

Press Progress

Silver Jubilee Review of Press
by Joseph J. Quinn



JOSEPH J. QUINN, editor of the Southwest Courier of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and past president of the Catholic Press Association is rated as one of the leaders in the modern Catholic press movement in the United States.

with religious hate—Mexico is the iron heel of a ruthless Red godless Russia leers in mockery caldrons seethe to a boiling by Orient stirs with unrest. rns rally under the flying cyclical—a wave of liberal-catholic doctrines, sweeps the for the next move on this com-

NEVER before have the Catholic people needed a virile Catholic press as today. Never before has the Catholic press so needed the support of the Catholic people to carry on this crusade of truth.

THESE articles detail the structure of the Catholic press of today in its silver jubilee year. They hold out the promise of a radiant future—a future in which our people can well point to the Cross emblazoned on its pages and confidently predict:

no Vinces!"



In the Cortile della Pigna at the World's American flag at the extreme upper part of many periodicals included.

This is an important year in the history of the Catholic Press. In the spring there was opened in Vatican City the World Catholic Press Exhibit. When the call for a striking demonstration of the scope and magnitude of our press was sent forth, the United States responded with an enthusiasm born of a desire to make this homage to the Holy Father at once historic and impressive.

Under the energetic direction of Mr. Charles Ridder of New York and with the help of the Catholic University of America, the press of this country swung into direct action, so that tonight the world can gaze in wonder upon our magnificent representation in the Eternal City.

In that great library of printed thought, the pilgrim sees the fruits of our 25 years spread before him and is impressed with the power and productivity of the Catholic Press in more than one hundred countries of the globe.

It is a sublime thought that Vatican City, home of the Holy Father, home of all the children of the Church, houses the display of our achievements in the United States. That corner on the bank of the Tiber this year will be the goal of a mighty throng eager to feel the profundity of the Holy City.

There they will witness the display of the instruments of power and knowledge that help keep the Church strong, that play their part in enlightening the Faithful and that bring

Some of the statistics secured are most astonishing and revealing to show the scope of the Catholic press in the United States. Our studies reveal that there are:

the words of Christ to the thresholds of millions. Americans will choose this as an advantageous year to bestow their affection upon the Supreme Pastor of Rome and join with the hundreds of thousands from other lands who will stand amazed at the genius of the Catholic Press.

Tonight the Catholic Press Association pauses at its 25th milestone to look backward through the years, filled with events that challenged the courage and daring of our founders. Since that historic session back in 1911, the Catholic Press has broken the fetters of indifference that chained it to mediocrity, has crumpled into pulp the heresy that the Catholic Press is but a weakling and has built its mighty arch across the nation.

It has matched, stride for stride, the ever-moving front of secular contemporaries, choosing all that was good from the press arena but turning aside from the infamous and the base. This called for wisdom. For the newspaper sphere has been revolutionized until the seven wonders of the world are lost in the hundred wonders of this inventive age.

The press can build or it can destroy; it can lift our eyes or cloud them with the veil of vice; it can hold aloft the torch of freedom or trample out the light of tolerance; it can encourage the dream of peace or bring on the nightmare of war. All this it can do with its voice that vibrates throughout the universe. It takes our eyes captive and strands them 3000 miles away. With its magic wand it contracts the world overnight, folds it up and tosses it on our doorstep. The germ of goodness lives within its presses yet between those roaring rollers have been crushed the souls of millions.

But the Catholic Press springs from a different root, is motivated by different principles, seeks for different goals. It has no corrupted fingers, no purchased policies, no foul breath of commercialism. Its voice is an echo from the throat of Mammon but a gentle whisper telling of things eternal.

Twenty-five years of progress through the fire of adversity and the swelling flood of materialism! That's the history of our Association. Great problems have met solution in the past; foreboding evils are with us at the present; but a great peril lies ahead. The shadow of that peril deepens and comes closer. Russia saw it years ago and shrugged her shoulders; Spain

No finer outline of the functions of the Catholic Press can be given than this detailed explanation by Joseph J. Quinn, past-president of the Catholic Press Association. Mr. Quinn reviews the quarter of a century which the Catholic Press has left behind and discusses the prospects and problems to be solved in the years to come.

closed its eyes as it fell across the sea with us and our shores! Look about you! In our universities, students, in spirit, are marching arm in arm with comrade Litvinoff. In factory and office, in North and South, in seaports and landlocked cities is transpiring this grand drama of treason with Soviet agitators ready to strike the stars, one by one, from the folds of our flag. The fire of our nation's heart and the magic of that flag cannot protect us from enemies within, even here in America where the plow and the reaper form the coat-of-arms of our country.

Nations that feel the strength of centuries in their sinews find it too late to lift their broken bodies from beneath the wheel. Russia to the East

This thing called Caesarism, or

Communism, can quickly coil itself about a nation. These plotters with a daring and desperate thirst for power, these Cossacks straining to rise and blow their fetid breath upon the sun, never have been so bold since our crippled colony sprang into a Republic.

Ours is the duty to stand guard, to stand firm, even if we must stand alone. On us falls the obligation of letting in the light to destroy the marplots, to draw the fangs as we chop off the rattles, to shut out the shadow from the editorial room, to strive more earnestly to keep all close to God, to the end that our country may be preserved. To us comes the solemn warning not to stand idly by and watch it crumble under the destructive hands of any enemy, as Samson was rushed under the walls of the temple he tore down.

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