

On the Firing Line

This is the last little that the circulating man will get with the workers before January 1st, therefore, he is going to urge that every man on the Firing Line get to the front this week in the final home-stretch for the fifty thousand mark.

We are going to have the big press—we are going to start the new year with fifty thousand, or close thereabout—and we are going out after big game during the year 1912.

Those of our readers who have friends in the United States congress or in the senate with whom they have influence should write them today, asking them to oppose the press censor bill which The American Federation of Catholic Societies is pushing, and which will be designed to exclude The Menace from the U. S. mails. Every citizen has, equal with every other, unless guilty of some crime, the right to use the United States mails. Such is a right—not a privilege—and it cannot be arbitrarily taken away without violating the constitution and the principles of liberty and justice. Therefore, let us stand up for our rights and continue the fight for freedom and justice, without which no republic can survive.

Those of our readers who have never done anything in this line before are asked to start the new year right by getting into the harness now. Let your new year resolution be, in substance, that you will put in one year in the campaign which The Menace is now waging, and thereby guarantee for yourself and posterity religious and political liberty, the foundation of all other liberties.

Mabel, Minn.—"I like The Menace so well, I would not be without it, the more I read it the better I like it."

Denison, Tex.—"Let every free loving American carry The Menace torch of liberty until we win our cause."

Portland, Ore.—"It does me good to read the items on the Firing Line. I want to be on the Firing Line as long as God spares my life."

Pittsburg, Pa.—"I have been getting The Menace regularly for the last four months. I think it is the best paper on the face of the globe."

Savanna, Ill.—"You are doing a noble work. Hope to see your sub list go to a million. There are so many Protestants who are asleep, while Rome is strictly on the job."

Norwood View, O.—"I secured a copy of The Menace from one of my friends and I wish to say that all Protestants should raise their hats to you, for your paper is certainly great."

Allentown, Pa.—"Down with Romanism, the instrument of the devil, whose only desire is to satisfy its own lusts and desires at the expense of an ignorant and superstitious people."

Jamestown, N. Y.—"I have read but little from The Menace, but it is alright, a cracker-jack. A cat of nine tails and a stab under the fifth rib of Catholicism. Hit hard and give the devil his dues."

Peoria, Ill.—"I am now taking your valuable paper and I am well pleased with it. It is opening the eyes of the sleepers and teaching the cowards a good lesson. It is speaking the truth without fear or favor."

Denison, Ia.—"There are two things I want to help do. I want to help you get the 50,000 by January 1st, 1912. Then I want to see you get so big that the old pope will take a sneak when he hears of your coming."

Winona, Miss.—"I received a copy of The Menace a few days ago and was very much pleased to learn that such a paper was being published. The American people need just such a paper to arouse them."

Martin's Ferry, O.—"I have been reading your paper ever since the first issue, and must say that I feel that you are doing the greatest work that has been done in this country since the days of the immortal Lincoln."

Boothbay Harbor, Me.—"I have received a copy of your paper from a friend. Surely there is not a man in our own beloved country today showing more genuine patriotism and love of country than the editor of The Menace."

Jacksonville, Fla.—"There is no wonder that the black-gowned daddies are beginning to howl. The way you are pumping it into them is enough to make a fellow squirm a little, especially if he has had such an easy time as these reprobates have had."

Findlay, O.—"We need something like The Menace to make the old beast squeal. You have my congratulation on the fearless way you carry on the fight, right here where she is going to make her last big fight. I wish every liberty loving American in the country could only see the need of waking up before it is too late."

Almont, N. D.—"It is high time that the American people open up their eyes and catch the demons of Rome, before they capture this country. And if the Protestants do not get their eyes open and head off some of the Roman politicians in this great land, called the land of the free and the home of the brave it will not long be free."

Camden, N. J.—"I have just seen an old copy of your paper and desire to become a new convert. No good true American citizen can take orders from a pope, who dares not show himself outside of the Vatican for fear of being harmed by a priest ridden people who are struggling to keep body and soul together while the fat tyrants enjoy all the pleasures of this world."

Oak Park, Ill.—"When I read your article entitled 'A Lathhouse sheet,' in No. 24 of The Menace, I had a good laugh. Whoever wrote that certainly knows how to describe the methods of

the Romans, and about its being lathhouse, it would be impossible for the article to be so sanctimonious and describe Catholicism. If I were a man and independently wealthy I certainly would put all my wealth at your disposal."—Pearl Phelps.

Asplawall, Pa.—"I am a subscriber to your paper and must say that you handle Catholicism with unglued hands, and still the half is not told. Keep the good work going until the cry is heard from ocean to ocean, and until every loyal American citizen shall be apprised of the dangers menacing this nation from the encroachments of this deadly octopus."

Detroit, Mich.—"I received a copy of The Menace from a friend, and it's pretty well worn out by this time as I have passed it around in the hotels and on the trains. I feel that you are doing a good work, and it's my wish that success may crown your efforts. As a rule the Protestant is so honest that he is unable to see the condition of affairs, and will not believe that the Catholics are waiting for the favorable moment when they think they are in sufficient numbers to crush out all Protestantism by any means they can command."

THE COMING CONFLICT.

Under the heading, "The Coming Conflict," in the Baptist Standard, of Dallas, Texas, last week, was this timely utterance from the pen of Rev. J. B. Gambrell, the editor:

"American Christians are very optimistic. Indeed, the atmosphere of America breathes optimism. It is difficult, oftentimes, to induce people who are removed quite a distance from a specific danger to take a large enough view of the situation to understand the danger."

"The Catholic question is a real question, a large question and a question that is bound to be faced by the non-Catholics of this country, because the Catholics themselves are forcing the fighting."

"If Americans wish to understand the coming conflict, its perils and difficulties, they must study Catholicism from the heart out. The pope is the recognized supreme sovereign of the Catholic hierarchy throughout the whole world, and what he and his accredited ministers under him say for Catholicism ought to be accepted as its real voice. And also Catholicism must be understood historically."

"And further, we are not wise in this country if we don't note the fact that nearly all of the immigration to America is Catholic. Catholicism has broken down of its own weight and rottenness in Europe to a surprising degree. It has broken down in its contentions for secular power and control and in other ways. In its capital city, Rome, for centuries it exploited Italy and Spain and Portugal, with Austria and France, and other states. France has thrown the church overboard. Italy can no longer be dominated by the will of the supreme pontiff. Spain and Portugal are moving for freedom."

"It ought to be said further, too, that after centuries of exploitation the Latin countries of Europe were sunk below the level of the world for ignorance and vice. Rome had it all her own way, and 'has been tried out on the field and lost just where it was strongest."

"One other fact needs to be stated. Rome is adaptable. It is the vastest organization known to man and one of the most flexible, yet always true to its supreme purpose of dominating every human being, soul and mind and body, in every country. It aims to bring the whole world under the reign of one man, whose habitat is in Rome. To this task the whole vast machinery of Romanism is adjusted."

"Never was Catholicism so aggressive in America. In multifarious ways it is reaching out for all the levers of public power and influence. We would be blind not to see its influence on President Taft. It seeks to control the metropolitan press and to a large extent does it. Its propaganda is adroit and persistent."

"Having said all this, there is something more to be said. I do not blame the Catholics personally for their propaganda. If I were a Catholic, I would do what they are doing. I will go even further and say, that wherein they do good, personally I approve their efforts. But with a conviction as deep as my soul, I believe that the Catholic view of religion is wrong. I believe that it will strangle the best life of the world, as it has already done where it has been dominant. I believe that it will mar the destiny of America, and therefore, for one, I stand in the ranks against it. I am not against the individual Catholic, I am for him to have the largest soul liberty and the fullness of the blessings of the Gospel unrestricted by clericalism, tradition and the untold fables that have gathered around Catholicism and are a part of it. In the openest and frankest way, this writer stands for the New Testament against Catholicism full-fledged or modified, as we have it in some places in America. This article is written to say that Americans need to know what is going on, and by every possible means safeguard the future of the land by adopting such methods as are right in themselves and efficient to propagate the truth."

"PICKLED GIZZARD," EMT

"The Menace," published at Aurora, Mo., is not supposed to be a comic sheet, but a man who can read its platform and then peruse its columns and not "laugh" must possess a pickled gizzard. Thomas E. Watson says this publication grew out of his attack on the Roman Catholic hierarchy. Tom is right. The first plank in the platform of this publication, as printed on its front page reads:

"1. Religious toleration." "The Menace" contains four pages, and 24 columns, every line of which is devoted to anti-Catholic tirades. It is a wonderful and instructive commentary on "religious toleration." I am unable to even imagine what its columns would have contained, had its platform been opposed to "religious toleration."

The above clipping was taken from Brann's Iconoclast, published at Chicago, and brings to mind recollections of the illustrious founder of the publication, W. C. Brann, who was shot to death in Waco, Texas, several years ago for telling the truth in his journal.

But the present editor of the Iconoclast needn't entertain any fear of bodily harm for this reason—that is, telling the truth. Since it fell into the hands of its present editor it has had a hand-to-mouth existence, notwithstanding the fact that it has prostituted itself to the defense of the liquor traffic, the Roman Catholic hierarchy and practically everything else which is gross and sensual.

To see this publication, which was at one time in demand on practically every news stand in America, reduced to a mere megaphone of lubricity and ineptly must be humiliating in the extreme to the wife and family of the noble founder, whose name the publication still bears.

COURT PROCEEDINGS HALTED

Many persons have noticed or experienced great difficulty in securing an arrest of a priest caught red-handed in crime. What was once an unwritten law about the hauling into court an ecclesiastic of the Roman Catholic church has now behind the "thus saith the Lord pope."

The Irish police and Roman Catholic judges in the state and national courts have instructions with all the faithful to shield the criminal from prosecution by substituting church courts for state tribunals.

The decree in part says:

"Now, in these evil days, when ecclesiastical immunities receive no consideration, and not only priests and clerics, but even bishops and cardinals of the Holy Roman church, are cited before lay tribunals, this condition of things absolutely demands of us to restrain by severe penalty, those who cannot be otherwise deterred from the commission of so heinous a crime against the religious character."

"Therefore, by this Motu Proprio, we determine and ordain that whatever private person, lay or cleric, man or woman, shall without obtaining the permission of ecclesiastical authority, cite to a lay tribunal and compel to appear there publicly, any ecclesiastical person, either in a criminal or civil case, will incur excommunication latae sententiae specially reserved to the Roman pontiff."

"This, by these letters, is decided, and we wish to stand ratified, everything to the contrary notwithstanding."

"Given at Rome at St. Peter's, the ninth day of October, 1911, the ninth year of our pontificate."

STRATEGIC BATTLE GROUND

More than one observing friend of American liberties is convinced that there is method in the apparently innocent Americanized Italian Falconio. His naturalization and appointment as a cardinal suggest his appointment to the popeship. To have an American pope is to put behind Romanism in the world all the prestige which this great and rich nation can give to the decadent faith.

Falconio was led into the Jesuit trap to endorse the boycott at the federation meeting in Columbus. These public dynamites by means of the boycott have control of affairs in this country and will certainly end up in an expulsion from the nation as they have been by the old world powers.

Falconio has shown a weakness to follow the plans of the Jesuits that will wreck the church, if persisted in. The increasing of the cardinals here increases Jesuit power and influence.

Meanwhile the spirit of freedom, the national spirit, is rising and is likely to be so powerful and outspoken the Catholic church will go back to its legitimate religious work and quit politics as its main concern unless the hierarchy does so there will be troublous times for the "Man of Sin," and the "Beast of Prophecy." It is so now in the nation of its nativity and will be more so in this land of the free and home of the brave.

ORGANIZE! ORGANIZE!

John W. Bowden, of California, sends us good cheer and says: "I am not an American by birth, but a loyal American by adoption, from the North of Ireland. I am a descendant from Cromwellians; my forefathers fought under William of Orange, of immortal memory." "Arm, arm, ye brave; a noble cause, the cause of heaven, your zeal demands, in defense of your na-

tion, religion and laws; the Almighty Jehovah will strengthen your hands." "I am a member of the Protestant Alliance."

Mr. Bowden calls for a united society to combat Romanism in America. We suggest to him the "United Americans," C. H. Lytle, No. 1125-7 Prospect avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, or Wm. H. Warren, 178 Claremont avenue, N. Y. City, and there are others, all of which will be federated. When under full headway the 16 per cent Romanists will know that 84 per cent cannot be controlled by so small a minority. Post up, educate, line up.

MAKING THE DEVIL A SAINT?

The attempt is being promoted in and out of congress, just now, to canonize Columbus as a saint and raise him in the estimation of America, so as to secure a Roman Catholic national holiday.

The truth of the matter is that Columbus was sent out by Isabella, queen of Spain, in the hope and expectation of conquest and gold hunting. There never was a thought in the hearts of that buccaneering crowd at home or on the sea, to promote Christian civilization and conquest of souls. It was for plunder, pure and simple, and history proves it. Why, the inquisition and all the diabolism of the Roman church was in full swing in Spain at that time. The devil was let loose with instruments of torture, to persecute the real saints. Blood and huddle was the chief thought of Columbus; to bring riches to the queen his hope and desire.

Make him a saint? What for? As a plunderer of the nations, and an adventurer for gold in the interest of a corrupt court?

My God will these Roman Catholics canonize the devil, and make a saint of Leopole, who murdered and robbed the Congo country with inhuman but Catholic ferocity?

JESUITICAL POLITICS

The Menace quotes from James M. King's "Facing the Twentieth Century," a powerful exposition of Roman Catholic intrigue in American legislation. We give a few extracts to sharpen your appetite for more, and to prepare you for what is likely to be attempted by the Romanists in congress this winter. Mr. King says:

"The immigration bill passed by the United States senate in 1898 was strangled in the house of representatives by Roman Catholic power, which worked upon the fears of politicians, concerning the election of the members of the new congress in the fall of 1898."

"The enlightened effort in 1897 to secure ratification of the arbitration treaty with Great Britain, was concededly defeated by Roman Catholic political power."

"Blaine's amendment to the constitution in 1876, forbidding the use of public money for sectarian uses, was defeated by the Roman Catholic hierarchy. The design was to protect public school funds."

But since then, in Illinois, the Roman Catholics have secured just such a law that forbids Bible reading, singing hymns and offering of prayer in the schools and has secured a judicial decision upholding the law.

There is a piece of Jesuitism for you, pure and simple! To fight a law in congress, and work for its enactment in a state is a complete demonstration of hierarchy duplicity and lack of honor in political matters.

Keep your eye on congress. The Menace has a man in Washington on the job.

If, as Lincoln stated, there is no man good enough to rule another without that other's consent, there is no man good enough to hear the confession of another since that act places the honest confessor under the power of him to whom he has confessed. Many wonder at the Romish confessional being the adjunct of a religious organization, but they forget that while the confessional and the secrets imparted there may not further religion that they are a most valuable means of acquiring political secrets and gaining political ends. If one would only remember the fact that Rome is always and everywhere in politics many of the queer features of things Catholic could be readily understood.

BUNDLE BRIGADE

You can do more good with a bundle of Menaces than in almost any other way. You order a bundle of ten a week and when you leave home in the morning you put one or two in your pocket and it is seldom you do not meet up with some friend or acquaintance and of course you usually have some interesting bit of news. He becomes interested. Then is the time to give him a copy of The Menace and as a result we get a new subscription, and it costs you but one-half cent. Simple and effective, isn't it?

Here are the rates: 4 copies per week for a year... \$1.60 8 copies per week for a year... 2.00 12 copies per week for a year... 2.90 20 copies per week for a year... 5.00 30 copies per week for a year... 7.50 40 copies per week for a year... 10.00

CLAY IMAGES WITHOUT LIFE

One of the conspicuous things manifest in the Roman Catholic life is the organization of societies. The Holy Name, to stop profanity; Knights of Columbus; Knights of St. John; Eucharist; Gray Nuns; Paulists; etc., etc., to the end of a multitude, and more being organized every day. What does it mean?

It means that the Roman Catholic church is a failure in itself, to build character, develop manhood and Christian citizenship. The hierarchy confesses it in these many new organizations, to promote virtue, piety and true faith. The mass, the confessional, the many prayers, the pomp, may impress the senses, but does not touch the springs of life. The old church is dead; the chill of the grave is upon her. She is fossilized—has a form, but no life, hence her attempt to make more power by building more machinery.

The Roman Catholic church lacks spirit and life, hence the dead body of formalism. It can create clay images, but cannot create life.

A SIGNIFICANT LETTER

A striking commentary on the vehement protests which our Roman Catholic friends have been making against the representation of Dr. Homer C. Stuntz, and others, concerning the needs of Latin America, and the spiritual condition of the clergy who claim that field as their own, is to be found in a letter which the pope addressed to the clergy of Chile:

"In every diocese, ecclesiastics break all bounds and deliver themselves up to manifold sensuality, but no voice is lifted to imperiously summon the pastors to their duty. It is sad to reflect that prelates, priests, and other clergy are never to be found doing service among the poor, never in the hospital, never in the dwellings of the afflicted or the distressed, or engaged in works of beneficence; that they are always absent where human misery is, unless paid as chaplains or a fee is given. You, as clergy, are always to be found in the house of the rich, where gluttony is to be engaged in and where good wines are to be obtained."

CONVENT CRUELTY

Mexico City, Dec. 12.—A young girl belonging to an excellent family in a rural town near this city, owing to disappointment in love, was induced to enter a convent and become a novice. Shortly afterwards she ran away, returning to her family.

She now charges that the Mother Superior was exceedingly cruel, and that among other things she compelled the novice to arise in the night to pray. As the girl could not avoid dropping to sleep the mother superior, she asserts, fastened to each eyelid a steel spring attached to a cord in order to hold the lids open—something like a form of Chinese torture.

The girl further declares that she and other girls, in order to keep them humble, were not permitted to eat at table, but were compelled to sit under the table, and were served with very scant fare.

People who have investigated the case say the mother superior undoubtedly is insane, her passion for austerity and asceticism carrying her to incredible lengths.

A CLEAN SWEEP COMBINATION

The Menace's book business is growing rapidly and we are stocking up with new lines every week. To make room for new books we are going to reduce our stock of the old reliable pamphlets and paper covered books on which we have had an enormous sale from the start. In order to do this we have made up a "Clean Sweep Combination" that takes in practically all of the "old timers," eight in number, and we are offering the lot at a price that should move them quickly. Here they are:

- Crimes of Priests \$ 10
- The Priest in Absolution 25
- Secret Instructions of the Jesuits 25
- Sister Lucy and Her Awful Disclosures 25
- Priest and Cellar Exposed 25
- Priest and Woman 25
- Roman Oaths and Papal Curses 25
- The Devil's Prayer Book 25

Total \$1.85 - The prices quoted above are the regular selling prices of all these books, and they have never sold for less, but if you order the combination you can have the whole lot for \$1.50. Order the "Clean Sweep Combination."

The list grows. Add to Booth, Giteau, Czolgosz, the two McNamaras who have plead guilty to blowing up structures and killing a score of people and who are members of the Roman Catholic church. But possibly they got the habit in the "godless public schools!" What do you think?

SAMPLE COPIES

Remember that if you have friends whom you want The Menace sent you should send us their names and addresses and we will mail them sample copies. If you wish to aid the cause, as many are doing, by sending out samples in large quantities, furnish us the names and addresses and we will mail them from here at the rate of 60 cents a hundred.

BOOK TALK.

We are indebted to our good friend Emily Metelber, of Chicago, for a half dozen rare books for our perusal. Through the co-operation of such friends we are able to keep in touch with the very best there is in books and are always willing to supply our friends with any information they may be seeking.

"The Genius of Freemasonry" is going like hot cakes. We knocked the profit out of this book in order to get it before the readers of anti-papal literature, as it is the greatest thing of its kind we have seen for some time. It is a beautifully designed cloth bound book and would ordinarily sell for \$1.50, but we are putting them out at \$1.00.

Our patrons are now beginning to realize that The Menace is headquarters for all the anti-papal literature of any consequence on the American market. If you want anything on the Roman questions write us. If we cannot furnish you the book you want from our own shelves we will get it for you. Don't be timid about asking us for information about books, as we are always willing and anxious to accommodate our customers in any way we can.

We announced in No. 35 of The Menace that we had left on hand eight copies of "The Footprints of Jesuits," and that these were all we could secure at the present time. As soon as the paper containing this notice had reached our subscribers the orders began to come in and the eight copies were exhausted immediately, in fact two orders were received by wire, and instead of getting eight we got about fifty which we could not fill. We are figuring with the publishers on bringing out another edition of this great book.

Before The Menace offers to sell you a book, we ask you to get this one fact securely established in your mind: That we are not selling books merely for the few nickels of profit we may make, but we urge them upon the public because we desire to have fully understood every detail which goes to make up the campaign being waged by the Roman Catholic machine to establish its political power in America. In our columns we can take up many points of ancient and present-day history, but there is much more which is peculiarly within the scope of books. In this manner the subjects are handled exhaustively, giving to the reader the fullest understanding and a clear basis upon which to establish an opinion.

The Menace book man is always on the job. Just now we are stocking up with one we have never handled, though we had long heard of it, entitled, "Letters to His Holiness, Pius X, by a Modernist." Six weeks after the publication of the first edition of this book the famous "anti-Modernist" oath was administered to all the Roman Catholic priests of the world. Hundreds of priests left the church rather than bind their conscience with an oath that would stultify their minds and render them either hypocrites or spiritual slaves. This shows that the breach between the Vatican and the more progressive men in the Roman Catholic church grows wider with every stroke of the lash of intolerance. This is a beautifully cloth bound book of 320 pages and can be had for \$1.25 postpaid. No library should be without this wonderful book.

The Menace has just turned out in its own shop a new edition of Senate Document 190. It is reprinted from the report of the 56th congress of a commission appointed by the United States government to investigate the titles of certain land and other properties in the Philippine Islands claimed by the Roman Catholic church. The government was undoubtedly ashamed of this document, as it shortly went "out of print" and the people were unable to secure it. However, we are able to preserve a vital portion of it that bears on the effect of Roman Catholic teaching in the Islands, and on the morals of the teachers. It shows that the majority of both Spanish and native priests in these islands were not only political sycophants and tools of the Spanish aristocracy but that in their personal and private lives they were degenerate, indecent and totally wanting in the character that makes for the diffusion and culture of healthy morals. We are selling these now at 10 cents each, or three for 25 cents.

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