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Friday, February 15, 1924

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Fewer Homes

We are in accord with the facts established in the following editorial paragraph in the "Catholic Advance" of Wichita, Kansas, but differ a trifle as to the underlying cause which has produced the condition:—

"It is a lamentable fact that in some parts of the United States homes are becoming fewer, and life is diminutive and crowded. 'Flats' is proving more attractive to the man-chasers than the quiet privacy and dignity of family life. For this the giddy, pleasure-seeking and automobile-crazed parents are largely to blame, and they are certainly providing thus a godless and morally inferior generation to succeed them. Popularity of the 'crowded flats' is due, in great measure, to the inordinate greed of avaricious landlords who have raised rents to such an outrageous price that individual homes are fast taking on the aspect of luxuries, within reach only of the very wealthy and outside the pale of the working man and the moderately remunerated salaried worker. This is true not only in the larger cities but also in the smaller cities and towns. Undoubtedly, some of the rent increases are forced by the constantly mounting tax levy for municipal government. In fact taxes are soaring to such a pitch as to discourage home owning because real estate is the one security that cannot escape the tax gatherer and which secures a far less proportionate tax exemption than intangible securities.

Between high rents, higher taxes for luxuries such as fine food, expensive raiment, automobiles and theaters, the old-fashioned home life is well nigh non-existent while the old-fashioned family has sunk to the vanishing point.

Come In The Open

Supreme Directors of the Knights of Columbus recently authorized the offering of a reward of \$25,000 to any person or persons who can prove that the so-called "bogus oath" of the Knights is true in any part.

Members occasionally meet a man who, in apparent good faith, seems to believe that this vicious and lying oath really is taken by Knights. It is a horrible oath, blasphemous, bitter against non-Catholics and a libel from beginning to end. A number of men have been convicted of libel for publishing it, and one man in California was recently sentenced to serve six months in prison for circulating it as true.

Because of these convictions, the professional bigots—men who make a living by circulating lies about our church and our order—have quit publishing the oath, and are circulating it privately and secretly. That the harm done by this method may be counteracted, the Knights of Columbus now offer \$25,000 to any person who can prove the oath to be genuine.

Thus, if a person tells a Knight he feels sure the oath is true, you can promptly tell him the order will pay him \$25,000 if he can prove it.

Mrs. O. H. Belmont has invested some of her money in a light-house. Probably cheaper than to buy white elephants or be angel for another suffragist crusade.

Senator Heffen says the latest application of "G. O. P." is Great Oil. The "Herald" accepts the difficult job to compete with ex-senator although it did have a idea presidents funeral and semi-national "Great Oil Profit" was just developments in the Teapot Dome scandal.

Economy Crusade

Says the Rochester "Democrat & Chronicle"—

Irrespective of party, class or occupation, the American people are mightily stirred and fast approaching a state of practical unanimity of determination that the wastefulness and crushing cost of their government shall be reduced. All duties, branches, their borders from establishing all sections of the country are in accord on this than on any other question and everywhere through or in some of them national banks have organization, through the press and the polls are making their insistence on retrenchment known.

That this crusade for economy will be restful is beyond all doubt. It will evidence nothing less than a national uprising of people who have been taxed to the point where they rebel. This is the kind of protest Congress and other taxing bodies can understand. The present Congress convened with a joyous majorly in favor of expenditures that would involve tremendous increases of taxation. Extravagance would have gone on from bad to worse; but the President and his secretary of the Treasury threw a bomb into the Capitol that scared them out of this complacency and the uproar in the country is showing them the handwriting of popular wrath upon the wall. Present indications are that the line will be so sharply drawn between the wasters and the saviors that congressmen recorded against tax reduction or for condonation of the present wastefulness will get ceptions in their districts they will not enjoy, and that in the Congress elected next November—and happily in some legislatures also—that species believed to be extinct but formerly known as "Watchdogs of the Treasury" will begin to reappear.

While all this may be true just now, we are sceptical as to the permanency of popular opinion in this condition. We fancy our frame of mind is akin to that of the Hon. Nathan L. Miller. He preached and practiced economy and the people of New York State threw him out of office the first chance they had.

We fear the American people like extravagance and luxury too well to take an economy as a permanent diet.

Medicated Water

It appears that Health Officer Goler is not in accord with his fellow medicos as to the beneficial effect of iodine in Rochester's Municipal water. Dr. William Howard Hay of Buffalo alleges that raw iodine taken into the human system is dangerous. New York city's Health Department takes the attitude that the Rochester experiment from a different angle. It goes on to say:—

Of course, there is one angle of the situation that might be considered by some persons as justifying the use of the chemical iodine in city water. That is a purely legal aspect of the case, however, and has to do with the enforcement of the prohibition law. It is asserted solemnly and on good authority that experienced makers of home brew are having no luck at all with their amateur brewing since the announcement that iodine was being introduced into city water. Having eliminated all other possible factors of error in their chemical reactions, the home brewers assert that it must be the iodine.

This is a serious charge and well deserves the attention of Dr. Goler and his bureau. The difference of opinion between Dr. Goler and Dr. Hay of Buffalo may be regarded by the public as a question that concerns the medical profession somewhat more than the layman. But publishing it, and one man in California was recently sentenced to serve six months in prison for circulating it as true.

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While all this may be true just now, we are sceptical as to the permanency of popular opinion in this condition. We fancy our frame of mind is akin to that of the Hon. Nathan L. Miller. He preached and practiced economy and the people of New York State threw him out of office the first chance they had.

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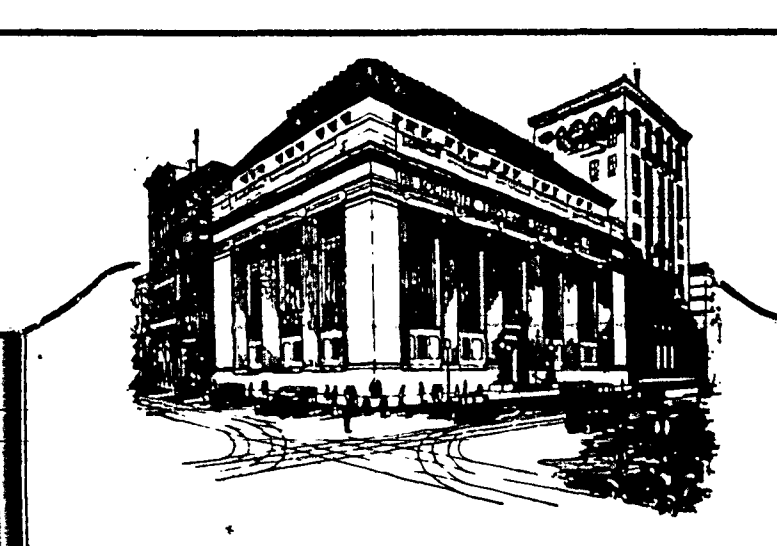
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For Our Radio Friends We have just issued a new Radio Map of the United States showing all stations and wave lengths. Furnished upon request. ROCHESTER TRUST and Safe Deposit COMPANY Main Street West and Exchange

Take the Elevator SOMEBODY said that when the stock promoter invites you to get in on the Ground Floor the thing to do is take the Elevator and go to the roof. Of course, the person who is getting up in the world through the aid of a growing bank account becomes a shining mark for the promoter. When one gets on your track it is time to get better acquainted with your banker. Ask the promoter to come to the bank with you while you consult your financial adviser about the merits of his offering. Rochester Savings Bank Established 1831

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