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Friday, September 1, 1922.

Shame!

No matter if their sentiment is for or against the Irish Free State, all true friends of Ireland all red-blooded men everywhere, look with horror upon the assassination of Michael Collins.

Following so closely the untimely death of Arthur Griffith, Collins' assassination plunges all friends of Ireland into gloom.

Poor Ireland! Is the cup of freedom always to be dashed from her lips?

Should Go Back

Most of us who have given the subject any thought are inclined to agree with Secretary of Labor James J. Davis in his contention that immigration of undesirables should be prevented at port of embarkation, rather than at port of entry into the United States and also agree with him as to the necessity of registering all aliens upon arrival in this country.

It seems to us too that the "Post Express" hits the nail on the head when it says:—

"When a radical deported from England, whither he had gone from this country, arrived in New York, he was held for deportation by us. He will be sent back to his native land. This procedure is in accord with our laws, but recent developments indicate that these laws could with much benefit to us be made more strict than they are. We have been too careless in our toleration of the Reds among us, and we are now paying the penalty in the numerous conspiracies against our government and in the manifestations of violence in strikes big and little throughout the country.

"This country has been the refuge of the oppressed of every land, almost from the beginning of its existence. In recent years, however, we have allowed to enter those who do not seek liberty, but license. They are not in harmony with the American spirit. Nay, more, they would even destroy our government and set up class rule of anarchy. Our only refuge against the plotting of these alien enemies is to deport them. The law should be so worded that any person of foreign birth guilty of plotting the downfall of our government or preaching its overthrow should be deported. This should apply even though the guilty one should have become a citizen. He proves by this that he is unworthy of citizenship in our land and that a mistake was made in bestowing it upon him.

"Such a law may appear drastic, but it is logical and necessary, for the radical agitators find their best field and their most numerous converts among those of foreign birth in our country. We can punish natives that conspire against us by sending them to prison. But we should not be put to the expense of building prisons for and supporting in the prisons those of foreign birth who are so ungrateful for the refuge we have done them as to conspire against us."

Hope It Is True

Many careful observers think they see considerable increase in public sentiment in favor of uniform enforcement of the laws and equality in administration of justice. It is to be hoped that this is so because it has been the belief of many good citizens that the man with the money and the man with the pull, at least, compelled more attention from the courts than the average citizen, minus money and pull.

A contemporary views this problem from a new angle when it says:—

"That Philadelphia magistrate who made a motorist pay for a small boy's toy wagon which he had smashed with his car evidently has a proper conception of the dignity and authority of the court and of the American principle of government through law and order. This insignificant case is one which brings a lesson that should be absorbed by every citizen.

"The motorist ran down the youngster's wagon. He drove on, careless of the matter. The nine-year-old, however, took the number of the car and went to the police station, where he swore out a warrant for the motorist's arrest. Brought into court, the offender, the published reports say, appeared amused, when the little fellow pleaded his own case. The court, however, gave a respectful hearing to this child citizen and found the motorist at fault. He told him to pay for the wagon or he would hold him for court. He said that a child's toy wagon is just as important in the eyes of the court as is the most costly car, so far as the property right of the owner in it is concerned. The motorist paid.

Possibly the recent celebration of the founding of the Supreme Court of the United States in Philadelphia and the speeches made thereat have inspired Philadelphia magistrates with a new sense of the dignity of their position. At any rate, this particular magistrate feels it, and thinks it proper to give to even the smallest case attention equal to that which he would give to a case involving perhaps millions of dollars but no more important property rights. And what must be the effect of this hearing granted to this small boy and this decision in a case apparently trivial? The motorist must have a new respect for the law."

It will be a sad indictment of Texas if she permits the notorious Ku Klux Klan to dictate her politics.

The election of Willard A. Marable to high office in the Moose fraternal order is recognition of the fact that writers make just as good executives as those from any other profession if they are given a chance to demonstrate their ability.

Floods are equally disastrous with earthquakes and tornadoes and cyclones. In fact they are often the aftermath of these forces of Nature.

Mr. Steinmetz may be the wizard of electricity and electrical development, but he is a tyro in economics and theology.

The Bishops and Archbishops of the United States will meet in annual session on September 27 and 28th in the Catholic University in Washington.

Let us all pray for all possible spiritual blessings upon our priests gathered in retreat at St. Bernard's Seminary next week.

And now some busybody wants to tax church property in the city of Washington, D. C.

Fred T. Pierson is the "Man of Mystery" of this campaign.

Leo Cassidy bids fair to be as famous a police spy as "Izzy Cohen" the New York sleuth.

Who Are Criminals?

A sensational paper, of the sort we rarely read, much less quote, the other day had a display editorial which has the right ring.

Discussing the question of "What is Crime and Who Makes the Criminal?" this paper says: "Noble women, good men and scheming politicians, listen to this story:

In the South Sea Islands they have for contagious disease a horror as great as your horror of crime.

A man or woman stricken with a loathsome disease, such as smallpox, is seized, isolated, and the individual sores of the smallpox patient are earnestly scraped with sea shells—until the patient dies. It hurts the patient a good deal—without ever curing, of course—but it relieves the feelings of the outraged good ones who wield the sea shells.

You kind-hearted creatures, hunting "crime" in great cities, are like the South Sea Islanders in their treatment of smallpox.

You ardently wield your reforming sea shells and you scrape very earnestly at the sores so well developed.

No desire to decry your earnest efforts.

But if you ever get tired of scraping with sea shells, try vaccination, or, better still, try to take such care of youth, to give such chances and education to the young as will save them from the least profitable of all careers—CRIME.

Rich good men, comfortable, benevolent ladies, every man and woman in jail, every wretched creature living near a "red light," would gladly change places with any of you.

Scrape away with your sea shells, but try also to give a few more and a few better chances in youth to those whom you now hunt as criminals in their mature years.

God creates boys and girls, anxious to live decently. Your Social System makes criminals and fills jails.

A Great City

That the spirit of bigotry is still abroad in Atlanta, Georgia, is evident by the following despatch to the National Catholic Welfare Council's news service: Atlanta, Aug. 21.—The National League of Pathfinders, known locally as the Twelve Twenty Club, has expelled six of its members because they, as members of the city council, to re elect John N. Malone, a Catholic, to the board of city assessors. Mr. Malone, a member of the board for 12 years, was defeated by a small margin, although no attempt was made to attack his official record.

Expulsion of the six members of the city council from the local club followed an organization trial on the indictment that they "did jointly and severally, on July 3, 1922, violate Section 1, paragraphs 'A' and 'G' in Chapter XXVII of the national constitution and code of laws (as promulgated Oct. 5, 1918), by voting for John Malone at council hall in the city of Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia." The councilmen who were expelled from their club because they voted for a Catholic for public office are W. C. Davis, Oscar Williamson, W. B. Duvall, J. C. Wadlaw, Edgar Watkins and Horace Russell.

The Twelve Twenty Club is understood to be considering similar action against Mayor James L. Key, W. L. McGalley, Jr., A. C. Meixell and J. C. Murphy, members of the board of education. The last three named are also members of the city council.

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(Continued from August 25)

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