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**Good Work**

No matter what is the underlying motive the National Civic Federation is doing good work in eliciting information and in calling attention to the following important matters:—

What are the rights and duties of parents in the education of their own children? What are the responsibilities of the church member and the citizen in the contribution of moneys to philanthropic and charitable organizations under whose shelter and through whose machinery revolutionary propagandists disseminate their doctrines? And what is the responsibility of the business man advertising in periodicals which advocate and propagate a radicalism contrary to our American ideals and institutions?

There is no doubt that one of the sources of the present unrest and discontent is traceable to the persistent efforts on the part of a certain class of thinkers and plotters to break down and minimize the family as a social unit and to substitute a state ownership and control of the children for parental control and supervision. These plotters are aided and abetted by careless and lazy parents who are not only willing but glad to be relieved of the care of their children. As a matter of fact many of these parents were averse to these children coming into their lives and, as a natural consequence welcome any suggested method whereby they may be relieved of any care and responsibility for their offspring.

This is purely the material side of the question. Such parents have no religious convictions to speak of and it is a matter of no concern if their children grew up with no religious principles or that they are trained in an educational system that makes for absolute unbelief. It is the indifferent and careless parent who has fostered, in fact, the present educational system which is absolutely godless and has forced the real Catholics of the United States to maintain their own Catholic schools, at double expense, in order that their children may have the advantage of an educational plan under which the home religious training is supplemented by a school atmosphere from which the religious flavor has not been eliminated.

And now the plotters finding that the Catholic schools turn out better trained students in the purely secular branches are leading a movement, under the sounder mask of patriotism, to abolish the Catholic schools altogether, to wipe out every vestige of parental control of the child and all privilege of selection as to his education and to make the child a chattel of the State. And these selfsame plotters denounce Socialism and Russian Sovietism, and if we held our peace, would get away with it! Indeed, if there

are too many spineless Catholics, they may get away with it any way!

As to business men aiding publications and propaganda that preach and foster radicalism that is a matter of opinion. As a general proposition, we should feel that a man is not called upon to contribute to anything that tends to injure his own business enterprises, provided the business is a legitimate one conducted in a legitimate manner.

**Counter Irritant**

In view of the onslaught on the Catholic schools in certain parts of the country it is well to republish these resolutions presented by Judge Crain—a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church—to the Amsterdam Democratic Club of New York City and adopted unanimously:—

"Whereas the school is the moulder of character, the childhood of the nation taking like wax the impress of the mould, and

"Whereas education is the armor of the mind, the defence of the nation and the first object of government, and

"Whereas religion is the binder together of humanity and the foundation of society, the voice of the deepest human experience, providing a conception of life, bettering character, safeguarding virtue and producing happiness,

"Therefore resolved that education must no longer be officially severed from faith. We demand that it penetrate to the vitals—the hours of mass, knew when to make their Easter duty, knew the happenings of the Catholic world, and could explain the catechism's points of doctrine and practice, while those who did not know nothing of these things, and did not feel like talking on Catholic topics. With the one you felt at home in the atmosphere of the Church, with the other one had to bore him, or get into the subjects of the street and the secular daily."

"We commend as entitled to the highest praise the army of zealous, high-minded and competent teachers throughout our city and State who by example and precept work untiringly for the maintenance of high ideals. They ask no praise and need no eulogy. They are enshrined in the respect, esteem and affection of an appreciative public, but we demand the passage of such laws, and if necessary the adoption of such Constitutional amendments, as will enable them to provide for the children of the State ethical and religious training according to the religious convictions of the parents of such children, with proper safeguards against attempts at proselytism."

**Civic Duty**

The Baltimore "Mirror" offers these non-partisan and sensible suggestions to the electors who are to exercise the right of franchise in 1920:—

We will soon be in the midst of a political campaign. The voters of the country must select a chief executive. It should call to the mind of every man or woman qualified to vote the obligation that rests upon them.

The franchise is a privilege. The exercise of it is a duty. It is a duty that must be fulfilled conscientiously. Very frequently we hear criticisms of the old political parties. People tell us that they are rotten to the core. The blame rests entirely upon the voters. If an unfit candidate is chosen for office, the man who failed to vote is equally guilty with the corrupt politicians who put him there. An endeavor is being made to form a new national party. The only foundation upon which they build their hopes is the corruption in the older parties. If the voters are not sufficiently patriotic to purify the old parties they will not support the new.

The right kind of patriotism means more than a salute to the flag. It is built upon something that is more stable than a diploma from a little red school house. Real patriotism means a patriotic, intelligent and conscientious use of the privilege of voting.

**Support Your Paper!**

Bishop Drumm, of Des Moines, Iowa, is a firm believer in the efficacy of the Catholic press and urges its support. Writing in the "Western World", Bishop Drumm says:—

"Catholic publishers have not been swayed from their course of loyalty serving up the Catholic news, without any admixture of sensationalism, impurity or bad taste and they have suffered in consequence. I refer principally to the devoted publishers of the truly Catholic weekly. There are some seventy in the United States, and they 'went in and stood by the brazen altar' of sacrifice for the cause, and with the poor writer's inkhorn of poor support and lack of encouragement they have done a great service to God and Church and country.

"They have kept on begging news, begging subscriptions and advertising to keep their little plants going, and sending the report of Catholic doings, and the knowledge of Catholic action and Catholic faith into Catholic homes to keep the faith alive where otherwise it might have been weakened or lost; and with very little appreciation, and not a little fault-finding and criticism. More power to them.

"On missions I had often an opportunity to compare Catholics who took and read a Catholic paper with Catholics who did not do so. The comparison is very striking. Those who did know when the mission was to be held, knew the hours of mass, knew when to make their Easter duty, knew the happenings of the Catholic world, and could explain the catechism's points of doctrine and practice, while those who did not know nothing of these things, and did not feel like talking on Catholic topics. With the one you felt at home in the atmosphere of the Church, with the other one had to bore him, or get into the subjects of the street and the secular daily."

**Rev. John J. Gleeson**

Called away much as was his brother ten years ago suddenly, Rev. John J. Gleeson, for the last five years irremovable rector of the Corning parish, and for a quarter of a century before the pastor in Clyde, Rev. John J. Gleeson has passed to his last reward. Perhaps, fifteen years ago, Fathers John and William Gleeson were well known Catholic pastor's in the Diocese of Rochester. Father John was older and had been for years the zealous pastor in Clyde. Father William, ten years younger, attracted the attention of Bishop McQuaid by his tireless labors as assistant to Father O'Neil in the Immaculate Conception parish and he was sent as irremovable rector to St. Mary's in Rochester. There he made himself beloved of his people until his Master summoned him suddenly in the night, and Father John came on from Clyde to officiate at the last sad rites. And now he too, has been called to his reward. And while his friends offer their prayers for the repose of his soul they will not forget his younger brother as well. May eternal rest come to both of them!

Governor Al. Smith did not have to run the gauntlet of a designating convention. Everybody was unanimously for Al.

The Catholic Journal extends hearty congratulations to Rev. Dr. M. J. Nolan upon the silver jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood.

Now, if ever, is the need apparent of a strong and virile Catholic press. If you would help achieve this result secure another friend to subscribe for the Catholic Journal. If our subscription list were doubled we would return the money in a doubly better paper.

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