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AMERICANIZATION MASK OF POLITICAL INTERESTS

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)

Washington, D. C.—That a great deal of iniquitous profiteering in patriotism is being carried on by commercial or political reactionary interests under the mask of "Americanization" is the serious charge made by the Department of Social Action of the National Catholic Welfare Council in a statement made public from its headquarters in this city.

Sinister influences, it is charged, are operating through many organizations which profess their purpose to be social reconstruction and reform.

These schemes are denounced by the Department of Social Action of the N. C. W. C. as utterly un-American, and the demand is made that the "dollar sign" be kept off all programs of Americanization.

The text of this emphatic warning is as follows:

The Catholic Protest

"Before beginning the work of the National Catholic War Council and of the National Catholic Welfare Council for the promotion of American Citizenship, a general survey of the field was made to find out the agencies already operating for the promotion of citizenship. In this brief survey we found that the country was filled with plans and schemes for Americanizing the immigrant.

These plans and schemes ran the whole gamut, from the teaching of English to thorough-going plans for civic education. They covered the whole range also from the disinterested patriotic individuals and private and public agencies to the schemes of special interests promoting selfish purposes.

"To all of the former under public or private agencies we express earnest appreciation of their efforts and a desire for active co-operation. Nothing needs to be done more than the promotion of the ideals of America among natives and immigrants alike.

Un-American Schemes

"The schemes of special interests represent sinister influences. So many schemes with ulterior commercial motives are being pushed throughout the country as to endanger the integrity of the whole government and call for plain spoken condemnation. We denounce such schemes as being un-American. We declare it to be unspendable for any man or group of men or corporate interest to use a patriotic disguise to capitalize present conditions for a selfish purpose. "The sorriest use to which Americanism and its emblems can be put is their employment as ramparts for reactionary wealth and privilege," declared the New York World in denouncing one of the pseudo-Americanism schemes.

"The survey disclosed reactionary commercial interests carrying on propaganda to discredit the labor movement; to promote reactionary sentiments; to kill welfare legislation and to discredit the ideals of social justice, under the guise of Americanism or Americanization.

"Deliberate efforts to promote popular hysteria and wild fears with the direct object of promoting reaction, are matters of common observation. Paid advertisements for Americanization by commercial interests with very doubtful patriotic motives have been carried by papers throughout the country. The dollar sign is too plainly stamped on many of these schemes. Systems of espionage over employees have been built up according to official testimony on the basis of Americanization. This perversion of Americanization by special interests is having a most damaging effect upon the ideals of American citizenship.

"Recently it has been announced that commercial interests are to attempt to control all plans for Americanization and the promotion of citizenship presumably including those promoted by public schools, church organizations and philanthropic bodies. We demand that the dollar sign be kept off all programs for Americanization.

We hold that no plan short of complete social justice should be held as a goal in programs for good citizenship or Americanization.

Weak Must Not Be Exploited
"We hold that loyalty and devotion to American institutions can be promoted best by the prevention of exploitation of the weak by the strong or crafty; by the promotion of the distribution of the world's resources; by the development of moral institutions; and by the molding of our institutions to promote these ends.

"We believe that good citizenship or Americanization should be promoted among natives and immigrants alike for the purpose of fixing an ideal of justice and civic responsibility toward which all may strive in practical fashion.

"We look upon the teaching of English as an instrument by which the ideals of American citizenship can be acquired but we do not overlook the native tongue as a vehicle of expression of democracy and Americanism.

"We object to the idea that people can be forced into a mood of good citizenship, and we deplore the unfortunate meaning which has been attached to Americanization in the mind of many who have come to look upon it as a method of compulsion.

"We believe that the ideals of fair play and the square deal, freedom of expression, freedom of religious opinion, civic responsibility and participation in democracy, work and in all other organizations which shape human destinies should be held before our people and be made the goal of their strivings as individuals and as citizens."



H. BRADLEY CARROLL
City Treasurer

The new City Treasurer was born in Rochester, Nov. 29, 1875, and his early education was secured in the parochial and private schools. He graduated from the Rochester Free Academy in 1894. Then he attended the University of Rochester for three years leaving that institution to enter Albany Law School from which he was graduated in 1901. He was admitted to the bar and has since then been employed in the practice of his profession in Rochester. He has served half a dozen times in the Common Council as representative of the Eleventh Ward, during which period he has played an important part in the advancement of the ward which he represented and for several years has been leader of the Council.

Promotion of Mr. Carroll is conceded to be well warranted and we bespeak for him a most successful term of office which is the wish of his many friends not only in the Eleventh Ward but in all parts of the city.—Adv.



HENRY W. MORSE

Henry W. Morse, candidate for County Purchasing Agent, was born in Rochester in 1869. He attended the public schools and Taylor's Business College. He is a member of C. H. Morse & Son, manufacturers of rubber stamps and metal signs. Captain Morse served in the National Guard from 1890 until a few years ago and had every rank from private to captain. Captain Morse is a veteran of the Spanish-American war and is affiliated with L. Boardman Smith Camp.

He is a member of the Elks, Knights of Pythias and for several years has been commander and drill master of the Fourth Ward Republican Club.

In the Board of Supervisors Mr. Morse was Republican floor leader for two years, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and Equalization Committee on Barge Canal and Waterways, and Chairman of the Claims of our Superintendent of the Poor and County Treasurer's Accounts. Captain Morse during the late war served as Commander of our Home Defense League with the rank of Colonel. Colonel Morse is serving his second term as County Purchasing Agent, a position which he has filled most creditably and is up for re-election this year.—Adv.

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