Catholic Courier

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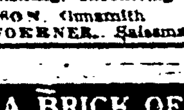

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STONE 1492 50 CHESTNUT ST.

COLUMBUS CIVIC CENTER

SHOWS STATE IS TO BLAME FOR HYGENICS

(Continued from Page One)

mosphere of the class may be concealed under the euphonious title of Hygiene. The Church is in favor of any form of hygiene teaching in the schools which does not involve sex education. The latter, to her mind, should be imparted privately by the parents in the home. This is likewise the attitude of Orthodox Judaism for whose opinion in the matter we trust Rabbi Bernstein entertains the greatest respect.

The hygienically-minded Rabbi has also quoted from Francisco Bulnes the statement that "according to the Civil Register of Mexico City seventy percent of the births were of illigitimate children." We are glad the Rabbi made this statement. We hope he realizes where the blame should be placed. If he knows anything about the Mexican people, he will admit with us that the present godless Mexican government alone is responsible for this great percentage of illegitimate births.

The Mexican people are Catholics. As Catholics they refuse to be married except before a priest and two witnesses, in accordance with the law of their Church. As Catholics, they do not recognize the marriage of Catholics by any civil officer as a valid marriage. At the present time the brutal governmental tyranny, under the leadership of Calles, has so limited the number of priests in Mexico that it is physically impossible for the few priests permitted to follow their sacred calling to minister to the religious needs of the Mexican Catholics. Is it any wonder that there should be numerous children born out of wedlock in the State of Sonora where no priest is permitted to minister to the 300,000 resident Catholics; or in the State of Chiapas, where no priest is permitted to minister to 320,000 resident Catholics; or in the State of Vera Cruz where no priest is permitted to minister to 1,000,000 resident Catholic. The Mexican government can lower the number of illegitimate births immediately by permitting a sufficient number of native priests to minister to the religious needs of 14,000,000 Mexican Catholics. Wherever a priest has appeared, couples living together as man and wife, without previous benefit of clergy, have immediately notified the priest and entered into the Sacrament of Matrimony before him.

We do not mean to justify the unsanctioned living together of man and woman as husband and wife. We do mean to blame the Mexican government for its failure to recognize and to provide for the religious needs of the Mexican Catholics. The outrageous limitation of priests and, as has been indicated, the total prohibition of priests in large Mexican States, is the reason for the fact that so many children can appear upon the Civil Register as illegitimate. The Civil tyranny of the Mexican government has peopled the Civil Register of Mexico City with this large proportion of illegitimates.

What does the learned Rabbi think that the Orthodox Jewish man and woman would do in similar circumstances? Suppose under some European tyranny Jewish Rabbis were so limited as to leave large proportions of the Jewish people without benefit of clergy over a long period of time. Suppose this same European tyranny should make it impossible and even dangerous for a Jewish couple to travel miles and miles to reach the clergyman of their faith. What would the learned Rabbi say if some Christian speaker pointed oratorically to the large number of Jewish illegimates recorded on the Civil Register of this same European tyrant? If he knew history and psychology he would interpret the facts correctly and reply to the Christian speaker even as we ourselves are replying to him today.

The very fact of the birth of illegitimates opens up another consideration. Were illicit relationships allowed in this country to result in births, the percentage of illegitimate births in America would be enormous. In our colder "nordic" clime, those who enter illicit relationships see to it that subsquent births are prevented, either by post-factum abortions or by ante-factum contraception. Furthermore, very few of such illicit relationships result in marriage, a fact which proves that in the United States passion, and not resistance to any tyrannical civil laws, is their source. In Mexico the illicit relationship becomes a licit one as soon as the couple can receive the services of a priest. Since no priest is permitted to minister to those outside his clearly defined geographical limitations, it is clearly evident that months and years may elapse before those who live in districts without benefit of clergy can make their human vows sacred before a priest.

Again in his speech the learned Rabbi has quoted from Bernardo J. Gastelum, head of the Department of Health in the Calles Administration. According to the latter official's talk before the Pan American Conference of Public Health Officers in 1926, "In Mexico sixty percent of the inhabitants suffer from syphilis." ' ' ' ' The Rabbi also makes the charge, on the basis of a quotation from the Medical Service Department of Education, that "the majority of children attending school are afflicted with hereditary syphilis."

These two statements constitute one of the most damaging indictments against the present godless government in Mexico today. The amount of syphilis either among the adult population or amongst children of school age, because of hereditary reasons, cannot be blamed on the Catholic Church. Would the learned Rabbi like me to blame Judaism, Orthodox and and Liberal, for the amount of syphilis or gonorrhea or cancer or tuberculosis amongst the Jewish population in America? For one hundred years the Catholic Church has been outlawed from the schools in Mexico. Since 1857 she has not been permitted to play any directive or influential part in the public destinies of Mexico. She, therefore, cannot be charged with the health problems of the Mexican people.

Any rational and intelligent student of sociology knows that the prevalence of disease is due in great part to the negligence of the civil authorities in providing proper housing and working and living conditions for the people over whose temporal welfare civil government is supposed to exercise jurisdiction. If Calles had used some of the millions that he has deposited to his own account in the Bank of England for purposes of slum clearance, disease would not be so prevalent in Mexico. Had Calles and his puny though prickly presidential puppets permitted the Church to give religious instruction in private schools and to train children in the principles and practices of morality, there would be a far less percentage of syphilis due to immorality in Mexico today. The Church has not been allowed to hold religious meetings outside the church buildings. All private religious elementary schools have been closed. She has been forbidden to exercise any influence on the youth of Mexico for the past several generations. For that reason, as well as for many other reasons the presence of widespread disease is another one of the menacing and malodorous contributions of the National Revolutionary Party and its tyrannical predecessors to the degradation of Mexico.

The learned Rabbi is absolutely and unpardonably wrong in his conclusion that sex education as proposed and practiced by the present Mexican tyranny will alleviate the conditions he refers to. Mere sex knowledge is not a preventative against syphilis or any other venereal disease. If that were so, there would be no venereal diseases in the life of any doctor or in the life of any nurse. The return of religion to Mexico and a patriotic use of Mexican tax proceeds for the economic and social welfare of the people, insted of for the personal aggrandizement of Calles and his henchmen, is the only solution. Allow religion to fuction with the same freedom that it enjoys in the United States and Mexico will be able to throw off the incubus of physical and moral disease, with which the present communistic and cancerous Socialistic regime has infected her. We trust that the learned Rabbi will give more attention in his next speech to a real interpretation of the facts and devote more time to the defense of the Mexican people, who like the Jews have been persecuted for their religion.

Thus far we have merely admitted the facts quoted by the learned Rabbi for the sake of argument. A special dispatch has already been forwarded to Mexico City asking for a verification of the facts. Whether the facts as quoted by the learned Rabbi are true or not, this fact is true: the conclusion of the Rabbi that the present program of sex education in Mexico will cure the conditions he speaks of is false. The present godless Mexican government has begotten such conditions. The removal of that government and the return of religion alone will remove the misery of Mexico today.

Rev. Edward Lodge Curran, LL.M., Ph. D.
International Catholic Truth Society
407 Bergen Street, Brookly, New York
Editor of "Light."

WRITERS WHO KNOW BRING FORTH FACTS

(Continued from Page One)

revealed" he thinks, "by the vital and health statistics." "Fifty percent of the children born in Mexico City die before the age of ten," he said. Quoting statistics from Bernard J. Gastelum, head of health in the Calles administration and the historian Francisco Bulnes, the Rabbi concluded that sex education as proposed by the Mexican government would alleviate the problems of sex hygiene.

In reply to these charges the CATHOLIC COURIER is publishing in this issue the complete text of an address given yesterday by the Rev. Dr. Frederick J. Zwierlien, of St. Bernard's Seminary to Catholic Public School Teachers; a feature article by the Rev. Dr. Edward Lodge Curran, President, International Catholic Truth Society, on Hygienic Education in Mexico; a contribution from the pen of Vincent De Paul Fitzpatrick, Managing Editor, Baltimore Catholic Review, official newspaper of the Archdiocese of Baltimore authenticating statements of Archbishop Curley; a special series of posters reproduced from The Queen's Work graphically indicating anti-religious campaign in Mexico.

Rosaries, Crucifixes Sought for Youths in Reforestation Camps

Washigton—(NCWC)—The need of rosaries, crucifixes and wholesome reading matter for Lent for the youths in the Civilian Conservation camps is stressed in letters received at the headquarters here of the National Council of Catholic Men.

The letters tell of frequent Communions among the personnel of the reforestation projects and express gratitude for pamphlets sent to the camps. Request is made that rosaries, prayer books, etc. be sent directly to the camps.

ARCHBISHOP CURLEY'S STATEMENTS DEFENDED BY BALTIMORE EDITOR

(Continued from Page One)

this circular, which bears the seal of the Permanent Commission of the Congress of the United States in Mexico. It is signed by two officials of the Congress. We understand that distinguished leaders in our national life are in possession of copies of this circular. We repeat that Archbishop Curley has originals—not copies. Let us quote from the circular:

"This Honorable Permanent Commission of the Chamber of Deputies has resolved to express to you that, making ourselves the echo of the ideology that is supported by the Division General, Plutarco Elias Calles, Supreme Chief of the Mexican Revolution, we advise you to have conferences with the C. C. Governors in their respective states, so that secretly a census may be made of the so-called Knights of Columbus, with the address of their homes, as well as the so-called Knights of Guadalupe, and the most prominent Catholics, who at a ripe moment might constitute a danger to the Dictatorship of the Proletariat toward which we are going. On the other hand, all persecution against the Communist elements of the Third International of Moscow shall be suspended because our Revolutionary Government is having communications with Joseph Stalin, in order to resume conferences, commercial, political and ideologic agreements, at this very time with the great Soviet Russia, mother country of the workers of the World."

In the quotation above you have proof both in context and explicit language that the present Government of Mexico is in league with the Soviet Reds.

We have other documents and others are on the way which we shall publish in due time and which we shall be glad to show to Rabbi Rosenau. We hope we are not presuming too much on the good nature of the latter for having projected him without his knowledge into this statement. However, we do not believe he will object. He has been a champion of the persecuted Catholics of Mexico.

Rabbi Bernstein undoubtedly knows about the activities of Canabal's Red Shirts in Mexico. He knows how they have shot down and killed Catholics who were on their way from Mass. He knows about the activity of these same Red Shirts in various parts of Mexico. He knows that under Canabal churches have been torn down and their stones used to make roads over which Rotarians and members of the Lions' Club will ride this summer in Mexico.

Rabbi Bernstein must know about the teachers' oath to deny God—if they would keep their positions. He must know the appeal of the Red, to children to turn against their parents, to cease to love them and obey them. We who write these lines came in possession of originals of these oaths.

There should be no need to recapitulate the acts of the Mexican Government—acts which follow out the campaign against God and Religion pursued by the Communists of Soviet Russia. "By their fruits ye shal know them."

But Rabbi Bernstein apparently can see no menace from these Mexican Reds to the United States. Germany, Austria and other European countries. We have them in the United States, and the menace is growing worse, as evidenced by the recent race riots in the Harlem sector of New York—riots urged by Communists.

Now Mexico is our nearest national neighbour. There are cities in the United States which are less than two-minutes' walk from Mexican cities. Mexican refugees, most of them God-fearing men and women, but some of them comunists, are pouring into the United States. Some years ago Villistas came into United States Territory and committed murder in the territory of the United States.

President Wilson used the force of arms to oust President Huerta from Mexico, and he was responsible for the election of Carranza, whose part in the production of the so-called Queretaro Constitution stamped him as one with those who frame the policies of Soviet Russia today.

Today through the medium of the Mexican Ambassador in Washington and the various Mexican consuls in the United States propaganda in defense of the present Red Government in Mexico is being sent through the mails to thousands of American citizens. In sending such propaganda through the mails these representatives of Mexico are using the franking privilege granted to ambassadorial, ministerial and consular representatives of foreign governments.

Representative Hamilton Fish and others see a menace to the United States from the present Sovietizing influences in Mexico. We hope Archbishop Curley and Congressman Fish are wrong. However, it is probable that they are right and Rabbi Bernstein wrong.

LEWD DISPLAY OF 'VANITIES' IS RESENTED

(Continued from Page One)

take action on the Palace performance.

Acting in the name of the 700 Sodalists of Nazareth Academy, their prefect, Margaret Worthington protested to the Palace management that the billboards and advertising used in connection with the showing of the "Vanities" were "certainly against all decency and not in keeping with the precepts of the Legion of Decency."

Protest Advertising

Beatrice Brown, prefect of the Sodality of Our Lady of Mercy High School wrote that the girls of the school were outraged by "your hideous advertising."

Another protest was sent by the Nazareth College Sodality of the Blessed Virgin.

The Diocesan Council, National Council of Catholic Women also joined in protesting the lewd performance.

The critics of the three Rochester dailies were unanimous in their condemnation of the show from a moral standpoint.

Writing in the Times-Union, Charles E. Welch declared that the show "might more appropriately be named Vulgarities for there is scarcely a spoken line the production which is not suggestive." He added that there is doubt if the burlesque shows of former days "ever crammed so much vulgar stuff in their shows as there is in the Vanities."

To Mary Gilmore of the Rochester Journal the show was "a whole round of off color gags and bedroom blackouts."

George L. David of the Democrat & Chronicle wrote that "the latest "Vanities" edition that the sensitive Mr. Carroll sent to the R. K. O Palace is quite as bold and naughty and almost as nude as expected."

Chinese Youth Amuses Hearers in Welcome Talk

Shanghai, China—(JMS)—After attending the International Red Cross meeting in Japan as an American representative, Father W. Coleman Nevils, S. J., president of Georgetown University, visited Gonzaga College of the American Jesuits here. As he entered the hall where the student-body was gathered to meet him, an improvised Glee Club of Chinese boys sang the Georgetown song.

A recent convert named Charles Chang gave the address of welcome in faultless English. He was followed by a native youth who prefaced his speech in Chinese by saying very seriously, "Now I shall speak slowly and distinctly and I know the Father will understand me." Father Nevils was told later why all the Chinese present then smiled.

There are two kinds of freedom—the false, when a man is free to do what he likes; the true, where a man is free to do what he ought.

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BRICKBATS or BOUQUETS

I Don't Like: ....

I Do Like: ....

I Suggest: ....

● USE SPACE ABOVE FOR ADDITIONAL FRANK COMMENTS ●

CLIP ALONG THIS LINE

» JUST WHAT DO YOU LIKE IN THE ● Catholic Courier

READ CAREFULLY BEFORE ANSWERING THE QUESTIONS

To Our Readers:

CHANGE IS the rule of life. In its progressive efforts to keep abreast of the times, the CATHOLIC COURIER periodically tries to readjust itself to its readers' changing interests and tastes. We print what we think will appeal to you, but only YOU can give us definite facts.

YOUR ANSWERS to the simplified questions below will tell us which departments you like best, which features should be continued, and in general will guide our editorial policy.

TO UNDERSTAND our readers' interests and circumstances better, we are also trying to learn more about them as PEOPLE. Some of the questions are rather personal BUT . . . since your replies are completely anonymous . . . you can feel free to answer all the questions with the utmost frankness and completeness.

YOU WILL understand that absolute accuracy in replying is necessary, else the questionnaire will be unreliable and utterly worthless. The CATHOLIC COURIER will be deeply grateful for your assistance in helping us make your diocesan publication a better newspaper.

Rev. LEO C. MOONEY, Managing Editor.

READ THIS WITH CARE

PLEASE NOTE that your name or address does NOT appear anywhere on this form. We have no way of identifying your questionnaire when you mail it in! Your answers can be completely frank.

1. How many persons (including yourself) read your copy of the COURIER *regularly*? ....

2. Please check the departments you read *regularly* (each additional reader included in Question One should fill in his own checkmarks below in addition to yours):

Sodaltalk	Homemaker Page	One Woman to Another ....
Spring Modes	Sports Horizon	Propagation of Faith ....
Lay Society News	Boys' Interests	Home Improvements ....
Late Bulletins	Believe it . . . Not!	Catholic Education ....
Movie Guide	Strange But True	Diocesan Recordings ....
Editorials	Moonlight Manor	Catholic Evidence ....
Library Sign Post	Current Comment	Classified Ads ....

3. How many members of your family attend or have attended Business School? .... High School? .... College? ....

4. Do you own your own home? .... Assessed valuation? ....

5. What other religious or secular newspapers does your family buy *regularly*? ....

6. To what extent has the COURIER influenced your support of the "Legion of Decency"? None .... Somewhat .... Very much .... Completely ....

7. Do you have an automobile? .... What make? .... Radio? .... Telephone? .... Mechanical refrigerator? .... Electricity in home? .... Oil heating? ....

8. Do you prefer news articles written in detailed length? .... OR tabloid brevity? ....

9. How many in your family made Federal income tax returns this year? .... Do you have a savings account? .... a checking account? .... a store charge account? ....

10. Do you usually read the COURIER *thoroughly* from first page to last? .... OR do you read only the features you like? .... OR those features plus a few news articles? ....

11. How long do you keep the Annual Review and Calendar Magazine Supplement? ....

12. How much total life insurance does your family carry? $........ Total family income per year? $........

13. Do you read the advertisements and front page boxes bearing the COURIER signature (promotion ads)? Yes .... No ....

14. Would you prefer that the space now used for local Catholic news items be devoted to general Catholic news instead? Yes .... No ....

15. Does the advertising in the COURIER interest you? Very much .... Somewhat .... None .... Do you patronize COURIER advertisers? .... Do you tell them you saw their ads in the COURIER? ....

16. Do you get your copy of the COURIER regularly each week? ....

17. What firms would you like to see advertising in the COURIER? ....

18. Have you noticed improvement in the COURIER? ....

● When you have completed this form please clip it out and mail it ...

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