

CATHOLIC JOURNAL

Published Every Friday at 113 North Water Street... The Catholic Journal Publishing Company, Rochester, N. Y.

If paper is not received Saturday... If you do not receive your paper... If you do not receive your paper...

Friday, March 2nd, 1933

TELEPHONE MAIN 1567

Entered as second class mail matter

Two Sides.

William Allen White, the humorist-editor from Kansas, who has superseded Billy Nye and Mr. Dooley, as the Sunday supplement comic writer, would have Congress abolished because it does not function as he would have it, hence is inefficient, antiquated, obnoxious.

Mr. White allows that because Parliaments and other legislative bodies have been violently suspended at various times since the dawn of the Christian era, therefore Congress should be abolished.

Mr. White neglects to point out that even though legislative bodies may have been suspended temporarily they always have been re-established.

Possibly, probably if William Allen had his way, he would kick out the present Congress elected by all the people, and immediately re-establish another hand picked by himself and his friends.

That is always the way with the reformer. Whatever does not function to his liking should be abolished summarily and another of his own selection installed.

But Congress is likely to remain in existence some time, notwithstanding Br'er White's criticism.

Try It!

It is easy and inexpensive to work one's self into a frenzy such as is expressed by a secular contemporary in the following paragraph:

The Clothing Designer's association evidently believes its power over American men supreme. The members probably think that the submissive, poor spirited individual that has so often obeyed its behests will submit to anything it cares to impose upon him.

We shall not! American manhood will assert itself against this fell attack upon its mental status. The he-flapper may wear such a monstrosity, but the he-flapper is funny, anyway, and this ludicrous headgear will not make any difference in his appearance. But regular men do not like to make monkeys out of themselves, and though they may sometimes vainly of their appearance, they will feel that a low, flat derby, with a feather on the side, would indicate paresis or some other form of insanity.

Imagine President Harding in such a thing! What would happen if Governor Smith should walk down State street in Albany in such headgear? Tammany would have no more against him as it has to the cause. Republicans, Socialists, all would laugh and the mad mob in its might even tear down the man's headgear to get at its brains. No! No such freak for Tammany! It shall not!

Man-Handling.

Without doubt the most caustic condemnation of the Oregon campaign of bigotry comes from non-Catholic sources. Discussing "Affairs of the World" in the February issue of the "North American Review", Dr. Will Fletcher Johnson says:—

"Another equally flagrant example of un-American extremes has been displayed in the supremely important field of educational activities. At one side of the continent, in New York, we have seen impassioned campaigns for sacrosanct 'freedom of teaching' which would permit officially chartered schools and even instructors in public schools to teach all sorts of communistic, bolshevistic and other anti-American doctrines, inspiring American children to enmity toward the American republic and its government.

"At the other side, in Oregon, we have just seen an attempt, actually embodied in enacted legislation, to compel the attendance of all children at public schools, and thus the abolition of all private schools and home instruction. It is difficult to choose between the two, in their sheer unworthiness of a place in the American system. But though such a thing was perhaps of all things furthest from the thought and intent of the Oregon legislators, there is a significant correlation between the two. The Oregon law would practically remove children from parental control and make them the wards of the State, to be intellectually man-handled as might suit the interests of the political party in power; and that is precisely what communists and bolsheviks demand to be done.

"That such a law will be held constitutional is simply inconceivable. If by miraculous chance it should be, there would be more urgent need of prompt amendment of the constitution than we have hitherto known."

Why cannot coal be mined and stored in advance of demand as well as clothes, canned goods, etc?

Miami Religion.

Speaking before the annual convocation of the school of Religion at Howard University, Dr. John J. Tyert, United States Commissioner of Education, made a strong plea for moral and religious training in the schools and colleges of the country. He closed his plea as follows:—

"But this moral instruction requires the reinforcement of religious teaching and feeling. Rousseau, a great name in the history of education and philosophy, gives us his ideal training for Emile and dwells especially upon the value of his moral code, meantime neglecting shamefully the rearing of his own child and engaging in dissolute living. His confessions are amazingly frank but even they do not uncover the villainess of his life.

"Morality is, indeed, the worthy helpmate of religion, but his own and experience reveal over and over again that it cannot be substituted for it. Ethical societies have failed to supplant the Church.

"I am well aware that the position that I am taking is not popular today among educators but I reiterate the words of a chancellor of one of our colleges uttered in his inaugural address more than a decade ago. 'Powerful as is the force of opinion today in the direction of secularized education, mighty as are the millions devoted to that purpose, earnest and numerous as are the advocates of education without religion... yet I am undismayed. For there is a power greater than the opinion of men; there are resources vaster than the millions of earth. Let us not trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God!'"

The Trouble.

Karl K. Kitchen, who knows the "movie" industry inside out gives as his expert opinion of the real trouble with the cinema business is:—

"Who are the directors of our motion pictures? Most of them are former stage carpenters, property men, unsuccessful actors and other opportunists who happened to get into the industry when it was young. Next to the ignorance of the average film president the ignorance of the average director is most appalling. The writer has spent a good deal of time about the more important studios both in New York and Hollywood and he doesn't hesitate to say that the intelligence of the average director is of a very low order.

"A new class of men and women are needed in the motion picture industry. There must be a housecleaning at the bottom as well as the top. For while the executive departments are cluttered up with the relatives of the alien founders, the scenario and production departments are filled with men who have failed in every other profession.

"In a new industry such conditions, of course, are unavoidable at the start; but the time has come when they can no longer be tolerated; for they are economically unsound. The motion picture industry must be put on a firm financial basis. The big salaries, the waste, the extravagance and all the other unbusiness-like methods of its pioneers must come to an end. For the motion picture art business or game—whatever you choose to call it—is entering upon a new era. The American public is demanding something much better than the industry is giving us."

If he really was not implicated in the Klu Klux Klan, why give a chewing gum king a million dollars worth of free advertising in denials, etc.

These Lenten days are good for our souls and bodies if we observe Lent in the manner prescribed by Holy Mother Church.

Mr. Harry Goodwin is passing a few days pleasantly in basking unsophisticated politicians.

So there is to be a new contracting firm in Rochester? Perhaps, an impending political factional row may be averted by proper, informal recognition of the new contractor by the city union.

Klu Kluxers appear to flourish in Canada—at least there is a continuity of Catholic Church fires in the land of Our Lady of the Snows.

Either the practical Texans are regaining supremacy in the big Southwest or the Klu Kluxers are becoming scared off because the Texas Senate has killed a number of bills designed to incite and foment the epidemic of bigotry.

So Mrs. Edith Medill McCormick thinks she is the reincarnation of Pharaoh's first wife? And, pray, then who of fabled mythology, does Harold, the latest triumph of recreative surgery, think he is?

By perusal of the editorial page of the "Post Express" we learn that our old friend, John Northern Hilliard, is sojourning in a camp in the California mountains. Now, where is J. Redfern Mason, the erstwhile clever dramatic critic and authority of matters musical?

If Mr. and Mrs. Blank go off to spend the winter months in Southern climes, are they entitled to a full supply of coal to heat an empty house?

John A. Barhite still is interested in public utilities, to judge from recent interviews in the local press.

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