

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

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Friday, March 17, 1912.

Cobb For The Irish

Irvin Cobb is best known as humorist and short story writer but he has his serious moments and in one of these he penned a very interesting article "The Celts of the South" in which he pays high tribute to the Celtic influence and imprint upon the Southland, rather than what the latter-day British propagandist would have us believe was all Anglo-Saxon. In the conclusion of the article Mr. Cobb draws these deductions:—

"In my opinion, it is not altogether topography or geography or climate that has made the South what it is, and given it those distinguishing characteristics which adorn it. The soft speech of the Southerner; his warm heart, and his hot head, his readiness to begin a fight, and to forgive his opponent afterward; his veneration for women's chastity, and his love for the ideals of his native land—all these are heritages of his Irish ancestry, transmitted to him through two or three generations. The North has put her heroes on a pension, but the South has put hers on a pedestal. There is not a Southern hamlet of any size to-day that has not reared a bronze or marble or granite monument to its own defenders in the Civil War, and there is scarce a Southern home where at the knees of the mother the children are not taught to revere the memories and remember the deeds of Lee and Jackson and Forrest, the Tennessee Irishman, and Morgan, the Kentucky Irishman, and Washington, and Light Horse Harry Lee, and Francis Marion, the Swamp Fox of the Carolinas. I believe as firmly as I believe anything on earth that for that veneration, for that love of heroism, and for that joying in the ideals of his soil, the South is indebted mainly to the Irish blood that courses through the veins of its sons and of its daughters.

"The lost Irish tribes of the South are not lost; they are not any more the "wild geese" that flew across the Channel from Ireland were lost. They are not lost any more than the McKeltons who went to France, or the O'Donnells who went to Spain, or the Simon Bolivars and the O'Higgins who went to South America, or the O'Farrells and the O'Briens who went to Cuba. For their Irish blood is of the strain that cannot be extinguished and it lives to-day, thank God, in the attributes and the habits and the customs and the traditions of the Southern people."

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"Over The Top"

This phrase, undoubtedly, was decidedly overworked, during and just after the war, in much the same manner as "Tipperary" and other songs and slogans. But its application may be excused in referring to the wonderful drive just finished to raise by popular subscription funds needed to improve and re-equip St. Mary's Hospital.

It was a "popular drive" in every sense of the word. The public of Rochester should by their words and deeds show that they appreciate the self-sacrificing devotion of the Sisters in charge of St. Mary's. Racial and other lines were obliterated and the men and women of all creeds, who had marched shoulder to shoulder in Liberty Loan and other war-work campaigns, renewed acquaintance and activity in the campaign for St. Mary's and they made a record drive.

Let the good work of obliterating blind and senseless bigotry among the citizenship of Rochester keep up!

Wrong, All Around

Dr. Thomas MacNamara, of Corning, the birthplace of Margaret Sanger, the queen of birth control—speaking before the Corning Academy of Medicine on the infamous trio—that is in the way of the irreligious and irreverent alleged scientists have linked them up—Eugenics, Euthanasia and birth control, conveyed these plain assertions:—

"In their proposition there is no love; there is no sympathy; there is no kindness. Their teachings stamp them as a class on a par with other criminals; in fact they are greater culprits than inmates of the pen. The burglar may take your gold or other belongings and leave you penniless, but he has not robbed you of the love and affection that binds you to your own; he has not dulled or calloused your heart towards your mortal obligations. Your loss may cost you regret, inconvenience and helplessness at the time but such is not comparable with the loss from the mother's heart of that heavenly gift compared to which there is no equal—a mother's love.

"Regulation of size of family along the lines of convenience is a cold proposition and finds approval only among those in whom the highest emotions and noblest elements of the human heart is dead or in a state of decay.

To him or her who finds the allurements of the world more attractive than the responsibilities of parental functions it appeals; to those who have never had in their composition the normal maternal instincts it appeals; to those who have been robbed of those noble qualities by such delusions as the cult offers it appeals; to those who are misanthropists it appeals; to those whose minds run to the stock farm it appeals; but to the sympathetic, affectionate, normal and moral soul it does not appeal. In fact, if any analysis could be made into the moral and physical fibre of those to whom it appeals, a void or vacuum would be discovered; they would be found wanting.

"The consequences following the operation of abridging the race through the adoption of this plan is lost sight of by its advocates. Any violence done nature always meets with a recoil and the recoil will be measured by the degree of violence."

Secretary of State Hughes wields just as wicked a pen now as he did when Governor of New York State.

The mayor of a great city is kept busy just attending social, charitable and business functions, all outside regular City Hall duties.

J. Adam Kreag makes a great driver for a campaign.

Truth In History

Not alone in Catholic circles but in every circle in America where red-blood Americanism permeates the membership, is there an awakening to the insidious propaganda to pervert the real history of the inception, creation and growth of the Republic of the United States in the interest of one single nation and nationality. This Republic is the melting pot of all the nations of the world and the American people is a distinct nationality, not an annex to one nation of Europe, however dominant a position in the world's congress that nation has held.

Even the great secret societies that hold no brief for or sympathy with the Catholic Church, made up of representatives of all nationalities, have taken cognizance of the propaganda referred to and have followed the lead of the Knights of Columbus and are sending out Commissions to inquire into the histories used in the schools with the end in view of ascertaining if the "wells are being poisoned now", if they have been poisoned and how the histories now in use differ from those in use a score of years ago; if changes have been made, when and by whom and by whose authority the present perverted histories, if they are really perverted, were introduced into our schools.

Civic bodies have been aroused by the Knights of Columbus challenge and they are taking decisive action.

By all means, if mistakes have crept into our school histories let these be corrected but let the corrections be made openly by responsible authority—not by foreign-controlled book-publishing houses and then only in the interest of one nation and that nation no more friendly, and represented in no greater proportion in the American citizenry than by several others.

Wrong Remedy

We are in accord with the "Post Express" in the position it takes in the following editorial:—

Carefully explaining that he did it "by request," Representative Lineberger, Republican, of California, the other day introduced in the House a bill to curb agitators, such as Socialists and members of the I. W. W. Well he might explain for the bill is in opposition to the American spirit of fair play, and its operation would be more likely to foster than to discourage radicalism. It would visit, in addition to the penalties already prescribed by law, naturalized citizens conspiring against the government with revocation of citizenship, forfeiture of property and deportation.

The measure openly states that it is aimed at those not native born who conspire against the government or any Federal institution, participate in any form of social unrest or disloyalty or advocate theories or principles of government antagonistic to the present form of government. Those entering the country or assisting persons deported under this law to re-enter would be subject to a \$10,000 fine, ten years imprisonment and deportation after having served the sentence.

Probably the first thought occurring to one reading this law will be one of wonder that its operation should be restricted to the foreign born. Perhaps the idea of the proponents of the measure is to hang summarily natives that transgress the law as laid down here, and that a measure to this effect will be introduced later. Confiscation of property does not "set well" with Americans. It is a revival by fanatics of despotic methods. But the worst feature of the measure is the restriction it places upon free speech. It is realized that there is difficulty in curbing seditious propaganda, but the difficulty is not met in this way. The measure is just another

example of the tendency of some to go to extremes in curing an evil. In this case, the results of the cure might easily prove worse than the evil itself.

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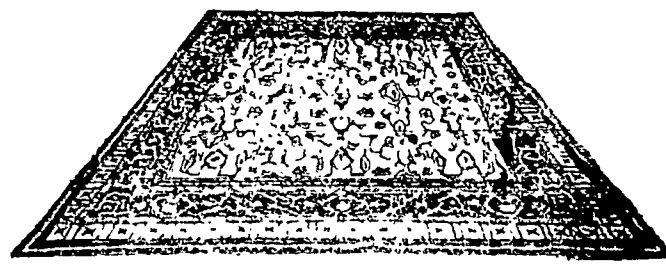
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