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Most Reverend Archbishop Edward Mooney,
Bishop of Rochester.

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Editorials

WORSE-BEFORE-BETTER
Just came from the town's tavern. Lady the house hit by an automobile and now in hospital. Nobody around but the pup dog. He has left evidence of his abhorrence of newspapers. He tears them up, even before examining them, thus reversing our practice. They say you can't fool a dog.

At the tavern we met an ancient. He didn't fix us with his eye, though he soon saw us with his tongue. For we hadn't been long when it came to us that the ancient was saying something.

About sixty years ago just over the boundary line in Ontario County there was a farmer, name of Redford. Without children and wanting them, having natural and paternal instincts, he adopted three.

One day one of the three came to farmer Redford and asked for a new suit of clothes. A month from now," said the farmer, "I'll give you a new suit—or a licking."

We informed our ancient friend that what he had told us was in line with what we had to do next.

The manuscript of Benjamin Franklin's last speech at the Constitutional Convention in 1787 was recently brought from the vaults of Cornell University. It reads—
"I believe," he wrote, "that this (the Constitution) is likely to be well administered for a course of years and can only end in despotism, as other forms have done before if when the people shall become so corrupted as to need despotic government, being incapable of any other."
All of the above is commended to the attention of Mrs. Thomas N. Hepburn.

Having supplied us with a good five cent jar, what this country now needs is discipline.

Mr. Knox of Chicago didn't like it, and said so. He made up his mind to do something about it. His aim? If a newspaper publisher, himself a sealer of the Republican nomination for the Presidency and so desirous of having no one challenge the probity of newspaper journalism, should resist as newspapers, Colonel Frank Knox took the first chance offered him to answer the charge recently made by Edward A. Filene, Boston business man Mr. Filene had said—

"In America—at least theoretically—the people rule. What kind of a government we have depends upon their votes, and how people vote depends on how well they understand the issues at stake. Daily they read their newspapers because they want to keep informed, and they read them not only for the news but for the interpretation of the news, for some understanding of the meaning of events. And yet, in a great national crisis in which our national administration, working for better distribution of wealth, has somehow come into conflict with the great financial and business interests, it turns out that our newspapers—the very source of the average voter's information and education—are usually owned and controlled by those same special interests."

In answer to this charge, Colonel Knox called the role of prominent newspapers, and asked—"Does Mr. Filene contend that those great newspapers are owned or controlled by 'special interests'?"
A little more light on what is meant here by "special interests" would be helpful. Usually we think of them as opposed to common interests. Often they are. And often they have been in this country. And when so, everyone knows that such interests have rarely overlooked an opportunity to fortify their position. Did ever such an opportunity beckon from a newsy paper office?

It could have probably did now and then. May be doing so now, here and there. But it is not necessary to set the "special interests" against the "general interests." The reason for the existence of "special interests" is never confined to these birth control modifiers. They could regulate the number of children born in the country but do nothing about eradicating the atrocious economic conditions that force families to live in such dens.

It would be interesting to know what proportion of the money now in the possession of the ultra-rich birth controllers came from the economic oppression and sweating of men by the few—by their "special interests."
Again we read of Relief statistics that show that there are about 2,000,000 families on relief in New York City, many of them the result of the spread of our "special interests." This may be called a typical example of pragmatic politics.

Mr. Filene's charge was sweeping. No doubt he knows exceptions—many, let us hope. But as a man he told him of the influence of environment, of associations, connections, of the influence of background and tradition on the so-called upper class.

Once you get-up there, you are taken over, fomented, made immune to vulgar contagion—and vulgar demands.
If at any time you are startled by a son striking you from above, that's where it came from, the seats of the high and mighty.

Curiously? Perhaps. But you cannot deny the presence of snobs, well satisfied with themselves and with things as they are, desperately afraid of change.
It is apparently the belief of Mr. Filene that too many of those who are not unhappy in a land of bilk and money.

Current Comment

A UNIVERSAL PANACEA
The latest universal panacea to break open its well and waddle forth into the international limelight is Birth Control. According to a recent survey, it will smother every difficulty and solve every problem that hinders mankind. It is a solution, some kind of solution, for every individual and every race. The problem it will make short work of is not the individual or international differences and interferences, but the individual and international differences in intelligence.

It seems strange that the reason for the existence of "special interests" is never confined to these birth control modifiers. They could regulate the number of children born in the country but do nothing about eradicating the atrocious economic conditions that force families to live in such dens.

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STRANGE BUT TRUE
Catholic Facts But Little Known

(c) 1935, by N. C. W. C. News Service
By M. J. MURRAY



THE LIBRARY SIGN POST

The Catholic Evidence Library, 41 Chambers Street, New York City, has just published the book, "The Catholic Evidence Library," which is a valuable addition to the library of every Catholic. The book is a collection of articles, speeches, and other material which show the strength of the Catholic position in the world. It is a must for every Catholic who wishes to understand the true Catholic position on the various issues of the day.

THE CATHOLIC EVIDENCE LIBRARY RECOMMENDS

A list of books and other material recommended by the Catholic Evidence Library, including titles on Church history, doctrine, and social issues.

QUESTION BOX
A section where readers can ask questions about Catholicism and receive answers from experts. Topics include public schools, birth control, and Church discipline.

Diocesan Recordings

Masses at St. Patrick's
A series of masses for the poor and needy, organized by the parish committee of St. Patrick's Church.

Prayers for the Sick
A collection of prayers for the sick and suffering, published by the diocese.

Prayers for the Dead
A collection of prayers for the souls of the departed, published by the diocese.

Prayers for the Living
A collection of prayers for the living, published by the diocese.

Prayers for the Holy Souls
A collection of prayers for the Holy Souls in Purgatory, published by the diocese.

Prayers for the Holy Trinity
A collection of prayers for the Holy Trinity, published by the diocese.