

The Menace

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THE QUESTION BOX

AS TO MATRIMONY

"I understand that when a couple of persons are united in matrimony other than by a Catholic priest, no matter if it has been performed by a magistrate of the law, that union is null and void."

The theology of popery declares that marriage is a sacrament: one of the seven sacraments exclusively controlled by the Church of Rome.

All the papal decrees that bear on matrimony are made on the theological theory that since marriage is a sacrament, neither the state, nor any other social organization, secular or religious, can enact valid laws or prescribe valid ceremonies to govern the same.

This arrogant assumption of exclusive power would likely be resisted and overthrown were it not that Rome, realizing her inability to enforce it to the limit, does not attempt to do so beyond marriages within the Romish membership or mixed marriages which are partly within that membership.

It is upon that assumption that Romish teachers have said that Protestant marriage is no marriage at all. If it is admitted that marriage is nothing more or less than a sacrament, and that the Church of Rome is the only true custodian of the sacraments, then marriage and marriage records made by civil officers may be ignored by priests whenever such a course of action might seem to them to be desirable.

Romish priests are not bound by their church to recognize any license or permit but such as may be issued by their own ecclesiastical authorities. They do not often make such a declaration because they realize that it brings Rome in direct conflict with the state. For the present it suits their purpose to comply partly with the laws of the land until such time as they may have the power to assert the limit of papal pretensions.

Some's position on the marriage question directly challenges every law and regulation regarding matrimony which has been enacted by civil authority. It burdens every citizen with the necessity of choosing whether he will be loyal to the law of the land, or to the law of the pope.

THE Y. M. C. A.

"Is the Roman Catholic church opposed to the Y. M. C. A.?"—H. B. E. Since the organization of Young Men's Catholic Associations the initials Y. M. C. A. have a double meaning. They may refer to the Young Men's Christian Association, or to the Young Men's Catholic Association.

The Roman Catholic church is most certainly opposed to the Young Men's Christian Association. It was that opposition that

caused the Roman Catholics of several cities to organize a distinct association modeled after the original but restricted to Roman Catholic control.

The Newark, N. J., Star, of April 21, 1913, quotes Priest Boylan of Our Lady of the Valley church, at Orange, N. J., as having said at mass the day before that the Y. M. C. A. had a tendency to corrupt the morals of Catholic youth who came under its influence, that it was like a snake in the grass more to be feared than a reptile that can be met in the open.

The Duluth News-Tribune of Feb. 13, 1913, quotes Father O'Keefe, of the Paulist Fathers, as having said at a mission held the night before at the Sacred Heart auditorium in that city, that the Y. M. C. A. is purely a Protestant organization. Catholics are not allowed to hold offices, and do not enjoy the full privileges of the association as a result.

Such seems to be the general attitude of Rome toward the Y. M. C. A. since we have on file many clippings containing practically the same sentiments from other priests as those mentioned. The chief defect of the Y. M. C. A., from a papist standpoint, is that it is so organized that Rome cannot possibly gain control of the association.

At that time Father Crowley was in Chicago perfecting a bombshell to explode at the proper time. He quit work long enough to answer the silly story and expose its author through the columns of The Menace. He is yet engaged in a work that may take the rest of his lifetime to complete; but when it appears the world will know that he has not been in a monastery doing penance.

When Father Crowley's present work is given to the world he will not be found behind the walls and bars of a papist prison, but there will be a generation of lying priests looking for a chance to hide under a mountain.

WHAT REAL MEN GAG AT Why are certain books put upon the index of Forbidden Books? Because the church authorities judge that the reading of these books would be dangerous to faith or morals. Good Catholics obey such judgments, without seeking the special reasons in particular cases.

The above item from the Messenger of the Sacred Heart, a Roman Catholic monthly, is a very frank admission of the fact that the Roman Catholic church is opposed to free thought, free press and free speech, and is just the kind of rot in the Roman religion that men with brains gag at.

Any paper, magazine or book that has a tendency to upset any of the heathen doctrines of the old humbug is put on the "Index," and no "good Catholic" will read it—or even seek the reason why it is placed there.

The Menace is on the "Index," of course, and we must say that there are lots of bad Catholics if all those reading The Menace are bad. That's one reason Rome is losing power and membership in the church, because there are lots of good men and women who are Catholics, and they are getting tired of wearing the muzzle of the priesthood and being raked over the coals every time they have a thought of their own or make the "mistake" of reading something which the holy dads may think is "dangerous to faith or morals."

Minnesota Wide Awake

A great joint state convention of the American Federation of Patriotic Societies and the Guardians of Liberty will be held in the splendid new auditorium of the Calhoun Commercial Club, January 18th, 19th and 20th, 1915.

We have arranged for D. J. Reynolds, National President; Otis L. Spurgeon, National Vice-President, and a number of other eloquent speakers and patriotic celebrities to be in attendance.

A cordial and urgent invitation is extended to all friends of the cause regardless of creed, denomination or political affiliations, to give and receive information and inspiration in this great educational campaign for God, home and native land.

C. W. BIBB, 500 Plymouth Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn. Ten cents a year extra to have paper wrapped single.

A Word to the Firing Line

WITH this issue The Menace enters the fifth calendar year of its existence.

It makes no New Year resolutions or promises—other than we are wont to make at all times—but we feel that the year 1915 is destined to be the most momentous in our history.

When The Menace took up the cudgel against the Roman Catholic political machine, it did so without a single ally in the newspaper field.

When The Menace was launched the American Citizen, so far as we know, was the only paper published that undertook in any way whatever to oppose the political activities of the Roman hierarchy, and even the Citizen has never claimed to be in the class with The Menace.

At that time we only knew of one man in the United States who was making the fight, avowedly, from the platform, and who had the courage to oppose Romanism in public speech, regardless of the mob and the opposition of Rome's armed guard, the Knights of Columbus. This man was William Lloyd Clark, of Milan, Ill. There might have been others, but we say that at that time he was the only one known to us.

In fact it looked like a single handed battle. It looked like a battle against odds too great for any one individual or set of individuals to tackle—but we did it, and with the courage of our convictions, and a steadfast faith in the patriotism and integrity of the faithful supporters whom we have rallied to our standard, we have fought valiantly for all these years and have never shown the enemy a white feather.

Since that time dozens of other publications of similar kind have come into existence. Since that time hundreds of brave men have taken the platform in defense of Americanism and our free institutions.

Many of them, it is true, have been dragged from the platform and mobbed by Roman allies and the enemies of free speech and a free press, but they are still in the fight, and from pulpit and platform are proclaiming daily the gospel of human freedom, and fighting for emancipation from Roman bondage and the boycott.

Millions of people are stirred as they were never stirred before, and the results of the recent elections in this country demonstrate the fact that the American people are not going to sit idly by while Rome carries to a successful conclusion her plan to make America Catholic.

The Menace, even if it felt that it was really entitled to it, is not egotistical enough to claim all the credit for this great awakening, but it takes to itself the credit for waging an unceasing and most successful battle, and any Roman Catholic priest will tell you that it is the most formidable foe of Romanism in the United States today.

The Jesuitical cunning and intrigue of the hierarchy is impotent in its opposition to this paper! They have invaded the very sanctums of this

office, and been baffled in every attempt to do us harm!

They have committed theft, and practically every other crime on the calendar, in their desperate efforts to silence this paper and suppress the truth, but they have bungled in every effort and their curses and anathemas have turned to ashes on their lips.

Standing as it does, with an unblemished record for achievement and a steadfast determination to accomplish its purposes, The Menace is the most potent power in America today for the preservation of liberty, the promotion of progress and the advancement of civilization.

In view of these facts we feel that it is not too much to ask that you resolve with us, on the eve of the new year, that you will redouble your efforts to extend the circulation of this little paper; that you will stand with it unflinchingly in its efforts to put its motives in operation and that you will not see it suffer at the hands of those who are bent on destroying its usefulness.

I realize more than any reader of these lines my inability to picture with pen the seriousness of the situation confronting the American people. The majority of them can only be awakened by a catastrophe such as adorns the pages of history once in a generation. History in the making is given paltry regard. The woe of men only delivers its horrors to the gaze of men only when the day has dawned.

The story of the Boston Tea Party and the famous raid of old John Brown have grown in awesome significance each passing year, but they have yet to cast athwart the recollections of men the prodigious shadow of their mighty import.

Those years were pivotal in the great movements for freedom and the abolition of slaves. The year 1915 will prove pivotal in the movement for the abolition of a bondage none the less damnable when stripped of the prismatic illusions which make the boasted liberties of men but "iridescent bubbles bursting on the crest of the ever receding wave."

This is the year when we are to make a final and effective stand for the preservation of the American school system, the separation of church and state, and banish the boycott—the twentieth century Inquisition—from the fair face of the republic.

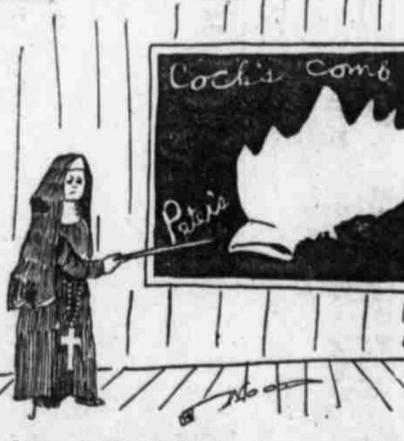
If we are to make this final stand, effective and enduring, we must have the unselfish support of every American worthy of the name, and it is to them that we make this appeal.

The Menace appeals to you on its record of faithful service and asks you NOW to join it in this precarious but mighty task. You can help in numerous ways, but the most effective will be in seeing that its circulation penetrates every recess of the nation.

Bear in mind these three facts: That the paper lives on subscriptions; that YOU can get these subscriptions; and that YOU are going to do it!

Saint Pat's Parochial School

Easy Lessons for Beginners



Lecture by Sister Bridget

"Do not forget that Saint Peter is the rock upon which the holy church of Rome is founded. It is also the rock upon which it is said that he was found dead. No stone has been left unturned to make the church as rocky as possible. Even the rock, upon which this blessed relic grew, was a barred rock—the reason the windows of our rock-walled convents are barred."

"Take one head of these wonderful mystics which are revealed to the children of the true faith only. Beware of the Plymouth Rock heresy. Nothing good can come out of Plymouth Rock—neither Puritan Pilgrims, nor pied poultry. The Pilgrim Fathers of Plymouth is a heretical myth."

"The only real rocky fathers are the Jesuit Fathers who were the first to reach America after Christopher Columbus of blessed memory. They have been here ever since collecting Peter's Pence and eating Peter's chickens. Being pious men they consume much chicken pie, but leave the choice combs for the worship of their parishioners."

"The proof of all this is in the perfect rhyming of 'cock' and 'rock.' You little boys and girls may not understand it now, but you will when you grow older. The blessed comb from St. Peter's rooster is a very fine comb. It is fine enough to catch fleas, ticks, and fleeing heretics. Whose saith that it is not the true comb of the cock that crowed thrice to awaken the good people of ancient Jerusalem—anathema sit; which, being interpreted, means, let him go away back and sit down."

"The penny collection toward buying Father Bullen an automobile will now be taken."

POPE ON WATER WAGON

From the Catholic Citizen. Pope Pius X was a man of simple habits. One morning his doctor reminded him that a considerable amount of pure water as a drink was beneficial, and the pope there and then rang a bell and asked the prelate in attendance to bring him a glass of water. Fully ten minutes passed before the prelate returned to the library, followed by an attendant and a waiter. The latter carried a silver tray with a glass of water on it. The prelate, the attendant, and the waiter made a deep genuflection when the door was opened.

They crossed the room, and made a second genuflection when they were half-way to the pope's chair, and a third when they got near the pope. Then the attendant took the glass off the tray and handed it to the prelate, who knelt down and handed it to the pope. The same ceremony was repeated after the pope had drunk the water. Turning to the doctor, the pope then said:

"I wanted to show you how difficult it is for me to get a glass of water, and I hope you will not blame me for neglecting the cure and not drinking more water. I hate to disturb three men and make them kneel six times every time I want a drink of water. I tried to get the waiter myself, but I have been told that, being a sovereign, I must not serve myself."

THE MENACE IN SPAIN

The Menace is in receipt of a most interesting letter from a man on the firing line in Columbus, Ohio, who has a friend in Barcelona, Spain, who was formerly a Roman Catholic but who, through reading The Menace, has left the "only true" church and is seeking more light. He writes his friend in Columbus a letter from which we quote the following significant paragraph:

"I should be glad to receive from you a Protestant Bible, as well as any other booklets or papers whatever, as I would like to know more of Protestant matters. The Menace has made out of me a strong sympathizer of the Protestant religion. Experience has taught me how to hate the Catholic religion, and were it not that I have to live in a country infested by priests, nuns, and monks, I would work to start a Protestant group in this town; but liberty of speech is not granted here, lest one be driven into jail. There is nothing so hurtful over the earth than these black dressed folks under the pope's command. Send in my name for a year's subscription to The Menace, and tell me what I owe you that I may send you the money."

THE POPE'S LAST WORDS

From the Gospel Advocate. The papers have it that when Pope Pius X was dying, he said: "The time was when the pope could have stopped this conflict with a word, but now he is impotent." But had as this was we have every cause to rejoice that "his holiness" has not the power to stop it with a word, and that the time of the pope's temporal power is past. For when popes had the power to stop wars they did not scruple to use as suited their interests. And worse still they used their power to tyrannize over the souls and lives of men. It has been said that the total rage of man

The Next Lesson

The subject of the next lesson will be Judas's Lanterns, the great light of Romanism.

BOOKS FOR SALE

BY THE MENACE ALL BOOKS GO POSTAGE PREPAID

CLOTH BOUND BOOKS

AMERICA ON ROSE—By John L. Reynolds. An able arraignment of the Roman Catholic political machine. Five hundred pages, postpaid covers, \$1.50.

REAR THE CURTAINS—By J. Donnelly. An able arraignment of the Roman Catholic political machine. Five hundred pages, postpaid covers, \$1.50.

DEVIL IN NAPOLEON!—This is one of the most interesting of the Roman Catholic political machine. Five hundred pages, postpaid covers, \$1.50.

DEBATE ON THE ROMAN CATHOLIC RELIGION—A debate on the Roman Catholic religion. Five hundred pages, postpaid covers, \$1.50.

FOOTPRINTS OF THE JESUITS—By W. W. Thompson. A history of the Jesuits in America. Five hundred pages, postpaid covers, \$1.50.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH—A history of the Roman Catholic Church. Five hundred pages, postpaid covers, \$1.50.

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