

of the month, He must wait for thirty long days and nights before they will let Him come again.

"Father Tim, dear," he said, quietly, but gently, "by the help of His holy grace, I'll do it."

The Sentinel of the Blessed Sacrament.

MODERN STYLES AND CATHOLIC PARENTS

"Artists," observes Mr. Joseph Pennell, "think the present styles for women shocking. Only idiots admire them."

The controversy has passed beyond the stage when the critic can be accused of seeing evil where none exists. Even the creators of the reigning styles are beginning to ask if the limit has not been reached and it is noticeable that the chief argument offered by wearers of the offending costumes is that they are no worse than those of fifty years ago.

To lay down general canons of style from which there can be no deviation is, of course, impossible. Yet it is absolutely true that no good woman can adopt any style which, to paraphrase a significant paragraph in Huntington's "Civilization and Climate," stresses the physical sex-characteristics.

Whatever the attitude of our anti-social press, the force of public opinion, there is no doubt that Catholic parents are under a grave obligation to forbid their daughters to garb themselves in a fashion which offends against the canon laid down by Huntington. No precise directions can be given, and no good woman needs them, for she knows instinctively what is improper. The dress, as Beecher once observed, should show the lady, not her person.

BAD BOOKS

Realism in fiction is very much the vogue today. Holding the mirror up to nature, however, can be and very often is carried to extremes.

The number of popular novels inaptly designated "best" sellers, which reek with obscenity is alarming. It has become almost the exception in our day that a book can rise to the status of a "best" seller without being permeated with a salaciousness that borders upon the obscene.

Such indecent novels masquerading under the guise of realistic literature are not realistic at all. Realism that is realism presents a true picture of human life as it is the age. Such was the realism of Shakespeare, of Scott, of the authors whose works have been enshrined among the classics of literature.

They spread the false impression that all human nature is tinged with the same vices as their so-called heroes. The vices so luridly depicted are unfortunately real enough, but they are not typical

of the generality of mankind. They are morbid, abnormal types, which misrepresent rather than represent human nature as it is.

To call attention to any of these novels by name is simply to advertise their wares. In fact this is one of the means whereby they thrive and become popular.

Today hundreds of books are doing more harm in corrupting the youth than these former penny thrillers ever could do.

Recently a clean wholesome story of Catholic French Canadian life rose by sheer merit to the position of a best seller. The advertisement that recommended it to hosts of readers was this, that it is a book "that your mother can read."

What a commentary on present day novels that it should be necessary to advertise the fact that a book is fit for a mother to read!

Purging the moving pictures of salaciousness has been progressing effectively. It is high time to turn the attention of censors to the harm in malodorous novels.

THE MALADY OF OUR AGE

That something is basically wrong with the youth of our days, is an opinion in which observers of our times almost unanimously agree.

The situation is truly grave and productive of much harm, for the indiscretions of the younger set are far from being an inoffensive nature. Things cannot be allowed to run their course. It becomes the imperative duty of the older generation to save modern youth from itself and to protect it from the serious dangers that beset its path.

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Modesty it brands as hypocrisy. It glorifies the instincts and praises revolt against existing conditions.

And we venture to say that, all sensible people will subscribe to the verdict so well expressed by the Times, that the fact "that a man like Sir Arthur, a man to whom in other years the English reading world was indebted for no small amount of real pleasure, should now be devoting himself to the exploitation of such 'spiritualism' as this, is simply pathetic."

deny. No one need hear him who does not desire to do so, and the American public is not worth protecting if it must be protected from such propaganda as his.

argument that birth control is against the law of God, as each has his own idea of God; I believe the Divine Intelligence expects us to apply our human intelligence in every stage of our development.

LINES TO A THOUSAND FATHERS AND TO MINE

On him the world conferred no rank. He seeks not laurels in forum: Nor does the golden quill's clank Embitter his soul with yearning— The man who is my father.

Yet God, in Justice, dealt him fair— Warm heart, deft hands, Mens' real regard; And Womens' tribute—"Clean and square"

Are his cherished decorations— The youth who soon my mother.

Memory keen and torso sound, Vision that rivals the eagle; In twilight hours with books he's found.

Warblers, at dawn, serenade him— Student of beautiful nature.

Stalwart saplings—fair, emblem tree, He nurtured and guarded with pride; Spread east, flow west—a sylvan sea.

Sanctum of songbird and zephyr— Monarchs serene and regal.

To him Dame Earth reveals her power, Forsooth, he hath been her disciple; Thy whisper hours of plant and flower

That unfold while the stars rejoice— A secret among the poesies.

Dahlia, daffodil, mignonette, fern, Blossoms with fragrance exquisite; Cactus, hibiscus, garden urn: His crest a maple and thistle— Knight of yon flowery domain.

Carnation, rose, pink, columbine, Lady's slipper, snap-dragon plume; Throats of velvet, green trailing vine:

Each beautiful dream coming true— As God, in His Wisdom, designed.

LE ENVOI

Restless the head that wears a crown

Of Anxiety, Envy, Greed; The Grand Seigneurs court not renown,

Contentment reigns o'er their kingdom— Those philosophers—our fathers.

—J. M. C.

A GRAVE MENACE

Insidious propagandists are just now encircling the earth with their literature and pamphlets, and in lectures and meetings trying to disseminate their abominable doctrines throughout the nations of the world.

The position of the Church has ever been unalterably opposed to birth control, because it is against the law of God. We need no supernatural revelation to show us the immorality of interference with the natural law.

Man cannot attain the development demanded by nature without society; society cannot exist if the laws of nature are interfered with. Hence right reason and order forbid the use of the abominable methods of birth control.

The position so nobly championed by the Catholic Church is not founded on the arbitrary basis of man-made morality, or upon changing reasons of expediency, but upon the natural law, which as St. Augustine says, is "the reason or will of God commanding the observance of the moral order and forbidding its violation."

How unstable is the basis of the argument for birth control may be seen from the remark of a speaker at a large convention in a western city, that she "never answers the

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