

The latest double-barreled barrage aimed at domestic unhappiness, we are told, is Assemblywoman Jane Todd's proposed marriage and divorce reform bill.

Editorial writers of the daily press throughout the state have painted a halo about the face of the bill.

They would have it that the bill will deal a death blow to domestic unhappiness. It will not only prevent unhappy marriages, they say, but will permit the dissolution of existing marital "mistakes."

The success of the bill in the Assembly predicted prompt passage by the Senate. But the unforeseen occurred. The bill ran around on a snag.

It is well for the public concern, the stability of the state, the sanctity of the home and the natural rights of the child that "conservative and religious doctrine" can see after the care of their noses.

The facts involved seem obvious. The state is but a group of citizens, an organization of individuals. The foundation of the state is the home.

The family makes the state, not the state the family. The family comes first, the state follows. One family does not constitute a state, but a group of families.

Can the child who isn't able to figure out who his mother is because a new "mama" periodically takes over the reins live a normal life and acquire the mental and moral home training to which he has a natural right?

It is unfortunate that men who have been entrusted with the task of molding public opinion should sponsor a bill so productive of social evil.

Results of the passage of Miss Todd's bill will be easily discernible. Hers will be but the first step in letting down the bars safeguarding the marriage contract.

It is our heritage. We Catholics rest easy in the knowledge that the Church has weathered every storm that ever appeared on the horizon.

Secure in that knowledge we sit back and rest on our oars instead of arming ourselves and fighting to the finish.

Farmers worry about soil erosion and business men about profit erosion.—Coping Evening Leader.

We're all going to be neutral about the next war—until it starts.—Geneva Daily Times.

NUMBER APPROX GOOD!

...in the laboratory, fiddling with the tubes, studying chemistry, waiting for the day when the world for the first time will be ruled by the intellect and

THE MAHATMA. LONG HANDS. MISS SANGER.

It isn't so very long ago that reputable scientists seriously and solemnly assured us that man descended from the ape.

At one time the scientific world believed in spontaneous generation. Pasteur exploded the theory. Today there are prominent scientists who are gradually swinging back to the original belief.

The riddles of the universe remain unsolved. Science does not know why the universe is expanding, or if our tiny planet is the only one occupied by thinking beings.

Science has gone part of the way, but only a minor part. And to say that the man in the laboratory is the only hope of the world today is the height of sheer absurdity.

At one time in the history of the world, to be a Catholic was to be a social leper. Not only was the society of Catholics shunned but their very ideas were regarded as contagious mental germs.

Every accusation from the eating of infants in a communion service to the attempted destruction of civilization was laid upon the doorstep of the Church.

But times have changed—somewhat. In this unlighted era the Catholic may fearlessly, even boldly, show his face on the street and speak his mind if he feels so inclined.

Science, we are told, is responsible for this new state of affairs. Science has broadened the average person's mind. It has done away with all the traditional superstitions and phobias.

Yet, at times, even in this scientific era, it seems as though Catholics of today are "tainted" as were their ancestors of old.

A few weeks ago the New York City Board of Education voted down the Peace of Estimate's bill to provide for the conveyance of crippled children to religious public schools.

If the official Catholic newspaper of the Brooklyn diocese had not openly waged war and invaded the enemy's camp, nothing more would have been heard of the Board of Education's veto.

Station WLWJ of the Paulist Fathers is one of the oldest and best equipped radio stations in the country. It is the only voice of the Catholic Church on the air east of the Mississippi.

Every year the matter of tax exemption of religious public buildings is called into question. Catholics in general, and not a few intelligent non-Catholics, know that if the Catholic schools were closed down, if the state and nation were forced to bear the additional burden of supporting the existing religious institutions, a grave national crisis would occur.

Except in time of war and when the election booths are opened, Catholics seem to be regarded as a class of people who have no right to expect "favours" from the law-making bodies of the state and nation.

We Catholics frequently accuse ourselves of being too apathetic. We often feel that we are cursed with a congenital tendency to sit down and take it on the chin instead of fighting for our own. And it is very true.

But there is a reason for that attitude. It is our heritage. We Catholics rest easy in the knowledge that the Church has weathered every storm that ever appeared on the horizon.

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THE CATHOLIC DUKE OF NORFOLK. Premier Duke of the Kingdom, is hereditary Earl-Marshal of England. His duties concern the arrangements for all State processions, Royal marriages and Royal funerals.

TRADITION AFFIRMS THAT THESE PILLARS IN AN INDIAN TEMPLE WERE DISCOVERED WHEN EXCAVATIONS WERE MADE TWO THOUSAND YEARS AGO!

Although the twelve pillars were carved out of one block of granite each gives out a different shade when struck.

CHERRY TREES used to be dedicated to Our Lady in England. Legend that during the flight into Egypt Our Lady and SAINT JOSEPH derived cherry sustenance from the trees.

MASS is derived from the Latin word MISSIO, meaning a dismissal. The word is used by the priest at the conclusion of MASS. THE HOLY SACRAMENT, THE EUCARIST and the early Christian term, THE BREAKING OF BREAD.

THE LIBRARY SIGN POST

I recently came across the name of a Catholic library in a small town in the State of New York. The name of the library is "The Catholic Evidence Library." It is a collection of books and pamphlets which are available to all Catholics who wish to study the Catholic faith.

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Rambling Round

Have you ever seen a large communitarian and a small one? Such people have a look which reflects an inner peace and an inner sense which is far beyond the grasp of ordinary mortals.

Members of the Family of St. Joseph, who are devoted to the service of the poor, are a most interesting group. They are a blend of the old and the new, of the traditional and the modern.

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Spiritual Thoughts

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QUESTION BOX

Q—What is the difference between a consecrated church and one that is merely blessed? Are most churches consecrated or blessed?

A—A consecrated church is a church which has been solemnly dedicated to the service of God by the bishop or a priest designated by him. It has thus been dedicated to the service of religion and not necessarily forever.

A—A church that is blessed is one which has been blessed for strong reasons and is necessary demands may be converted to secular uses.