.

The Senate of Trinity College has unanimously approved of the grades conferring the honorary degree of LL. D. on Cardinal Mercier.

The late P. J. McCall of Dublin, the well-known poet, musician and litterateur, who died late last week, left £57,115, and letters of administration were granted to his widow.

Kerry

Most Rev. Dr. O'Sullivan presided at the Synod of the clergy of the diocese of Kerry held in Killarney. The new crozier, presented to the Bishop by the people of Tralee, was used for the first time. It is suitably inscribed and is a splendid example of Irish workmanship, designed on the model of the famous crozier variously called the Aghadeo, the Innisfallen, or St. Brendan's, found in 1687 by a fisherman.

The funeral of the late Daniel O'Connell, D. L., took place to Derrynane Abbey after requiem high mass in the private chapel of Derrynane House. There was a very large and representative attendance.

Limerick

Married—At Burncourt Church by the Rev. W. O'Donnell, Bachelor, only son of Edmund and Mrs. Kiely, Kilgias, Mitchelstown, Rita, only daughter of Edmund and Mrs. Fox, Burncourt, Cahirciveen, Mayo.

Over £100 was subscribed at a meeting in Ballipa for a presentation to Very Rev. Canon Tully, president St. Muredach's College, who is going to California for the benefit of his health.

Right Rev. Mgr. Kilkenny, P. P., D. D., V. G., has been elected chairman of the Mayo Asylum Committee.

Tipperary

Many houses in Greenore District have been searched by police and military.

Right Rev. Dean Walsh, P. P., V. F., Very Rev. Canon Leslie and J. O'Gorman have accepted the invitation of Clonmel Asylum to act as mediators in the railway strike. They have asked the committee and the attendants to appoint representatives to meet in conference.

Married—At St. Michael's Church, Ballinacole, by the Rev. T. J. Joyce, Adm., V. F., James, son of the late Patrick Molloy, Abbeyleary, Longford, to Mary J., daughter of Patrick Joyce, Carrigahorig.

Waterford

Father Prendergast, Carrigahorig, has been appointed P. P., Ballybrickan, Waterford, in room of Very Rev. Canon Furlong.