

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

If paper is not received Saturday notify the office.
Report without any delay change of address.
Communications solicited from all Catholics.
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Per Year, in Advance..... \$1.00
Entered at second class mail matter.
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Friday, August 22, 1919.

Typical?

While it is undoubtedly true that not many of our non-Catholic friends believe American Catholics accept the Pope as their temporal as well as spiritual ruler, it is well in view of a recent speech in the United States Senate by Senator Sherman, of Illinois, to republish the following recommendation by the committee on religious prejudice of the Knights of Columbus:

"We should lose no occasion to declare the position of Catholics in this matter, namely, that we owe allegiance to the President as chief executive of the United States, and regard him as supreme in all that concerns our civil and political life, just as we owe allegiance to the Pope as head of our Church, and regard him as supreme in all that concerns our religion.

"The authority of the Church and the authority of the State are exercised in different domains, the one in religious matters, the other in civil, and they cannot conflict, except where the one or the other goes beyond its duly constituted province. On the contrary, in this country they mutually help one another. Both federal and state constitutions guarantee freedom of belief and worship, while the Church is constantly enjoining submission to civil authority, loyalty to American institutions, honesty in civil and commercial life, justice and cordial relations between employer and employee, and purity in social and domestic life.

"There is no reason for raising this question. The history of this country furnishes abundant evidence that Catholics are always ready to make a full measure of sacrifice in time of war and to give a full measure of devotion in time of peace. The words of Washington remind us of the gratitude due them for their part in the first Revolution. The first commodore of our navy was a Catholic, as was also the first general of our cavalry, and Catholics in great numbers have been officers and privates in all our wars. Catholics in high executive places, in legislative halls, both national and state, in judicial capacities, from the lowest to the highest, and in every other public walk, have been numerous, and none has been lacking in true patriotic regard for the laws and the institutions of our country.

"But, if there was no reason then to raise this question, there is not even an excuse now, after all that Catholics did in the late war, when the patriotic utterances of our bishops and clergy, and the service of our people everywhere that service was needed were an inspiration and an example to all, and stand out among the most conspicuous and helpful forces here or abroad in the support of our armies and strengthening and preservation

of both military and civilian morale, all to the end, as the archbishops said in their address to the President, the first unqualified and whole-hearted assurance of loyalty he got from any religious body, "that the great and holy cause of liberty shall triumph and a closer union among all hearts prevail."

Who Are Profiteers?

Everybody who is hit by the high prices is yelling "Profiteer!" at every other fellow until he is black in the face. The trade unionist, who yells to day for higher wages—and, perhaps, with good reason—and then finds all the necessities of life advancing, calls the retail merchants profiteers. The latter lays the blame on the wholesaler who, in turn, puts it on the manufacturer or packer. The latter lays it on the producer. In the case of the packer and many of the retailers, the farmer is blamed as the original profiteer.

Now, who is the profiteer? It must be conceded that when wages of the workers go up, the article they produce must cost more or the seller cannot make a profit and if he does not make a profit he will be compelled to go out of business. Of course, the man who exacts undue or unfair profits is not a patriot but a plain every day thief with no more regard for the moral law, than the professional pocket picker who is listed as a criminal.

The farmer who complains because he has to pay more to his help when he is receiving higher prices for his produce than ever before is not the best class of patriot, especially if he expects to buy shoes, clothing, paint, agricultural implements as cheaply as he did when a dollar a bushel was considered a high price for wheat—whereas now the United States Government guarantees \$2.25 a bushel.

The iron worker whose wages have been boosted several times in the last four years, must not complain—at least he cannot consistently do so—if his brother worker in the shoe industry has his wages boosted also and thus contributes to higher prices for shoes.

But the entire public has a right to complain if the shoe manufacturers and packers are holding back immense quantities of hides and thus creating an apparent scarcity in leather which has been the excuse given by some shoe manufacturers for doubling and trebling the price of shoes.

Glib talk about a short coffee crop in Brazil and Java will not convince the housewife that a jump of from 15 to 30 cents a pound in coffee over night is necessary if the report be true, that millions of pounds of coffee are held back in storage warehouses and another apparent shortage in supply is given out to the public in justification of advance in prices.

Hoarders of necessities who do so with the plain intent of creating an artificial shortage of supply are the real profiteers and should be dealt with as severely as the law permits and if the law at present will not reach such offenders it should be amended immediately so as to do so. And it should not take even the present Congress to exceed a week to so amend the law.

It is reported President Wilson has told United States Senators that Ireland's cause cannot come before the Peace Conference because it is an internal affair of England. Is that so? Well, Cuba was an internal affair of Spain's, yet the United States freed Cuba.

The Catholic press of the United States should be strengthened and made the chief ally of priest and pulpit.

Of course the farmers may make cider at home. If they were denied, woe to the Congressmen in 1920!

Ireland.

Bishop Grimes, of Syracuse, is not a fire eater. He is a thinker, a man not prone to talking just to hear the sound of his own voice. Hence there is convincing force in his following statement regarding Ireland read in all the Churches of the Diocese recently:—

"There was offered at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception a solemn pontifical Mass to implore God to remove from the eyes of those who hold Ireland in slavery the veil which hinders them from seeing in its light their uncivilized and un-Christian treatment, in modern times, of the Irish people.

"We have read of the barbarous atrocities of the Hun towards the Belgian people. They seemed to us as the untombing of practices of the long past. They smacked of the times of Attila and his untutored savages. It was, it is true, in a time of warfare, when men's nature becomes somewhat blunted and individual somewhat reckless. Yet the world has staggered at these outrages on civilization, and a vow was registered in heaven that the perpetrators of such deeds must die.

"But these atrocities pale into insignificance before these perpetrated by the minions of the English Government on a defenseless people exasperated beyond measure by the brutal and unreasonable conduct of the Ministers of the realm.

"Against these outrages not a voice was raised outside the nation, not a word was carried in the public vehicles of news calling the world's attention to this beastly treatment of men in the Twentieth Century of Christian civilization.

"The atrocities to which I refer may be read in the last edition of 'Ireland's Case,' by Seumas MacManus. This book should be read by every Irishman to renew his memory of the past. It should be studied by every schoolboy in our schools, that he may know the noble ancestry whence he sprung, the proud place in history his forbears held, and the length of time and the cruel means the invading tyrant had to use to bring them to their present position. It should be read by every fair-minded American, that he may understand this much agitated question.

The real cause for alarm in the present industrial unrest is the refusal of the strikers to obey the directions of their elected leaders and to disregard even the majority vote of their associate workmen.

So what the W.C.T.U. national president said was "we are not" not "we are now" conducting a campaign for national prohibition of tobacco. Now, who changed "t" to "w"?

Now we are likely to have a wordy battle between those who say that beer is less injurious to the human inside works than the glucose in candy and ice cream sodas.

Do you subscribe for a Catholic paper? If not, it is your duty as you should feel it your privilege to build up a strong Catholic press. Next to the Church it is our greatest safeguard and asset.

There is really danger that discussion over the high cost of living will divert attention from the League of Nations. And yet there are those who would have us believe Woodrow Wilson is not a politician!

Strikes are costly to those involved and the community in which they occur.

The "no treating order" enforced in England during the war, has been rescinded. But the official promulgating the repeal expresses the hope that the permission given will not be accepted.

Sound Advice.

Michael J. Larkin, in addition to being a clever lawyer and an active fraternalist, is a sound thinker and a lucid orator. Hence we know our readers will feel repaid for perusing this excerpt from his recent address as state deputy of the Knights of Columbus:—

"Sinister and debasing influences are everywhere poisoning the mind with false ideals subversive of true citizenship and Christian aspirations. The unity of the home, the foundation of society, is being assaulted. Destruction of governmental authority is the object of the vehement propagandists, spreading the unholy doctrine of no God and no master. The remedy is to increase and stimulate the spirit of true Americanism, fortified by the commanding influence of religion.

"Let America's vision be one of promise and of greatness. Let the lessons of the past be personally as well as national, and let us profit by the faults and mistakes of nations and of individuals. Let moderation and self-restraint, based always on justice, be a guide in the rejection of rule by class, and in the adjustment of differences between wage earner and employer.

"Remain united against foes within as well as foes without. Let faith and unfounded confidence in the ideals which have made us great as a nation continue to inspire us and let the fire of patriotic service burn deep into our very souls.

"Let true Americanism guide and protect us. Socialism, Bolshevism and fanaticism are un-American. Reject all."

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