

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

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Friday, July 14, 1922.

The Limit

To Congressman Henry, who is running for the United States Senate in Texas (not the New York Henry) on the pro-Ku Klux platform is respectfully commended the action of the Paterson, New Jersey Klansmen. Dean McNulty, one of the most respected citizens of Paterson died last month. By request of the representative men of all creeds in the city, Mayor Van Noor ordered the schools of the city closed on the day of the funeral and flags on city buildings half-masted.

Immediately the Klansmen showed their hand.

This communication from "Paterson Klan No. 15, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Invisible Empire, Realm of New Jersey," was received by Mayor Van Noor.

"It has been brought to the attention of this organization," said the Ku Klux letter, "that you are about to issue an official proclamation closing the public schools of the city of Paterson at 9:30 a. m., on June 22, 1922, for the funeral of Very Rev. Dean McNulty. With all due respect to the late Dean, this organization wishes to go on record as being opposed to the closing of our public schools for any sectarian purpose. We, the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, stand four-square behind the public school system and the Constitution of the United States, which calls for the separation of Church and State. Therefore we strenuously object to the closing of our public schools at this time or in the future for any purely sectarian reason."

In his proclamation Mayor Van Noor called attention to the fact that Dean McNulty had been for three score years a great force in the community for law and order and better citizenship.

Not All Watsons

"Not all Georgians are Watsons" is the caption of an editorial in which the Baltimore "Sun" discusses the action of the Christian Council (of Protestant Churches) of Georgia in denouncing the Ku Klux Klan and characterizing it as "a night-riding mob." The Sun declares that "the finest and most encouraging word from Georgia in many a day is contained in the statement of the committee on church co-operation of the Christian Council, representing all the Protestant churches in Atlanta."

The Church Council recognizes the danger to all elements of society if the demon of religious intolerance is unloosed and is permitted to form an alliance with the political demagogue," says the Sun.

Grand Masters of the Masonic Lodges in some thirty States have notified their fraternalists that the Masons are not backing the Ku Klux and that Masons are not to join the secret band or use the name of the Order in connection with it.

"God's Country"

Not in an irreverent spirit at all, men every day refer to some portion of the world as "God's Country,"—usually because they were born there, have lived there or passed some part of their lives there. Sometimes, the city chap thinks of the rural scenes of his boyhood as "God's Country". On the other hand, the New Yorker, no matter where he roams, always seems to think of the fevered, hectic metropolis as the only place on earth he would like to remain in perpetually.

In this connection let us remark that the writers who are most popular these days are those whose character was formed or who do their best writing in the small places. Just read over this editorial in the Goshen, N. Y. "Democrat".

When a man is far away from the place that he has lived in for years, and his heart yearns for home, he says: "Some day I am going back to God's country."

Whether it is some little country town where the only lights come from the windows that glitter down the lane, and the only noises are the lowing of the cattle in the fields and the sighing of the winds through the trees, it is God's country for the man who knows that there are faces there which will light up at sight of him and hands that will grasp his own in open friendliness and affection.

Or, if it is some great city where countless, thoughtless thousands squirm and twist in their endless rushings to and fro, it is past all speaking dear to the man who calls it home.

All over the nation men say that they live in God's country or that they used to live there and are looking forward to their return. God's country is America, throughout its length and breadth. But, to the individual, God's country is where the home is and where the friends are. In all his wanderings he believes it. There, he knows, are the sweetest girls, the bravest men, the bluest skies, the reddest roses. There he finds the peace that passeth understanding near the things he loves.

Does It Pay?

All good citizens are interested in law observance. Every good citizen wants to see the laws of nation and state enforced. There may be citizens who are only interested in seeing a certain law in which they are concerned enforced and are not so particular as to the rest of the laws. There may be citizens who think a certain law obnoxious, unjust and unfair, but, nevertheless, they are not seeking to disobey that law, neither are they minded to institute a crusade against their neighbors who think differently from what they do.

In our judgment, the citizenry of Rochester, on the general average, is as good as that of any community in the country. We have respect for all the laws. We are tolerant of our neighbor's views and expect they will be tolerant of ours. We plead guilty to being human. We do not claim perfection.

Whether one man can claim superior virtue and assert that he and he only is entitled to credence when he assails public officers as corrupt and venal and declares our city is the rottenest in the land and declares the clerics are owned by political bosses, is he really an asset to the city or is he a liability? That is a question for future determination.

The order of the day: Look out for yourself and let my neighbor paddle his own canoe.

Even the sensational press senses there is a reaction against the rabid and radical literature and obscene publication.

Swifter Justice

There are other communities than Pittsburg, where the following advice from the "Observer" could well be followed:—

It has become a matter of frequent comment in the past, and especially at present time, that there should be such extraordinary delay caused between the time the person has been arrested on a charge of a crime and the time of his trial and conviction.

But a few days have passed since we had a case of this kind. The crime was committed almost three-quarters of a year ago. The men arrested in connection with the crime were held over, and naturally the effects of this prolonged delay in bringing the offenders to trial is to weaken the influence of exemplary punishment. This prolongation weakened the influences, so that at the present time, the time of their conviction, their offense was readily remembered, but the vindication of the law was done away with on account of the space of time that intervened between the time of the crime and the conviction.

Nothing will deter the criminal more easily than a demonstration by the police officers and judges that soon after they are arrested they are put on trial and convicted, while if the trial were prolonged, the criminal would naturally receive a bit of leniency where, if he were put on trial while the crime is still fresh in the minds of all, very little leniency would be given the criminal.

If, therefore, a standard were adopted throughout the nation wherein a criminal would be given a short shrift, and in the case of murderers, bandits and thugs a sentence would be given him within a few days of the crime, then we would have less crime waves, more justice and more respect for the law.

So In New York State?

It has been currently reported that the Masonic fraternity was opposed to the Ku Klux Klan. It would appear, however, that the Scottish Rite branch of the Masonic fraternity, at least, is just as bigoted as the Ku Klux.

Scottish Rite Masons in Oregon are sponsoring a measure to abolish the Catholic schools in that State. They have secured 39,000 signatures, three times the number needed, to place on the ballot this fall a proposition to compel all parents to send all their children to a public school until they have completed the eighth grade. They are not permitted to send their children to any private school or to have them taught by teachers at home, except where a physician certifies a child is sick and this condition may not continue beyond one school year.

Violation of the law carries heavy penalties of fine or imprisonment or both. If this movement is successful in Oregon it is reported it will be extended to all the States of the Union.

Did the educational meeting of Masons held recently in Rochester and addressed by local public school teachers who belong to the Order have anything to do with this movement?

If Rochester has a Catholic College, then Catholic educational service will be well-nigh complete.

One thing in baseball is apparent:—If one team is away in the lead and the others trail the winner is not a money maker for the owners. Nothing makes for large attendance than closely matched teams.

Bishop Hickey does well to warn against unwholesome reading matter. Every Catholic family should subscribe to a Catholic paper as an antidote against the flood of trash that is circulated on the corner newsstands.

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Condensed Statement of Condition of the MERCHANTS BANK OF ROCHESTER

July 1, 1922

ASSETS

Loans.....	\$10,161,285.42
Banking House.....	480,345.85
Acceptances.....	18,300.00
Cash on hand.....	\$525,745.37
Cash in Banks.....	760,851.41
Bonds and Securities.....	110,718.50
	1,397,315.38
	\$12,057,246.65

LIABILITIES

Capital.....	\$ 500,000.00
Surplus and undivided Profits.....	601,259.84
Dividends Unpaid.....	9,320.00
Liability under Acceptances.....	18,300.00
Reserve.....	28,520.66
Bills Payable.....	500,000.00
Deposits.....	10,399,846.15
	\$12,057,246.65

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