

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

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Friday, July 8, 1921.

Pair Of A Kind

We have had occasion in the past to point out the viciousness and bigotry of Thomas E. Watson and to comment upon the peculiar makeup of the electorate of Georgia in electing such a moral pest as Tom as its representative in the United States Senate.

It appears that Senate Office Building, Room 120 is given as the editorial office of "The Sentinel" a Watson publication that reeks with slanders against Catholics in general, those of Georgia in particular and Bishop Keiley of Savannah in specific terms.

A Georgia Catholic layman, named Richard Reid, called attention of United States Senator John Sharp Williams of Mississippi, to the monthings of Watson. Evidently, Senator Williams has descended to the level of Watson for he replied to Mr. Reid as follows:

"Mr. Richard Reid: "My dear Sir- I have yours of June 13th. I confess that I do not know how to answer it, unless I can get a reply to one question: is it true that Bishop Keiley, or 'the Bishop of Savannah,' refused to permit the Keiley establishment at Savannah to be inspected by officers of courts of Chatham county? I would like to have an answer, yes or no, to that question; and I am not asking it for purposes of argument, but for information; because I don't know. If it be true that there be in the United States any sort of an institution, pretending to have a right to defy the inspection laws of a state, that institution ought to be put out of existence, root and branch. I can not believe that the statement can be true, because I can not conceive of such insolent treason to American institutions. I shall hold your letter upon my desk for further consideration until I have heard more from you.

"With every expression of regard Very truly yours,

(Signed) "John Sharp Williams."

Mr. Reid replied to this impertinent missive courteously but to the point. Senator Williams was informed that the Chatham county grand jury, although it felt the task an unpleasant and unnecessary one, had inspected all the Catholic institutions housing what might be termed "wards of the State" but that it found St. Vincent's Convent of Mercy to be the exclusive and private home of the Sisters of Mercy. The grand jurors went on:

While we were accorded every courtesy by the Sisters we felt that we were imposing ourselves, and, therefore, recommend that future grand juries strike this institution from the list of places to be visited under the Veasey act.

"Respectfully submitted."

"This will, I believe, remove any suspicion created in your mind that the courts, grand juries and prosecuting attorney of Chatham county are so shamelessly delinquent as to suffer a white slave pen to exist in Savannah, as the article in the paper

of the junior senator from Georgia alleges. The treason you sense does not emanate from Savannah.

"Thanking you for your interest and assuring you of our readiness to give you any other information desired.

"Sincerely yours, "Richard Reid."

While it might be expected that Senator Williams will apologize to Mr. Reid for the tone of his former letter we do not expect that he will. In his advancing years, John Sharp Williams has shown evidence of declining mentality. It is a pity, too, because he was once such a towering figure in the United States Senate.

Recognition

The parties to the building trades dispute in Rochester recognize what all thinking men have long seen:—that the Catholic Church in the United States, by reason of the close personal relations between priest and people and also because the Catholic Church is founded on the teachings of Christ and only the Gospel of Christ and truths of revealed religion are taught from her pulpits, is the real balance wheel that is holding in check the rapacity of reactionary employers and financiers and also interposing a solid banner against the fulminations of the anarchists, the Reds and the Parlor Radicals.

No better selection as industrial arbitrator could have been made than that of Rev. Dr. A. M. O'Neill, of Immaculate Conception parish. Thoroughly grounded as a theologian, a profound student of economics, a sympathetic priest, Dr. O'Neill is also keenly interested in civic welfare and anything that makes for the betterment of his own city of Rochester.

Defeated

According to our National Catholic Press Service, several attempts to push through legislation that would have been detrimental to Catholic interests that were made during the recent session of the Maine Legislature were defeated through the efforts of Bishop Walsh and other influential Catholics.

The controversy centered around a bill providing for compulsory reading of the Bible and compulsory prayer in every public and private school in the state, and on a bill to memorialize the United States congress that the legislature of Maine approves and urges favorable action upon the Smith-Towner bill.

The first bill, which was sponsored by an Episcopalian minister of anti-Catholic bias, was actually rushed through the house at a time when most of the members were absent, and was only halted in the senate when Bishop Walsh announced that its passage would be publicly interpreted by him as a direct attack on the Catholic Church by the republican party in Maine. Through the efforts of the state superintendent of schools, the memorial favoring the Smith-Towner bill also was passed by the house, but was indefinitely postponed by the senate. Bishop Walsh appeared at a public hearing to oppose this bill.

Proposed laws to change Columbus day from a school holiday to a mere passing observance by exercises in the schools, and to provide for an amendment of the state constitution called the "Anti-Aid Amendment," similar to that passed by the Massachusetts legislature three years ago, were also defeated.

In selecting Willard A. Marakle as his assistant and personal representative in Rochester, State Industrial Commissioner Henry D. Sayer has chosen well. Mr. Marakle's experience as a legislative correspondent and for six years past as editor of the New York State Department of Labor's Official Bulletin has

equipped him to perform the duties of his new position. Welcome home, Willard!

Bishop Hickey Confirms in Dansville

Dansville, July 2.—The Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Hickey confirmed a class of 51 children and adults at St. Patrick's Church last Friday evening at 7 o'clock. At 8 o'clock he went to St. Mary's Church and confirmed a large class, consisting of children and adults.

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Angel Curras of Corunna, Spain, and Gonzales Blanco, noted Spanish artist, have brought to Brooklyn the original small altar presented to Christopher Columbus by Queen Isabella and used by Columbus on his first voyage of discovery on the flag-ship Santa Maria. The antique was obtained by Curras after several years of endeavor, and is to be delivered to Thomas, Collado & Co., an exporting firm. The authenticity of this altar and a number of other antiques which Curras brought is certified to by affidavits made before Ralph C. Busser, American consul at Corunna.

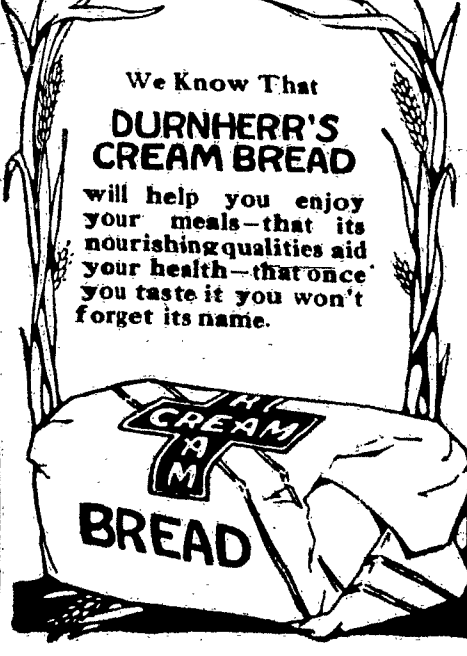
The altar was originally a gift from Queen Isabella to Christopher Columbus according to the account given by Mr. Curras, and, besides eight carvings in bone depicting scenes in the life of Christ, contains also small portraits in carved bone of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. The small shrine is about sixteen inches high and fourteen inches wide, and the hinged cover, in two pieces, folds over the top, making a compact cabinet. Each of the doors has a hanging iron knob used to unfold the shrine. According to the documents in Mr. Curras' possession, this shrine is one of a collection of twenty antiques he is bringing to this country. On inspection by customs officials, the shrine was ordered sent to the appraisers' stores, that a valuation might be put on it.

New Smoke-Burning Device.

A new water-cooled buffle-plate device for installation in the firebox of a conventional up-draft furnace has the effect of converting it into one having some of the characteristics of the down-draft type. It is described in Popular Mechanics. Its construction is simple, consisting of two hollow steel compartments of different heights, arranged crosswise of the firebox, at a point somewhat to the rear of the center, with the higher one at the back, thus dividing the firebox into two distinct combustion zones. As the two chambers are separated by a few inches and the higher one reaches to the boiler by the front, the gases and smoke liberated by the forward portion of the fire are forced to pass over the top of the low forward section, down between it and the rear section, under the latter, and over the hottest part of the fire, where they are consumed.

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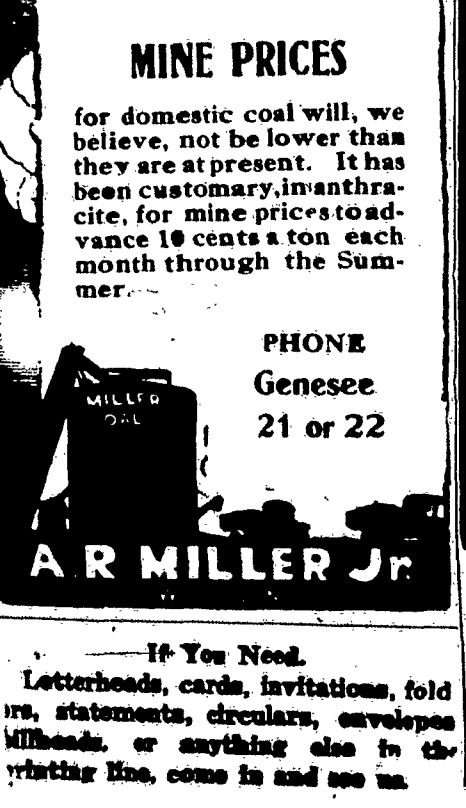
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