

The Catholic Journal

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FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 1928.

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Answered.

The challenge of Judge Ben Lindsey in debate and of Dr. Alice Hamilton before the Women's City Club to their citizenry of Rochester in their brazen advocacy of race suicide and child murder under the high-sounding "birth control" found ready response. The Monroe County Medical Society is already on record against this infamous proposal and from pulpits now come the demand that Monroe County's legislators oppose to the limit the bill now before the Legislature legalizing race suicide.

As Bishop Cleary, of Springfield, Mass., points out there is no inhibition, either in God, or man-made law against the practice of "birth control". Our own Dr. Zwilstein, of St. Barnard's Seminary, founded the school in a sermon from which the following excerpt is taken: "It was bad enough when a world, still professing to be Christian, opened the flood-gates of evil in divorce despite Christ's plain words: 'What God hath joined together, let no man put asunder.' It will be infinitely worse when companionate marriage will allow man and woman to play with marriage as a temporary experiment, to be set aside at their first whim, unless child be accidentally born to them."

"Every one exercising the ministry of Christ's Gospel is bound in conscience to break the Word of Life for those to whom he ministers. On this account, a minister, who advocates so-called modern birth control methods, which are sinful, is a renegade to his office, and his presence in the ministry of any Christian Church is to me a mystery of iniquity."

"In the Old Testament the Angel Gabriel told Tobias of the seven men who were slain by the devil because they in such manner entered matrimony so as to shut out God from themselves. Tobias was, therefore, admonished to take the virgin Rachel with the love of children than by lust, that in the seed of Abraham they might obtain a blessing in children."

In the New Testament St. Paul, who allows no limitation of family except by mutual self-control, is careful to tell us that, while woman was in transgression through original sin, she shall be saved through childbearing, if she continue in faith and love with sobriety."

"The blighting curse that modern birth control would bring upon the life of the individual, of the family, of the nation, has moved men best fitted to speak on the subject, to protest against legalizing the dissemination of this vile knowledge. Our own Monroe County Medical Society put itself on record against modern birth control by unanimous resolution adopted in 1922."

"God bless the physicians who have spoken the plain unvarnished truth, with all good people, it will gain those public benefactors of society greater confidence in their integrity. In view of all this, the shadow of the light will better understand the warning that St. Paul addressed to them in the Epistle of this Sunday. 'Let no man deceive you with vain words; for because of these things cometh the anger of God upon the children of unbelief.'"

How solicitous for the poor the people-splitters are! Dr. Alice Hamilton pleads that the poor are in need of scientific knowledge of birth control. Is the learned doctor in receipt of any petitions from the poor of this country protesting against their families? Or is this another piece of evidence that the Nordic representatives are jealous of the Italian large families?

Page the Ks Klux Klan! Colonel Lindbergh has given a Catholic priest a Pennsylvania funds to erect a statue to St. Joseph in his church!

No Special Claim

It is the custom in legislative bodies, national and state, for the rural members to charge the cities with all the crime and vice and claim all the virtue and decency for the country districts.

It is also the rule for the city legislators to jeer at the caution and tactfulness and unsophistication of the "denizens of the sticks" and claim monopoly of all the brains, business acumen and initiative for the inhabitants of the cities.

The fact of the matter is: Both are right in part and wrong in part. Many of the criminals of the cities were born and bred in the country, likewise many of the city leaders in industry, finance, the professions and the mercantile maris. There is as much devilry, meanness, hypocrisy and indecency practiced in the small town and on the farm as encountered in the city districts.

As in well said in "Coller's." "The belief that the countryside is the seat of virtue and the city the center of iniquity goes back in this country to Thomas Jefferson although leaders of all parties have continued to give voice to the doctrine up until this very present.

"It is not now true and it never was true. "A man's place of residence has little to do with his character. Two thousand years ago men asked: 'Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?' and the ages have answered that the one man universally counted good did come out of Nazareth."

"Furthermore, the same Indiana country-side which bred unprincipled Klan politicians gave to the state the fearless editors who exposed and denounced corruption."

The same West which produced an Albert B. Fall, willing to give away his country's possessions to his friends and to receive their gifts in exchange, sent to Washington so honorable and courageous a man as Senator Thomas J. Walsh of Montana, able and alert to defend the nation's interest.

"No locality has any special claim to morality, experience or wisdom. Abraham Lincoln was born in a log cabin but George Washington preferred to have his clothes made in London. Both served well their country."

"In the future also we shall be able to rely on many diverse sections for honorable leaders and we shall have to watch the records whether they are country bumpkins or city slickers."

Learn to Give.

In his blunt forceful way, Grove Patterson states a great truth when he says: "No rich man is ever a big man until he learns to give. He simply can't be, for unless he has the desire to give in a large way he does not have within him the qualities of greatness."

In Detroit not long ago a simple communication to the City Council, asking that sewage facilities be extended into a certain neighborhood revealed the fact that Fred Fisher, vice-president of the General Motors Corporation, had given a million dollars toward the erection of a new building for the Little Sisters of the Poor, a Catholic organization for charity.

Not long ago Mr. and Mrs. Fisher gave \$750,000 for a nurses' home in connection with a hospital. Learning to feel one's responsibility in proportion to one's income is learning one of the fundamental lessons of civilization. Without the spirit of giving in a generous way there can be no civilization worthy of the name.

Radio.

Probably, the Congressmen from South and West will have their way and allocate to their respective states, just as they grab appropriations for their creeks and bays and gulches, radio wave lengths, irrespective of whether they have a listening population or money enough to warrant decent programs.

What is likely to happen is well told by the Rochester "Times-Union." "The House of Representatives has passed the radio bill, so amended as to provide that the licensing authority shall make an equal allocation to each of the two zones of broadcasting licensees, of wavelengths and of station power."

"This amendment must be accepted by the Senate to become law, but it received in the House a vote of 288 to 133. It will be the duty of the Radio Commission, whose life is extended until March 13, 1929, to see that this equal allocation is carried out."

"That seems to imply cutting down the number of stations in the New York and Chicago districts. It may also mean reducing the power of many important stations."

"Congress is extremely fond of regional representation. But what no act of Congress can provide is facilities for furnishing good programs from the South, Southwest and elsewhere in the sticks equal to those of the metropolitan districts."

"And good programs are what radio fans want."

Teapot Dome appears to have raised a tempest.

Disgusting.

Decent citizens have been disgusted, yes ashamed, at the disclosure of graft and dishonesty leading into the President's Cabinet, into the inner sanctums of big business and finance and to the national leaders of great political organizations.

These same citizens have been disgusted still more at the brazen assurance and apparent lack of moral responsibility on the part of men noted and hitherto respected who have testified before the Senate Committee Investigating election expenses and the Teapot Dome scandal.

There is much more to this than merely the receipt and disbursement of huge contributions to political committees by interested persons or corporations. The whole question of decent, representative primaries and elections. The Rochester "Democrat-Chronicle" discusses the question sanely in the following editorial: "Testifying in the Sinclair case, Chairman Hays of the Republican National Campaign Committee in 1924, explained that the campaign left a deficit which later in large part was made up by contributions of a citizen who was doing business with the government, or seemingly hoped to on 'favored nation' terms; but that this fact was not made public until now."

We are not disposed to leap to conclusions dishonorable to any party to any such transaction. It has happened in our history that citizens who looked for no return, either financial or in political consideration, have made donations to party funds in order to promote the nation. There are gifts to which no strings are tied and from which no personal advantage is expected. But it seems not too much to say that in this commercialized epoch great contributions to party supremacy are suspect unless openly made and fully explained.

"If neither party sought or used campaign funds, it might be a more nearly ideal condition; and yet again, would not an apathetic, uneducational campaign result except where some tremendous vital issue was understood by all the people as at stake? In modern political systems, where the people are the rulers, it is manifestly important that the rulers be educated, informed upon national questions; and no one has yet suggested how this can be done without expenditures to that end—political and combat political fallacies. It can be argued that it is not as important as leading publicists have thought that all citizens should vote on all public questions. But the theory that they should do so is generally accepted, and a state which has enfranchised all its citizens must in self-defense educate them to the value of their institutions."

Amusing.

Here's the way Mr. Hearst's Rochester "Journal-Post Express" reported: "Victor Murdock prints this small paragraph in his Wichita Eagle: 'Great Britain has spent \$17,000,000 in promoting civil aviation. And the United States? Echoes answer.'"

The fact that this country, which has the most to protect, does little or nothing to encourage civil aviation, not even offering instruction to college students, seems mildly amusing now. It would seem less amusing if we had a war on our hands, enemy planes disposing of our foolish battleships in the first few hours, wrecking several of our big cities in the first forty-eight hours, and then asking us to offer terms."

Fortunately, thanks to President Coolidge and Postmaster New, our air mail does encourage airplane pilots, and trains some first class pilots. But that is only "a drop in the bucket." The cost of one battleship would provide enough airplanes to sink every fighting ship afloat.

Nickel Nurses.

A local secular contemporary has discovered that Europe, while it pokes fun at their "barbarities" prefers infinitely that the get-rich-quick-free-riding Americans to our intellectual, cultured, refined "nickel-nursing American groups tourists."

Here is the argument advanced: "S. K. Ratcliffe, British journalist, tells us that Europe wishes we would keep our thrifty tourists at home in the Summer, and send only the easy spenders."

"The tradition abroad that all Americans are rolling in money is a hard one to down. The recent migration of students, teachers, and people of small means irritates the continentalers deeply, and has about wrecked their two-price system of costs."

"Even so, a million cash customers on the Continent every year is not to be sneezed at in spite of the fact that money flows like glue from many of them, and that they are sparing with tips."

"The Old World shopkeepers and landlords will have to acquire patience with us. They will have to worry along as best they may. They should remember that 'money isn't everything.'"

"Maybe we can have a little educational campaign at home between now and Summer. A sort of 'Throw Your Money Away in Europe Week.' We hate to have our tourists in Europe look like pikers."

The original Tom Sawyer may die but Mark Twain's fictional representation lives on.

To the average citizen it would appear that buying books for our Central Library and adding a few dollars to the salaries of policemen and firemen is just as important work for our new city manager councilmen as raising the salaries of a few minor judges as much more per year as the policemen and firemen draw in annual salaries.

It is good news that with the advent of the new Columbus Building, the K. of C. Dramatic Club is to be revived and put on plays.

New York state's Legislature is up to date in one respect: it has passed a few laws to encourage aviation development.

Weekly Calendar Of Feast Days

Sunday, March 25.—The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin. This great festival takes its name from the happy tidings brought by the angel Gabriel to the Blessed Virgin, concerning the incarnation of the Son of God.

Monday, March 26.—St. Ludger, bishop, was the son of a nobleman of Friesland and was born in 743. He converted large numbers of the Saxons in East Friesland, and also the Province of Westphalia. Against his will he was made Bishop of Munster. He was favored with the gifts of miracles and prophecy.

Tuesday, March 27.—St. John of Egypt, after working with his father as a carpenter until he was twenty-five, withdrew into the desert. For sixteen years he lived in solitude and then took his abode in a cell where twice a week he would converse through a window with those who came to him.

Wednesday, March 28.—St. Geronimus, King, was the son of King Clovis and a grandson of Clovis I and St. Clotilda. He was crowned King of Orleans and Burgundy in 561 and conducted his reign in harmony with the principles of religion, protecting the oppressed and caring for the sick. He died in 593.

Thursday, March 29.—Sts. Jonas, Baruchias and their companions, martyrs, were executed after horrible tortures, during the reign of Sapor, King of Persia. They had refused to obey the command of the King to worship the Persian gods.

Friday, March 30.—St. John Climacus, while still young made such progress in learning writings of the Saints. At the age of seventy-five he was made abbot of Mt. Sinai. His most noted book is called the "Ladder, or Ladder of Perfection."

Saturday, March 31.—St. Benjamin, deacon and martyr, suffered in Persia during persecution under Varanes, grandson of Sapor III. He was thrust into prison for a year and then released and commanded not to speak again of religion. When he disregarded this command, he was subjected to horrible tortures and executed in the year 424.

Poor Folk's Graves Dug By St. Vincent Society's Members

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) London, March 12.—The digging of graves and the arranging of funerals is part of the work done for poor people by the Oldcotes conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. It was stated at a meeting this week of the Nottingham Central St. Vincent de Paul Council.

Besides working in Oldcotes, the conference is also doing remarkably good work in the new colliery villages of Langold and Birecotes, where 2,000 houses have been inhabited in a very short time.

It was stated at a meeting of the Westminster Central Council that its members are finding that "pre-war poverty" is now returning. During the war, it was said, destitution practically disappeared, but in one parish the Brothers were now being called upon to relieve nearly 40 families each week.

An instance of family devotion to the work of the society was reported at the Cardiff Central Council's meeting. A vote of condolence was passed to the relatives by becoming Brothers. One of them is president of a Wolverhampton conference.

N. Y. Priest Chases And Catches Thief

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) New York, March 16.—Detecting Joseph Smith, aged 30, in the organ loft of his church, the Rev. William R. Kelly of St. Martin of Tours Church, 182nd street and Belmont streets, chased him through the streets, captured and re-captured him and turned him over to the police.

Smith, who had just spent six months in the workhouse on a charge of disorderly conduct and was again sentenced to six months in the workhouse.

When Father Kelly overtook Smith and started to take him to the police station in a taxi cab, the latter leaped out, and the chase began anew.

MENG-SHAFFER-HELD Ready Tomorrow and Saturday Smart New Spring Hats \$5 That might be priced much higher—for considering the quality materials—the deft workmanship—the unmistakable Parisian chic—these models will be judged as belonging to a much higher price class. Colors in a full range of the New Spring shades. Materials are felt—Crochet Visca—satin—felt and straw.

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Farming Profession, Dr. E. V. O'Hara Tells Dairymen's Meeting Minneapolis, Minn., March 16.—The Rev. Edwin V. O'Hara of Eugene, Oregon, director of the Rural Life Bureau of the Department of Social Action, N. C. W. C., addressed the seventh annual meeting of the "Land O'Lakes" Cooperative Dairy just held here. Four thousand dairymen were in attendance, the "Land O'Lakes" cooperative being, in volume of annual business transacted, the second largest business in the State. During the year 1927 its sales amounted to more than \$46,000,000. It is the sales organization for 30 cooperative dairies. Father O'Hara spoke of the meaning of the "profession of farming and the social values of the cooperative movement." "The farmer," he said, "belongs to an age-old and most important profession. Nothing could be more absurd than the city idea that the farmer belongs in the class of common labor. Every farmer boy and girl receives a long apprenticeship in what a great Pope called the noble art of agriculture. He becomes master of a wide range of scientific fact and principle and must be a business man of capacity to be a successful farmer."

St. Agnes Academy, Memphis, Southern Basketball Winner Memphis Tenn., March 16.—St. Agnes Academy of this city won the Southern Catholic Girl's basketball championship in a three-day tournament just held in the gymnasium of Loyola University, New Orleans, according to word received here. Teams representing schools in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi competed in the tournament. In the final game of the tournament, St. Agnes Academy defeated Redemptorist high school of New Orleans, 35 to 19. In the consolation round St. Joseph Academy of New Orleans defeated the team from Incarnate Word Academy, San Antonio, Texas, 18 to 6, and took third place in the Southern Catholic rating for 1928. Pauline Marquette of the St. Agnes team was voted the player most valuable to her team in the tournament, and was awarded a gold medal by Mayor O'Keefe.

Domes for Ricard Observatory Ready Santa Clara, Calif., March 15.—The Rev. Cornelius J. McCoy, S. J., president of Santa Clara University, has announced that the two domes for the Ricard observatory have been completed and are ready for delivery. Twenty-five feet in diameter, the finished domes will be placed on the eastern and western tower of the observatory respectively. A large dome is yet to be completed. It will be placed in the center tower. As soon as the domes are set in place the building dedicated to the Rev. Jerome Ricard, S. J., will be rushed to completion.

Irish Names in American Priesthood Dublin, March 12.—An Irish newspaper publishes the following interesting figures of Irish names among the United States priesthood. In the United States there are 188 Fathers Murphy; 156 Fathers O'Brien; 146 Fathers Ryan; 145 Fathers Sullivan; 139 each Fathers O'Connor and Walsh, and 134 Fathers Kelly.

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