

**THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL**

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Friday, Dec. 16, 1921.

**"Irish Free State"**

While the title "Irish Free State" may be a misnomer and hence to that extent Mr. DeValera may be justified in opposing the truce and agreement and treaty which have been negotiated between Michael Collins, Arthur Griffith, Sir Hanan Greenwood and Lloyd George.

It is also true that the "Irish Republic" is not and will not be under the proposed agreements but no one at all conversant with inner details of recent events, ever expected any such development unless and except the Irish arms prevailed over the physical force of Great Britain. That meant more battles, more bloodshed, more riots, more suffering.

Under the proposed treaty, Ireland will occupy practically the same position as occupied in the plan of Great Britain or the British Empire by the Dominion of Canada and we know that Canada is gripped to the British Empire by the flimsiest of threads yet it would take much argument, much persuasion and much tantalization of the Canadians before they would listen even to suggestions to throw off the ties that bind to England and create the Republic of Canada.

Wherefore, the Catholic Journal thinks that the Collins-Griffith-Lloyd George pact should prevail as a mighty forward stride and as the only precursor to an Irish Republic later, available at the present moment.

**Catholic Education**

Commenting on the query as to what influence the teacher educator, if any, exerts upon his or her pupils—a Catholic educator says:—"In many cases parents must answer the indictment of inculcating in their children's minds false principles or of failure to inculcate any at all. The conviction seems to have generally crept in that all responsibility for the mental, moral and even physical development of the child devolves on the school. Education of offspring is the essential, primary object of matrimony and indeed those parents are sadly recalcitrant to their God-imposed duty who sit supinely by and exercise no supervision over their children's training or who, which is still worse, inculcate false principles by the laxity of their lives. If either of these two sources of supply is contaminated or runs dry, all attempts on the part of others at formation of character are in grave danger of proving abortive. Fortunately, the system of training in Catholic schools precludes the possibility of arraignment on the former charge. The principles for which the system stands are the eternal principles of Catholic truth and the teachers are God's own servants. The default of parents in their duty presents an obstacle often insurmountable; regular contact of teachers and parents, however, in many cases proves a very efficacious remedy."

**Real Vs. Artificial**

Senator James A. Reed, of Missouri, is a great lover of the real and has precious little use for the artificial, the hypocrite, the sham or subterfuge. In a recent speech in the United States Senate on the Sheppard "Maternity bill" so-called, Mr. Reed flayed the measure as Socialist in its conception and mercenary in its motive. He went on:—"Official meddling cannot take the place of mother love. For mother love there is no substitute, even though it bear an official stamp. If there be truth in religion, then this holy sentiment was planted in woman's heart by the hand of God. It has made life possible. It is in truth the very source of life itself. When all other passions are dead, it survives. It will pass through the fiery furnace of disgrace and yet live. It will endure the scorching breath of contumely with unwavering fidelity. A mother will enter prisons of shame and kiss a felon hand thrust through the bars. She will sit beside the accused in the courts of law, when the mob jeers and the heartless machinery of justice grinds its grist of agony, and with unwavering faith maintain her child is innocent. She will stand at the foot of the scaffold and, when the trap has fallen, cover the condemned body with kisses and with flowers. It is still to her the innocent suckling she once hugged to her breast.

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**"Some Bigness"**

That fraternal insurance is popular and growing more popular is evidenced by the following editorial article in "The Optimist":—"This is an age of big things. The war was big, with its big area, its big armies, its big slaughter, and its big expense. But there are beneficial things which are big. The heart of humanity is big, and the way it expresses itself through fraternal benevolence is also big. "Ten million people in the United States and Canada are members of fraternal insurance societies. They believe in protecting their dependents. "The protection carried by this ten million exceeds eleven billion dollars. "Over a million people join these societies each year thus adding a billion and a half of insurance for the protection of families. "Last year fraternal insurance societies paid benefits amounting to one hundred fifty million dollars. The benefits paid by all American societies in the past fifty years reach the stupendous sum of \$3,500,000,000. Think of the burdens who have had their burdens lightened by this money,

homes kept intact, the orphans cared for.

"Yes, fraternal insurance is a big thing. And the marvelous thing about it is that these results have been achieved by co-operation and the monthly contribution of small sums by great numbers of people. "These are facts we should remember. They should remind us that we need not apologize for the system."

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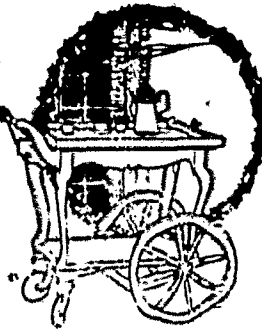
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