

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

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Friday, August 18, 1922.

Exposed

Upon the authority, not of one of our own, but upon that of an unbiased, cold-blooded statistician of the Federal Reserve Board, the deep-laid scheme of Rev. Walter Laidlaw, Secretary of the Federation of (Protestant) Churches to foist upon the United States Government a grossly under-figured census of the Catholic communicants of the United States in order to deprive us of part of our quota of Catholic chaplains in Army and Navy has been exposed.

Dr. Laidlaw puts the Catholic population of the United States at 15,721,815 out of all the 41,926,854 persons in this country professing adherence to a religious denomination of any sort. It is pointed out by E. A. Goldenweiser, the Federal Reserve Board statistician referred to, that Dr. Laidlaw held down the Catholic census to the actual record of Church membership while in the Protestant census every person in the Church member's family was listed as belonging to that denomination. Dr. Laidlaw also listed more women than men in the Catholic census which Mr. Goldenweiser contends is absurd because there is a far larger amount of Catholic immigrant men than women coming into the country every year. He also insists that Dr. Laidlaw has ignored the children in the Catholic population and allowed it in the Protestant census.

Mr. Goldenweiser's analysis is summed up in the following interesting general conclusions:—The number of Catholics in the United States is certainly larger than the number of Catholic Church members enumerated by the census of religious bodies. This number, 15,721,815, would be increased about 1,400,000 merely through the process of building up the families of church members on the basis of age and sex distribution of the total population of the United States. But, even the adjusted figure is clearly incomplete, as there is no reason to believe that even substantially all the persons belonging to the faith are included among church members. By comparing the United States figures with those available for Canada, where both the number of church members and of persons professing each faith are available, the conclusion is reached that Catholics constitute not less than 21 per cent of the population of the United States and that 23,000,000 is a reasonable estimate of their number.

Maine weather surely agrees with Rev. Cornelius O'Sullivan, of St. Mary's Church, Machias, Washington County. He is 77 years old and has been 35 years pastor in Machias.

Klu Klux Klanners wear masks and carry concealed weapons. So do professional burglars and murderers. And really, we cannot see that the Ku Klux Klan is much better.

Condemned

We have already referred to the Oregon proposition to abolish our Catholic schools out in the State of Oregon. It is refreshing to learn that even our non-Catholic friends are aroused to the onslaught on Religion in general embraced in this infamous and un-American proposition sponsored by the Ku Klux Klan and the infidel wing of the Masonic fraternity.

The Presbyterian synod of Oregon met at Corvallis on July 25th and went into this proposition to crush out the Catholic and Lutheran and all other parochial or private schools. As its close twenty-five of the clergymen present appended their signatures to the following clean-cut statement:— "Whereas, there has been proposed to the people of Oregon legislation abolishing all privately-controlled schools or primary and grammar grades; and, "Whereas, much of the propaganda in favor of this bill has been conducted in the name of Protestantism, we, the undersigned Protestant ministers, members of the Presbyterian church, believe that the proposed legislation is inimical to the highest human welfare for the following reasons:

"1. It proposes to abolish one system of religious education and offers no substitute for it in any plan of religious instruction in connection with the public school system. "2. It is based on the philosophy of autocracy that the child belongs primarily to the State; it is an unjustifiable invasion of family authority and threatens ultimately the guarantee of our American liberty. "3. The proposed legislation in its conception, promotion and execution violates what we conceive to be the spirit of fraternity and brotherly love taught by our Master."

Typical

In the death of Rt. Rev. Bishop Grimes, of the Diocese of Syracuse, a loyal American citizen, a great churchman and a devoted shepherd of souls has passed to his last reward. Bishop Grimes exerted strong influence for civic righteousness in his city of Syracuse while as a churchman has been zealous in the extension of spiritual facilities to his people. A courteous gentleman of the old school he was approachable to the humblest parishioner of the smallest parish and the Catholics of Syracuse loved him as a friend and revered him as their ecclesiastical head.

Bishop Grimes will, recently probated, stamps him as a true follower of his Divine Master. He regards his estate as held in trust and it is all left to the Church or to charities. His brothers and sisters and other relatives are not mentioned. When he entered the Church he left family and relatives and followed the Master.

This is no unusual incident. It is typical of the Catholic priest and stamps anew the wisdom of the Church in sustaining the celibacy of the clergy.

Because you have a picture in the Society yellow is no criterion you have been admitted into the charmed circle.

Our Rt. Rev. Bishop Hickey never penned a truer indictment than that against bad reading matter, whether it be in book, magazine or newspaper.

Parents cannot be too careful where their children spend their evenings or with whom they spend them.

Labor Day is near at hand.

Summer of 1922 is fleeting fast.

Were you lucky enough to have your coal bin filled before the strike?

Anti-Climax

Men and women of Rochester are chucking over the bloodless war in progress between one of Rochester's home owned Sunday papers and the Rochester paper owned and published by a rich absentee landlord.

The absentee-owned paper has started a "society page" conducted by an anonymous "chaperon" in which an effort is made to work up rivalry among the smart sets as to who is the real social leader of Rochester. As a matter of fact the real social arbiters of Rochester—if there are any—would not submit to an interview with the "Chaperon" nor would they permit their portraits or names to appear in the paper in question had they the power to prevent it.

The home-owned Rochester paper in spirit of pure mischief is satirizing the performance in a series of articles by "The Patroness" depicting a fictitious social war in Gates Center as to who is the dowager arbiter in that bucolic bairiwick. The comparisons drawn, fictitious though they are, evoke shrieks of laughter because they depict so near to life the real figures the absentee-owned paper describes. Let the merry war go on.

Disgusting

A striking instance of how the secular press caters to degenerate tastes has been seen during the past few weeks in the columns of space given in the press to the doings of a multi-millionaire, who has procured a divorce from a multi-millionaire wife to marry a much divorced singer. While his flapper daughter is to marry a Swiss riding master much older than herself.

Disgusting details of the divorces and remarriage, including an unusual operation suffered by the chief male principal in order that he may be "rejuvenated" for his latest affinity have been blazoned over the front pages of all the leading newspapers of the country while the news of good deeds and philanthropic incidents have been relegated to the inside pages.

Why all this valuable space? If the principals were poor persons no great space would have been given. In fact it is not impossible that they would have been criticised severely by the editors. Such persons and such doings ought to be forgotten and ignored.

State law officers in the West and Southwest are proceeding against the Ku Klux Klan—which is a good sign. Or they may be merely actuated by commendable political prudence.

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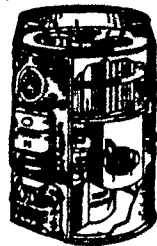
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