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Friday, October 24, 1919.

**True and False.**

In the Catholic World for September is a peculiarly interesting article by a convert from the Anglican Church, Michael Andrew Shipman in which he discusses the claims or what in some cases, he thinks amounts to honest belief that the Anglican clergymen are really Catholics and that their service corresponds to the ancient Catholic rites. Mr. Shipman, of course, concedes that the crux of the whole discussion, as Pope Leo and his advisers so clearly saw is the question of Orders—that is the celebrant of the mass must be a duly ordained minister of the Holy Catholic Church, ordained by a continuously qualified successor of St. Peter to whom our Lord imparted the requisite faculties for bestowing Holy Orders.

But, Mr. Shipman points out the claim of many "High Church" Anglican clergymen to Catholic authority and their claim that their communion service is really the Holy Sacrifice and that their sacraments are validly administered has misled many an honest seeker after the truth into belief that he is a truly Catholic as those who belong to the Roman Catholic Church, [as he terms it, and hence there is no need that he adhere to the true Church and acknowledge the spiritual sovereignty of our Holy Father, the Pope, according to some of the High Anglican churchmen, the reformers of the time of Henry VIII did not intend to destroy the mass but to "purify and perpetuate it" while the Low Churchmen declare that it was the intention to absolutely destroy and uproot the Catholic mass. If the latter be true it is apparent that the effort failed, even among their descendants because the strenuous arguments of the High Churchmen prove that the Catholic spirit is still alive.

All this, of course, is queer to a Catholic who cannot see how the High Churchman can think, let alone believe such a thing. As Mr. Shipman says "it is an interesting, and to some inexplicable, phenomenon that a Church whose very existence is based on a repudiation of the claims of Rome, whose service book was compiled in a sincere effort after emancipation from the superstitious idolatries of Papistry, should, from the very first evidences of a recrudescence of upbringing life, tend more and more to approximate the form of her ancient enemy.... As Gladstone said it is the mass that matters. And it is the mass that is dear to Anglicans of the advanced school, and so long as they really believe they have the mass they will stop where they are, that is why I say again that it is the specious resemblance of the Communion Service, as amended and elaborated by High Churchmen, to the Catholic mass, which is the chief obstacle to conversions from these separated brethren."

Very pertinent a Kentucky farmer says that the farmer who can afford to buy an automobile can afford to send his boy or girl to college.

**Not Lower.**

In view of Industrial Conference being in session in Washington and the attitude assumed by some of the conferees there, it may not be out of place to reproduce these declarations from the report on "social reconstruction" of the National Catholic War Council" headed by Bishop P. J. Muldoon, of Rockford:—  
"The general level of wages attained during the war should not be lowered. In a few industries, especially some directly and peculiarly connected with the carrying on of war, wages have reached a plane upon which they cannot possibly continue for this grade of occupations.  
But the number of workers in this situation is an extremely proportion of the entire wage-earning population. The overwhelming majority should not be compelled or suffered to undergo any reduction in their rates of remuneration, for two reasons: First, because the average rate of pay has not increased faster than the cost of living; second, because a considerable majority of the wage-earners of the United States, both men and women, were not receiving living wages when prices began to rise in 1915.  
In that year, according to Lauck and Sydenstricker, whose work is the most comprehensive on the subject, four-fifths of the heads of families obtained less than 800 dollars, while two-thirds of the female wage-earners were paid less than 400 dollars.  
Even if the prices of goods should fall to the level on which they were in 1915—something that cannot be hoped for within five years—the average present rates of wages would not exceed the equivalent of a decent livelihood, in the case of the vast majority. The exceptional instances to the contrary are practically all among the skilled workers. Therefore, wages on the whole should not be reduced even when the cost of living recedes from its present high level.  
Even if the great majority of workers were now in receipt of more than living wages, there are no good reasons why rates of pay should be lowered. After all, a living wage is not necessarily the full measure of justice. All the Catholic authorities on the subject explicitly declare that this is only the minimum of justice. In a country as rich as ours, there are very few cases in which it is possible to prove that the worker would be getting more than that to which he has a right if he were paid something in excess of this ethical minimum.  
The only persons who would benefit considerably through a general reduction of wages are the less efficient among the capitalists, and the more comfortable sections of the consumers. The wage-earners would lose more in remuneration than they would gain from whatever fall in prices occurred as a direct result of the fall in wages.  
On grounds both of justice and sound economics, we should give our hearty support to all legitimate efforts made by labor to resist general wage reductions."

Bishop Hickey opened the educational program which was given in St. Mary's Eyceum, Buffalo, by the Central Catholic Club and the Catholic Young Ladies Reading Circle of Buffalo last Thursday evening.  
The President's physicians do not need to recognize "slanderous reports" if they tell the American people just what Mr. Wilson's malady is.  
There are some of those "250 suspended New York magazines" that would not be missed if they never were issued again.

**Eloquent Tribute**

It is fitting with Cardinal Mercier in the United States, to reproduce the following tribute paid him in the United States House of Representatives by Congressman Porter H. Dale, of Vermont, who was one of the Congressional Committee that toured the battlefields of Europe:—  
Our going to the ecclesiastical palace was an event which for me, among many of interest and emotion, stands out intense and by itself. After we had been received we were summoned to seats around a long table. In the ceiling of the room, torn by the shells of the invaders, were ragged holes through which one could look to the roof, hastily and roughly replaced to meet the necessity. A plain repast had been prepared in perfect keeping with the day and the conditions. About the table sat a company assembled from distant places, of different nationalities, and of sundry opinions; but a common interest had brought us there, common passion had made us kin, and all our thoughts played forth and back like chords in unison. We had come thinking our host would be an austere man, a solemn dignitary. We found him stately, as becomes his high position, but a man in whose glance sweet humor shone, and in telling something so tenderly you must brush away a tear, his fine wit would bring you to a smile. Priests and some Belgian soldiers were there, lately released from prison and the trench and escaped from death, and in whose faces was the look of unutterable thoughts. It was a singular company of men, one-half the number of whom could speak or understand but little of the language of the others. Those who spoke English were seated alternately with those who spoke French, and the attempts to convey and comprehend thoughts soon banished restraint and set free good fellowship. Cardinal Mercier is a linguist. His address to us was, as we expected, scholarly in diction, style and sentiment, and with fine courtliness he spoke, as we had not anticipated, in correct, modern English.

Father A. A. Notebaert was a proud priest and rightly so when the great Belgian Cardinal visited the church of Our Lady of Victory.  
It is to be hoped Governor Smith's War Board will be able to do what its author hopes it will be able to do in the way of adjusting industrial disputes.  
Evidently, Vice President Marshall is not to be overlooked. He was the host of the King and Queen of Belgium on their visit to the national capital.  
Soon it will be in order to print the customary crop of jokes on the difference between the coal man and the iceman.

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