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Friday, Feb. 16, 1922.

History

In the main, we agree with the Democrat & Chronicle when it says, commenting on the charges and counter charges that have been flying abroad that our American histories have been "doctored" and also are inaccurate.

If these complaints touched the isolated work of one or two writers of histories they might be found worthy of great attention, but to indict the whole body of American historians of charges of Anglophobia or of sectional partiality is to attack the scientific principles upon which real history is built and the character of some of the ablest American scholars.

A good historian weighs his facts and tests them as thoroughly as the most careful chemist weighs and tests the unknown precipitant of his most important investigation. It may be said, in fact, that modern historians are as much scientists as those workers with material things to whom the name more commonly is applied.

However, it must be conceded that there are a number of men and women who call themselves "historians" who are nothing more nor less than propagandists. True, they may have spent a lifetime in research but not in impartial mood. They were devoting time and energy to proving a particular proposition.

We often recall a remark by the late Bishop McQuaid on occasion of sending one of the scholars who afterward filled a chair at St. Bernard's to take a course in a famous European University on "how to study history". Said the venerable Bishop when surprise was expressed at the remark: "Young man, it takes a lifetime to learn how to study history. In the University of Blank there is the accumulation of centuries of study and Rev. Dr. Blank could spend years there before he could really be certified as really competent to teach history."

We know many so-called historians have deliberately misrepresented the Catholic Church. Why then, is it not credible that pro-British enthusiasts have put only their own case to the front in other words "one-sided American history"?

The Chicago conference of Chicago plans to "convert" the foreign born population of the metropolis in the West. It is the object of the home mission of the Catholics in Protest-

the better Catholic a man is, the better American citizen he must of necessity be.

John A. Barnhite is legal adviser to the motorists and Judge William Ervine is counsel to manufacturing associations. Thus do former Public Service Commissioners land on their feet.

Let's Have Facts

The faddists and theorists are up in arms because some of the citizens of Kentucky are objecting to the teaching in schools and colleges of Darwin's evolutionary tenets. One secular contemporary wails thusly:—There is no necessity to champion the teachings of Darwin to prove the fundamental error of these atavistic Kentuckians. He chose as his title Pius XI. The reigns of Pius IX and Pius X divided by the long and notable wrong track, but they are more in the wrong. If they have any arguments to present against his theories, it is their right, their duty, to present them. But in doing this, in all fairness they are obliged to allow those who believe in him and his teaching to state their side of the argument. If upon this Darwin is in error, and they can prove it, then the theories can become a part of the garbage pile of science. Certainly no Darwinians will ever deny the right of opposition to their belief. But they have the right to demand a hearing, to insist that the theories which have lived so long be given an opportunity to prove their case in the court of public opinion.

And Kentucky will deny this right if the forces seeking to prohibit teaching of Darwin in the schools prevail. That is where they put themselves on the defensive from the start off; and right never has to fight on the defensive.

It may happen that the Darwinian professors and teachers in these Kentucky schools are denying passing marks to the students who refuse to accept the Darwinian theory as final and binding. In such case, those teachers should be fired out of school bodily. There is no one side to this argument.

Let us have facts before we judge.

Quite Right

Whether one is a Volsteadian or a pro-wet, he can coincide with the following views expressed editorially by Mr. Munsey's New York "Herald".

The New York State superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League says:—"While we can compel the wets, who are in the minority in numbers, but represent much money, to pay their share of the more than \$100,000,000 of public funds spent in giving prohibition a fair trial through the operation of government, federal, state and local enforcement, we cannot expect the wets to contribute the \$1,000,000 a year that will be necessary for some years to come to get the facts to the people so that they can continue to co-operate effectively in retaining control of the government machinery."

This is a generous concession. If the wets are in the minority and have the money, they should be compelled to pay the necessary \$1,000,000 a year "to get the facts." Still—if the word is permissible—this would be unkind to the faithful, who burn to subsidize the cause. They, too, must "represent much money," and the Anti-saloon-leagues and the Allied Citizens of America represent them. If the people are co-operating effectively already, why do they need to be fed with new "facts" in order to continue their cooperation? It is not for laymen to penetrate these mysteries. The great thing is to continue to manufacture and disseminate the "facts."

Archbishop Curley, Cardinal Gibbons, successor in the See of Baltimore, addressing a mixed audience at a Knights of Columbus reception, uttered these significant words: "I have only contempt for the Catholic who supports a man because he is a Catholic and is otherwise unfit for the office."

The Y. M. C. A. drive for funds netted \$475,000. Let us hope St. Mary's Hospital new building fund campaign is as great a success, proportionately.

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Pius XI.

We have a new Pope, another Pius. Cardinal Ratti, Archbishop of Milan, on Monday last received the necessary two-thirds vote of the College of Cardinals and was chosen as the spiritual head of over half a billion souls scattered all over the world. He chose as his title Pius XI. The reigns of Pius IX and Pius X divided by the long and notable wrong track, but they are more in the wrong. If they have any arguments to present against his theories, it is their right, their duty, to present them. But in doing this, in all fairness they are obliged to allow those who believe in him and his teaching to state their side of the argument. If upon this Darwin is in error, and they can prove it, then the theories can become a part of the garbage pile of science. Certainly no Darwinians will ever deny the right of opposition to their belief. But they have the right to demand a hearing, to insist that the theories which have lived so long be given an opportunity to prove their case in the court of public opinion.

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Red Tape

A Federal judge in Brooklyn is disposing of 100 liquor law violation cases a day and says he does this by "brushing through the red tape." The Post Express is not altogether in approval of this method. It says:—It is the fashion to rail at red tape, and rightly does excess of red tape merit criticism. But often the means taken to insure the exact administration of justice and to prevent the infliction of injustice upon persons accused of things, guilt of which may mean forfeiture of life or liberty, is called red tape. We cannot try a man for murder unless the body of the victim is found. This protects men from imprisonment or death for the murder of a person that if found alive after a few years. We cannot accept the testimony of a murderer's victim as to the identity of his murderer unless it is corroborated and unless the accused man is present. These things are red tape. No judge would think of conducting a case without observing these rules. But there are many other things like this, though seemingly of less importance, designed to protect the innocent from injustice and to make our courts just and fair in every respect. In some cases, under some circumstances, some of these provisions may be disobeyed without harm. Disobedience may even promote justice. But the rapid hearing of cases by this judge makes some fear that in the "brushing through" of red tape, some injustice may be done. Better that the courts be clogged for years than that an innocent man suffer.

The Public Rights

The idea is rapidly growing, says the Buffalo "Express" that the public is the first party in interest in a strike and in the relations of capital and labor generally. We have had laws and their enforcement for the benefit of capital and for the benefit of labor, but what we need is laws and their administration which subordinate both capital and labor to the general welfare and prosperity.

Until now the public has been the innocent bystander watching the combat between combines and organizations and getting the worst of it, no matter how the issue turned. But the indications are that the public does not much longer propose to be the goat; and that a day is coming when the people, looking back, will wonder how they ever tolerated strikes which tied up transportation, threatened communities with famine or put fuel out of their reach.

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Spilled Her "Makeup." A few of my friends and I were playing in moving pictures as extras. We were very interested and elated over our "wonderful fame," and purchased every kind of makeup we had ever heard of.

Touring Devastated Areas.

Large numbers of tourists have been keenly disappointed during the last year by the ruins of the war. Several have gone so far as to say that they were persuaded to visit the French battlefields by fraudulent statements.

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