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A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

PAPAL NOTES

By L. D. Ratliff

Out of a vote of 272, Mt. Angel gave a majority of 206 for the saloon. This is the Roman Catholic center of enlightenment for Marion County.

Miss Lasenan said a part of her duties at the convent at the time of a banquet was to hand up the liquor from the basement.

In Mexico before the flood, — that is, before Villa upset the Religious-Political system — the practice of self-torture by flaying with cactus or catonine tails, to appease the Roman Catholic gods and saints, and to get their heavenly favor, was one of the features of the saving grace of the great and only true and Holy Church. However, we don't read that any of the fat prelates took the flesh-torture cure.

The Capital Journal, December 21, calls down the Catholics for trying to force this country into a war with Mexico, and tells them that country's affairs are "really no business of the Catholic Church in the United States;" that their efforts will "intensify the anti-Catholic feeling that exists in many quarters, without reason," and that "Madero, Villa and many others of the real leaders of the Mexican people were no doubt working toward the end of separation in reality of Church and State; while Huerta, the bloody, represented the clerical party which dominated the Diaz regime." The Journal further says, "Men of the standing and character of Judge Munsense, and a broader patriotism than to allow themselves to be used as tools by a designing influence which fails to recognize the meaning of our free institutions based on the broadest liberty of conscience."

The Journal is just in its criticism; but what it fails to say is that it is just this fact that an attempt is being made to separate Church and State that distresses the Catholic Church. A loyal Catholic is bound by the basic inflexible constitution of the Papacy, and the fundamental Canon Law of his Church, to resist such separation. He can have no genuine "patriotism" toward a government "by the people." The Catholic Church is an uncompromising enemy of any system based upon "liberty of conscience." The loyal Catholic, who is intelligent, gives assent to free institutions only from "motives of expediency," and only until such time as the Church feels strong enough to strike them down.

The Journal's statement that the anti-Catholic feeling is "without reason" is, in part, contradicted by its own criticism of that old political buccaneer.

Roosevelt has taken up the cudgel in defense of the Catholic Church in Mexico. From the number of priests and bishops he quotes it is evident his flirtation with that bunch of traitors is of the familiar and congenial sort. One of the dastardly things he charges upon the Rebels is that they fed the "Sacred Host" to the horses. Well, now, that was bad; for what is the "Sacred Host"? It is a piece of bread that the poor ignorant dupes think the priest has turned into the actual body and soul of Jesus Christ. Another great wickedness was in deporting the foreign priests. Well, Villa illustrated his motive when he named a small city in which were 14 Catholic Churches, and as many priests who were "living off the people like lice," while the people were kept in the most wretched poverty.

Another infamy (as per Roosevelt) was the deporting of many of the nuns and closing the nunneries. Well, in the last few years, the "Red Light" of many cities has been closed out. Why? Because that institution was not thought to be good for the social order. One historian says the nunneries of the Middle Ages competed the brothels out of business. Whether those of Mexico had reached that degree of success dependent or not, but probably the Rebel leaders who are on the ground know best what is for the good of the country.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS THROTTLED IN MARION COUNTY, OREGON

When Sheriff William Esch Refused to Allow the Editor of the Silvertown Journal to Send Copy to His Paper, We Believe He Showed Himself to be a Romanized Tyrant and Unfit to Serve the People of this Great Country as its Chief Executive---What Say You?---Read the Censured Articles and then Judge.

When Hosmer, the editor of The Silvertown Journal, was put in prison for telling the truth about the Roman hierarchy, he thought he could write his editorials and get up his first page copy from behind the bars just as well as from his office desk.

He had planned to send it to his wife, and although she was already doing more work than she ought, with the mailing list, corrections, orders for pamphlets, etc., besides her many household duties, it was agreed that she could manage the thousand and one things which had fallen to the editor's share, or let them go undone. But imagine the fledgling jail-bird's astonishment when he found that the emperor William, who occupies the sheriff's office, not only read all outgoing and incoming mail of the prisoners, but that his (Hosmer's) first copy was handed back to him with the information that such stuff would not be allowed to get out from the Marion County bastille.

What a blow! Questions arose in the prisoner's mind fast and furious. Is the sheriff a Catholic? How in the world can we do anything if we can't write from here? What will be the horrible financial result? Will the paper be obliged to suspend? There was nobody to talk to. The time was going by and as a last resort we concluded to suspend the paper until we were at liberty. The sheriff claimed that the copy was just such stuff as we were in jail for printing and that it could not go out from that institution. That night, as we lay on our hard cot between the cold walls of a felon's cell we studied hard, till the wee small hours of morning, and at last came to the conclusion that we would be obliged to suspend the paper until we were again a free man. The next day the letter was written telling the waiting ones at home to shut up the office, but before the letter was mailed Mrs. Hosmer came to

visit her caged pencil pusher and declared that she could keep the paper going until our return. Her pluck saved the day, and here we are, and not an issue has been lost.

But what was the awful copy censored by our Romanized jailor? We will print it here on this page and let our readers see for themselves if it is true or false and if the taxpayers want to pay a dictator a good salary to suppress our great American idea of a free press. Following is the copy, that William Esch, the sheriff of Marion County, censored for the editor of The Silvertown Journal:

OUR FIRST DAY IN JAIL VICTIMS IN, REAL CRIMINALS OUT

Our false system causes innocent to suffer for guilty. 100 days long time, but may all be for the best. Little offenders in, holy (?) priests at large.

Experience is a great teacher. We know now something about the feelings of the poor victims of a false system who must be robbed of their liberty. We are behind the bars. Our head whirrs. We can't think what to say. It is all so strange and new to know that we can't go where we choose to go. But thousands upon thousands have had the same sensations and our optimistic nature whispers, "it is all for the best; be still and heart and cease repining; behind the clouds is the sun still shining; into each life some rain must fall, some days must be dark and dreary."

The jail is fairly well equipped. Our cell companion proves to be a refined, educated old gentleman who is very interesting because he is not only educated in books, but he has traveled all over the world, and having been a magazine writer, he knows how to tell the most interesting of stories. In the morning after being

let out of our cells, I find that all the prisoners are a good hearted, kindly disposed bunch, all anxious to make a newcomer's life as happy as possible under the circumstances. One thing astonishes us, and that is that none of the prisoners here hesitate to tell all about the cause of their imprisonment and strange to say, as far as we have heard during the first day's experience, there is not one of them who has not been more wronged by society than has been his real criminal intent. Men here who have drifted into the drink habit and have done things wrong when drunk are not as bad as a society which allows the evil schools called saloons to educate the boys to drink, rob them of their money and then brand them as criminals and lock them up. One man behind the bars here for committing adultery, only neglected to have the woman he was living with go through the costly process of getting a divorce, and by this mistake he is in durance vile, while vile priests are allowed to have their freedom while causing the delinquency of minors, committing sodomy and adultery continually. Of course two wrongs do not make one right, but when this cruel system of profit making is over and a sane one of co-operation put in its place, then the merchants, professional men and so-called Christians of these United States and other so-called civilized countries will not be afraid of those agents of freedom, justice and righteousness which are the only means by which we can be saved from ignorance, superstition, kingcraft, priestcraft, graft, greed, war and hell.

If this is somewhat rambling and lacking in sense, excuse us, for this is our first day in jail. J. E. HOSMER.

STICKERS

When time rolls round, and darkest night
Of victims crushed has turned to light,
Then Johnny's jail-made dynamite
Will blow the priesthood out of sight.

Truth may be crushed by fines and imprisonment but it will rise again.

Show me a celeb ate priest and I'll show you an abnormal human, or a fool; show me a priest who does not keep his vows and I'll show you a bilk of a libertine. Take your choice.

Why don't the merchants of Silvertown advertise in The Journal now that we have a much larger subscription list than when they did? Are they afraid of Rome? Are they cowards?

The more one learns about priestcraft the more he wonders how such corruption can exist in America.

The priests are victims of a pagan system and should be pitied, but at the same time their hellish work should be stopped for the sake of humanity.

It would be safe to offer \$10,000 reward for a priest who really believes what his dupes think he believes.

If you don't want to go to jail, don't tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. The safest way is to study for the priesthood.

Ruined girls by the thousands are slaves for the priesthood. They wash, laundry, set type, cook, etc.

Imprisoning victims in times of peace and shooting them down by the thousands in times of war, will not save a false system from destruction.

Some of the priests have said very damaging things about our public schools, but if we publish a sworn statement regarding their institution, we must be severely punished. Why?

WHO ARE THEY AFTER NOW?

The Roman Catholic bunch of the State of Oregon are now understood to be out after the scalp of one of the most fearless of our public servants, a high officer of state. For the present we will not mention names, lest in doing so we embarrass our friends, but it is pretty generally understood that a prominent Roman Catholic judge will soon resign and make a tour of the state for the avowed purpose of defeating, two years hence, the re-election of the fearless official to which allusion is herein made. Incidentally, we are informed that this same "Old Roman" will preen himself for the United States Senate now held by Senator Harry Lane. Thus goes on, from day to day, the program of the Hierarchy to "make America Catholic." We expect to make definite announcement regarding the above soon after the first of the year.

THE OLD ECONOMICS

Teach the children all about banking; Make them take it or take a spanking; Train their selfish expectation; Admit no other explanation; Success depends on exploitation.

Religious liberty does not extend to treason and other heinous crimes. Read Crowley's book.

CATHOLIC REASONS?

Father Gregory, in the Oregonian, December 26, says, "The Catholic Church has survived the crash of nations, the fall of governments, the evolution and changes of civil governments and 2000 years of persecution. What it is today is in fulfillment of the promise that 'The gates of hell shall not prevail against it.'" The argument of a great Catholic Cardinal is also to the point: He says, "If the Catholic Church had not been of God she never could have survived her own wickedness."

Well, Buddhism has survived the "fall of nations." Freemasonry, which the Catholic Church is sure belongs to the devil, has also lived through "the clash of nations." The "Gates of hell has not prevailed" against these, eh? It is true that "Hell has not prevailed" against the Catholic Church, for Hell has no controversy with her. They are in exact agreement.

On December 13th some Catholics in Portland resolved that "We denounce the unspeakable crimes committed against the Christian people of Mexico," etc., etc., and "that a copy of these resolutions be sent to our senators and representatives in congress that an investigation of the Mexican situation may be undertaken," etc. To what end, indeed, should there be a congressional investigation? Suppose congress should find that the Catholic Church had really made a "Hell-Mole" of Mexico, as the Catholic Sentinel calls it, what then? Villa and Co. seem to be getting rid of the pests, and we should not interfere lest we hinder the good work.

The editor of The Menace, armed with a court authority, took an officer and recovered something like 50,000 old envelopes from the Roman Catholic German society rooms in St. Louis. They had been stolen from The Menace office.

Writers tell us of Hindu fakirs who lie down on a bed of spikes, or otherwise torture the flesh to gain merit from their gods. In the Philippine Islands where the Catholic Church has dominated for 400 years the same things, or worse, are still in practice. That church, you know, is the world's only and great Enlightener.

My Catholic Friend, your Church is simply a conclave of bigoted bachelors and you are nothing but filling. So far as any personal rights, or freedom, are concerned, you are of no more consequence than a dead clam. You dare not criticize the Hierarchy, nor suggest reform. If you do, you are a heretic, and get the curse of the church. Why don't you get out and be a man?

Poor Mt. Angel! Dry! sigh! cry! lie! die!

We were jailed for shooting at the ravenous old beast of Rome, but great Roosevelt will probably be nominated in 1916, while he has actually shot to death many an innocent and harmless little creature, while feeding taffy to the old reptile.

What a silly idea to regard as holy the rotten lives of a lot of bull-necked bachelors (priests) in the same house with a host of maiden worshipers (nuns). Bah!

It is a fool idea to use the same crime as a remedy for itself. We have enough anarchy. We don't want any more. Individualism is a failure. Co-operate!

The priests do not believe the doctrines they teach. They are criminals of a very dangerous type.

IS AMERICA ROMANIZED?

The President of these United States is in danger of being assassinated. Why? He has dared at last to refuse to obey Rome's demands. Will Roosevelt be our next President? He is endorsed by the priesthood. Why? Were the priests and nuns killed in Mexico innocent or were they traitors? Are they traitors in the United States? Should we kill Villa or should we bring the traitors in this country to justice? Who will say, and who should be entitled to say, "Sic semper tyrannis?"

THE DEVIL'S ATTEMPT

By J. E. Hosmer.

One day while working on my press, a little "off my feet," I saw the Devil everywhere, especially on the street; And, when I went at noon to dine, I met him face to face — "A business deal," his majesty considered "no disgrace."

He wanted me to work for him, his "dope" to advertise; He said, "while truth is good enough, the mun's in telling lies." I grabbed the Devil by the horns; he tried to "get my goat," But, jerking off his forked tail, I rammed it down his throat.

The Devil took a hike for Hell, a howling every jump; They say he'll "graft" his tail upon the lacerated stump. 'Tis hoped 'twill keep him busy, giving editors a chance, 'Twould surely help poor mortals, and hea'n's work enhance.

But priests say I'm a wicked man, to spoil Gods work on earth, While others say the priests are imps, that Satan gave them birth. The preachers say — they ought to know, and surely can not fail, That 'twas the Devil that I fought, 'cause god aint got no tail.

A REPLY TO REV. GUY FITCH PHELPS

By S. K. Van Trump, Mt. Angel.

"I am a Christian *** no Christian will lie. See, Mr. Van Trump?" Rev. Guy Fitch Phelps. (Nothing else adds such dignity to an essay as an opening quotation from an eminent author. I always like to open my essays that way.)

I awoke one morning and found myself famous. The Rev. Mr. Phelps did it. It was a slick trick. And how easy; and dirt cheap too! It cost only three columns in The Silvertown Journal and a pint of Christian culture (a small pint) and the trick was done. And now I can stand before the world unabashed, for I am known, aye, I am famous. My obscurity shall no longer oppress me, my vanity no longer vexed. I can now forget the small achievements and "doubtful honors" of the past and look to a future of fame and glory. And the benevolent, the magnanimous Mr. Phelps did it. He "gave me a chance." How can I ever thank him, how adequately repay him? I would gladly do as much for him any day; but then, you see, he doesn't need it and besides I am limited in knowledge, the three columns of The Journal I can't command and of Christian culture I have not a rag. I am somewhat at a loss to un-

derstand the situation, but from the few ideas I am able to glean from Mr. Phelps' latest Sahara of words I judge that he is slightly wounded by something that I said in my "little piece" of November 11. I can't understand why he should take offense in a little game of fairplay. At the very first he begun to attack the Materialists with the edged tools of Christian culture by calling them "white slaves," "bomb throwers," "gamblers," etc., etc. Mr. Phelps had made a very serious and as I knew libelous charge against the Freethinkers of Silvertown. What I said in my "little piece" about him was all on the give and take principle which is the rule with Materialists. I didn't know that with preachers it was all give and no take, but I understand their rules better now.

Mr. Phelps comes out with a very "frank" explanation of how he came to print that falsehood about the Freethinkers of Silvertown. Take notice now, everybody, and we will briefly inspect this "frank" explanation from Mr. Phelps. He says: "I received my information from a gentleman who was and is well acquainted with the facts and whose word I certainly think 'stands as high as Mr. Van Trump's, etc., etc.'" This man told me incidentally (I wonder if he spoke out loud? V. T.) how quite a

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