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Editorial Staff:

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Friday, December 18, 1931.

## EIFTEEN HUNDRED BABIES

Birth-controllsts and back-firing uplifters won't like this editorial. They would get more comfort out of a scientific treatise on the vagaries of the moon, or an essay on why the polywog woggles. But a lot of other folks will like it. Eleven months ago, in the city of Chi-

cago, the Lewis Memorial Maternity Hospital was established by His Eminence George Cardinal Mundelein for worthy Catholic mothers of moderate circumstances: The complete cost of caring for maternity cases, including pre-natal care, is fifty dollars. This includes physicians' feet, nurses and all hospital charges. No imatter how long a mother may have to remain in the hospital, that fee is not increased. Any Catholic mother whose husband's income is fifty dollars a week or less is privileged to go to this hospital. There was some doubt when the hospital was opened that it would be a success. Let

On December fourth; eleven months after the opening of the hospital, the fifteenth-hundredth baby was born within its walls—a record for a newly established maternity hospital. The institution is, and had been from the start a great success it has proven a great blessing in Chicago. It stands unique and distinctive among the hospital institutions fostered by the Church in America. Money for its erection was provided by a generous Catholic philanthropist of Chicago, Frank J. Lewis. The Sisters of Charity of Providence conduct it. Expectant mothers turn to it as devoutly and gratefully as if it were a blessing from God, which indeed it is. Cardinal Mundeleln is to be congratulated upon this institution and upon the exalted mission it fills so splendidly in the great city of Chicago.

## UNCLE SAM SOLVES A PROBLEM

Uncle Sam, pitifully unable thus far to deal with its unemployment problem on a practical basis, has set out to deal with it on a scientific basis—our Uncle comes out flat-footed for birth control. "Kill them off before they are born," says-our Uncle, in effect, "and we won't have to fed them or find work for them."

Uncle Sain has many thousands of experts busy as bees every day in the year telling us how to varnish floors, how to buy furniture, how to prune apple trees, how to raise fat calves, and a lot of other things. We are not sure but what a two-cent stamp will bring a pamphlet telling how to pick out a wife, or at least a cook stove. Now we can get a pamphlet telling us all about the blessings of birth control. It was recently published at the U. S. Government printing office, through the Bureau of Census, and it presents the ideas of a certain Dr. Warren S. Thompson, who not long ago published a book declaring birth control "one of the greatest discoveries of mankind," as great as the discovery of fire, the invention of printing, or the application of electricity to communication and industry." He might have added "as great as the discovery of powder pulls and wooden legs."

The benevolent doctor, as may be expected, takes a southwest kick at the Catholic Church, with the kind co-operation of the Federal Printing Bureau. He

writes in this pamphlet:

"Various studies show there are difference in the birth rates of different religious faith; but generally religion is so bound up with other factors that the data are not conclude. For example, most of our so-called new immigrants to this country prior to 1920 (except the Jews) came try prior to 1920 (except the Jews) came from a rural group; they were poor, they had a low social status; and they were also Catholics. So, too, the Jews have all the characteristics commonly associated with a high birth rate in the city.

It is impossible of course, to say to what expent the barth rate of these new immissions is due to their social and economic

#### Christmas Bells

I heard the bells on Christmas Day Their old, familiar carols play.

And wild and sweet

The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And thought how, as the day had come, The belfries of all Christendom Had rolled along The unbroken song

Of peace on earth, good-will to men?

Till, ringing, singing on its way.

The world revolved from night to day.

A voice, a chime,
A chant-subline,

Of peace on earth, good-will to men! Then pealed the bell's more loud and deep: God is not dead, nor doth He sleep!

The Right prevail,
With peace on earth, good-will to men!
—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

status and to what extent it is due to re-

The good doctor might have added that they loved children better than poodle dogs, and the law of God—"Increase and multiply"—better than the wisdom of fanatics and shysters.

"In Catholic communities the ratios of children are often quite high, but how much of this ratio can be attributed to the influence of religion, how much to foreign birth, how much to low economic status, and how much to essential rural-mindedness, no one can decide," says the doctor in Federal type.

One cannot help feeling that he would love to say the Catholics are abysmally ignorant. But that wouldn't look well-in Federal type, especially when Catholic votes are wanted for this, that and the other thing, including candidates who profit by bigotry. So when you write to your Uncle Sam for a pamphlet on how to raise hogs or shellar old floors, you can also get one on how not to have children. This is a great country, until you forget to pay your taxes.

#### SHOULD AL. SMITH RUN AGAIN?

We are not asking this question from a political motive. We are asking it from a higher motive—an American motive. The Montgomery, Alabama, Advertiser, one of the leading newspapers in that State, a staunch supporter of Al Smith in the last Presidential election, recently came out with an editorial against the renomination of Mr. Smith. Its chief objection, boldly printed, is this:

"The Advertiser believes that it would be a mistake to renominate Smith because of the bitterness which his religious tles would arouse, thus diverting public thought from legitimate political issues to matters of no proper public concern."

"Al Smith Should Stand Aside" is the

title of this editorial. He should stand aside because he is a Catholic. His rights as a citizen should be curtailed, his rights as an American trampled upon. Foulmouthed bigots, fanatics, falsiflers, should dictate America's government and America's governme ica's future. Because Al. Smith blesses himself with his right hand he is told he must stand aside. Because he loves and serves God reverently and with fidelity he must stand aside. Because he doesn't ride on the water wagon with Bishop Cannon, indicted and discredited political-prelate, he must stand aside. Because he is a lover of the Church established on earth by Jesus Christ he must stand aside. No one questions his ability, his integrity, his honesty, the clean manliness of his life or character. But because his religion is questioned he must stand aside?

Shame on such putrid Americanism! Shame on such contemptible cowardice! Our forefathers fought, bled and died for liberty and for equality of rights and of life. They wrote, with their blood, a glorious chapter of history. Now, with putrid, contaminated blood, another chapter is to be written, if the advice of this Alabama

paper is to be followed.

There are more Catholic voters in America, five times over, than all the howling bigots, fanatics and falsifiers in the land. There are enough Catholic voters to dominate by balance of power any election -to elect or defeat any candidate, if united solidly for or against him. If Al. Smith should be turned down by the Democratic party because of his religion, let the Democratic party beware lest it force a condition that might bring swift retribution upon its head. Millions of Catholic voters still carry in their hearts bitter recollection of the unfair, unjust, un-American, un-Christian abominations of the last Presidential election. In that election we were humble, patient, unresentful. We hoped, and still hope, for a fine, noble demonstraion of American honesty and fair play. Not one of us is clamoring for a Catholic President. We have given our unfailing, unquestioned loyalty to every president America has had in the 150 years of her national life. But any political party tells us that one of the noblest, ablest and best of Amer ica's sons must step aside from the nomination for the presidency because of his religion, then our blood boils, and no one will need wonder if it should boil to the point of retaliation. The Montgomery Advertiser did a bad thing for Democracy and for Americanism when it advocated the cowardly, un-American proposition that Al. Smith step aside because of his religion. Al. Smith may step aside for a thousand reasons, but not for that.

# The Surest Safeguard of Liberty

"Always is the recognition of God the strongest and surest safeguard of popular liberties. For religion emphasizes the divine origin of man and his immortal destiny; it insists upon those sacred and inalienable rights which man has received from his Creator, and upon which no state can with justice infringe. It teaches the fundamental truth that all men before God are equal, that all are children of a common Father, and that all are, therefore, brothers. This teaching is at the very root of civil and political liberty. It guarantees to the citizen the fullest measure of legitimate freedom, and when it becomes a working principle in the lives of the ruler and the ruled, tyranny and anarchy find no reason for existence. So long as man is spiritual in his nature and undying in his destiny, he must be more than a mere puppet of the state."—Cardinal O'Connell of Boston.

#### HONORING A CATHOLIC POET

Holy Cross College, at Worcester, Massachusetts, announces that it will install in its wonderful library a memorial room to Louise Imogen Guiney. This is a gracious and beautiful tribute to a Catholic writer who wrote much poetry of superor merit. Her lovely verses are numbered among the best American compositions, and many of them are rich with Catholic thought and truth. She has been goite from life these twelve years, but her poems are still widely read and universally admired.

Louise Imogen Guiney was the daughter of a Holy Cross alumnus—Patrick Robert Guiney, Like many of his country-men, when the Civil War broke out he offered his services and his life to the cause of the Union, and fought so bravely andwell that he was breveted a brigadier general. He suffered much in the service, for he was not a man to spare himself and send others to the bayonet and to death. Years after the war was over, when the duiney family felt, the pinch of poverty, influential friends had the gifted daughter appointed postmaster in a small village, a suburb of Boston. Notwithstanding the poetic gifts of the daughter, and the heroic war record of the father, many of the villagers resented the appointment of a Catholic postmaster. Business men, manufacturers and individuals in large numbers boycotted the postoffice. Her salary depended upon the amount of business done by the office, and the boycott quickly caused its rank to drop from that of a substantial village office to almost a nonentity, with the result that Miss Guiney's pay was of little help to her herself and her father. But the bigots, in their shriveled-brain triumph, forgot that there is such a thing in America as "Irish spirit." The Boston Irish, hearing of the boycott, flocked to the suburb in droves, bought postage stamps by the bushel and mailed letters by true barrel, raising the rank of the postoffice higher than it had ever been in its history.
Miss Guiney drew a handsome salary as a
result, and the bigots were held to ridicule all over America. An unhappy incident thus ended happily.

Now Miss Gainey is to be honored by a great educational institution. A souvenir booklet is to be issued on the poet's work, and new love will be woven into and around her lovely writings, so sweetly Christian, so truly American.

## ENLIGHTENING WOODROW WILSON

When Woodrow Wilson was President of the United States his private secretary was a versatile gentleman named Joseph Patrick Tumulty. Mr. Tumulty was an exceptionally able and capable secretary, and in addition was a star first baseman on the diamond of politics. He knew the game front, back; and sideways, and hence was a most helpful man to the New Jersey professor who was not so accomplished. But Mr. Tumulty had one grievous fault-he blessed himself with his right hand. Therefore, the gifted editor of a blatherskite sheet inappropriately named "The Protestant," elected himself to the high office of confidential advisor to the President. W. W. Prescott was his name. He had, it seems, been sending a series of letters to the President, warning him of the clusive power of the Pope and the contagious danger of Catholic employes in Govern-ment circles. But, strange to say, Mr. Wilson did not turn from affairs of State and give his hand and heart to Mr. Prescott. So that gentleman wrote Mr. Wilson a letter advising him of the widespread feeling among Protstants "that it is practically impossible for any communication relating to the activities of the Roman Catholic Church to reach you personally, for the reason that all such letters are withheld from you by your private secretary, Mr. Tumulty."

Presient Wilson may have been weak in some things, but not in letter-writing. Roy Stannard Baker, a well known author, editor and writer, tells of this incident in some articles in the New York Herald-Tribune. He quotes Mr. Wilson as having written the following letter to the suspicious Mr. Prescott:

"I beg leave to assure you that the impression that any part of my correspondence is withheld from me in any circumstances by my secretary on account of religious predelictions on his part is absolutely and utterly false. I venture to say that no President ever had-more frank and satisfactory relations with his secretary than I have with mine. The whole of my correspondence is constantly open to me. Mr. Tumulty is more prompt, perhaps, to call my attention to matters in which his projudice is supposed to be engaged than in other matters of relative influence. Of course, I need hardly add I am not speaking from an impression, but from knowfedge of just how my correspondence is

And that was that. We assume the suspicious Mr. Prescott immediately wrote down Mr. Wilson as an emissary of the Pope, hopelessly entrapped in the meshes of Rome.

### "LEGS" DIAMOND WIPED OUT

In the dawn of a recent gray morning, fresh from the trysting place of his lady love, while his wife waited for him in a nearby speakeasy where, with other friends, they had celebrated in the Capital City of this State his acquittal on the charge of having kidnapped a farm youth and tortured him because he was selling the "wrong beer," Jack "Legs" Diamond was, in the vernacular of gangdom, wiped out. One heroic gangster—the type often featured in motion pictures as noble bravados pounced upon him while he lay in drunken slumber in a cheap rooming house, pinioned his arms and held him helpless Another heroic gangster placed the muzzle of an automatic revolver at the back of his head and pumped three soft-nosed bullets —the kind that spreads—into his brain. Newspapers, abnormally hungry for the unusual, featured the fact that a rosary was found among his possessions.

Thirty-three years was the period of life allotted to "Legs," not by the Lord, but by gangdom. At least sixteen of these were devoted to crime. Petty stealing, bootlegging, rum-running, hi-jacking, "muscling into" new territory, lewd and lascivious living, and the trail of many murders leading from gangdom's pathways to his doors, made him quite a distinguished figure in the new American social circle created by Volstead. Added to these was treachery to his partners, deceit to his friends, dishonesty to his customers and the unforgivable double-cross to his pals. American law, in sixteen years, could not, or would not curb the brutal and bloody career of this criminal. But a higher and more determined law did curb him -the law of gangland. But even its process was slow, for fourteen bullets were fired into his body at various times before the fatal one cut an arch through his brain.

The fate of "Legs" Diamond is the fate of the average gangster. Death by violence is written on the horizon of the life of each. Yet the lure of the life takes many fine young men from the home, from the Church and from God. The passion for wealth, the longing for power, the quick and sure prestige a clever bootlegger finds even among the best of America's citizens—these are hard to ignore when one is product of life's lower stratas. But these bring jealousy that is swift, competition that is perilous, antagonism that reddens city streets and country hillsides with hu-

## WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor

Representative Garner of Texas received hundreds of messages, many of them from the country's biggest men, congratulating him upon his election to the high office of Speaker of the House-of Representatives. He made public only one message—that from his mother, expressing her pride and love. We like that in a man. It was a gracious and beautiful thing for him to do.

Lincoln's birthday is observed as a holiday by most Northern States, and by two Southern States, Kentucky and Tennessee. Strange to say, it is not a holiday in the District of Columbia. Representative DePriest, the Negro Congressman from Illinois, recently introduced a bill making February 12th a public holiday. This will apply, however, only to the District of Columbia, territories under Federal control, and Federal offices. There are a great many holidays scattered among the States, but only five holidays are observed by all the States. Territories and colonial possessions: New Year's Day, Washington's Birthday, Independence Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

## CURRENT COMMENT

#### RUINÊD BY WHITE MEN

The South Sea Islands, those lovely places ruined by the worst sort of white. men, want to go native again. The agricultural union of Tahiti has asked the French Government for as much. The islanders are asked to forsake the attempt to "maintain modern methods of living and trade—to eschew life in towns with their artificial commercial existence, which is hold responsible for the degeneration of island civilization." This is a dramatic Climax to man's sin, of a long history of exploitation and greed and lust. How many years will it take to undo the bad work, to make the natives believe that the God whom white men know would damn menfor those very sins.-Western Watchman.

### WHAT ARE THE GANGS?

What are the gangs? There used to be gangs of corner loafers and young rowdies. There were a few other gangs, easily broken up. Now there are powerful and dangerous gangs which can't be broken One succeeds another, as a newly opened speakeasy takes the place of one closed. A great commercial stake, the profits of a prodigious business in beerrunning, rum-running, bootlegging and alf other varieties of the illegitimate liquor traffic, causes, nourishes and supports the lords and servitors of gangdom. The father and mother of all these gangs, murders and summary executions are the Eighteenth Amendment and the Volstead act, whi**ch** enlarges and distorts the purpose of that amendment.—The New York Times.

## THE PINCH OF POVERTY

Missouri University has felt the pinch of poverty so much that President Walter Williams is about to cut down on activities to save \$250,000. One of the hardest blows the nation must sustain on account of depression is in education, yet even there the chastening influence is not altogether a bad thing. Our great universities—and "great" we currently define as those with the most students, the most money, and the least sense have dabbled too much with unimportant things. Money is no more the heart of the university than it is the heart of the individual, and the depression will have been a good thing if it makes men turn to thinking rather than to the fruitless building of houses or buying of big names.—The Herald.

## THE OTHER SIDE OF LIFE

While some ministers, and quite a few meddlesome fanatics, are prostituting their manhood and womanhood by running up and down the country advocating birth control, two American Sisters, members of the Catholic Medical Missionaries, have gone quietly into Dacca, Bengal, India, and opened a Maternity Hospital. Besides taking care of maternity cases, these Sisters will train midwives to go out into the community and give excellent modern care to mothers.

The birthrate for Dacca is about 4,000 per year. Mothers of Dacca will be much happier receiving instructions from these good Sisters than they ever would be, or could be, receiving instructions from men and women deliberately defying God by their teachings, nefarious in principle and sinful in practice.

The order of the Catholic Medical Missionaries was founded in Baltimore in 1925, with the approval of Archbishop Curley. It is an excellent order, dedicated to a great work, and helpful to humanity in ways approved by God.

man blood, and adds new mausoleums to many cemeteries. As in war, the paths of glory lead but to the grave. And the Rosary beads, left behind in a blood-stained room, may be the last sacred treasure given to a bright-eyed boy by a loving mother long, long ago—the only link, unbroken, that connected a dishonored corpse with the prayers and tears of one who loved him better than life.

# When You Make Your Will

Always, in every Diocese, there are churches and institutions which have heavy financial burdens, and whose work is handicapped by these burdens. When you make your will, the best way in the world to help these needy ones is to insert a paragraph something like this in the will:

"I give and bequeath to the Rt. Rev. John Francis O'Hern, D.D., Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Rochester, N. Y., or his successor or successors in office, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_\_, to be used at his or their discretion for the work or the institutions of the Diocese."

If you are interested in some particular church, charity or institution a clause like this may be added: "I am interested particularly in

Bequests, large or small, are a great blessing to religion, and it is highly edifying to read of them in any will. No Catholic will should be without one or more such bequests.