

Protestant by law, there are teachers who are unwilling or unable to teach Catechism and Bible History, who do not recite prayers before or after classes, who cannot submit to the inspection or the control of the clergy. By this very fact the school law is violated, I might even say trampled under foot, in one of its fundamental principles, for the law still demands a denominational school. Before the people of the reconquered provinces is placed a painful moral problem concerning a subject about which a Christian conscience is justly susceptible.

We do not wish to exaggerate. In most cases the new teachers have avoided taking an attitude of provocation or causing a quarrel. There were, however, some scandalous incidents (for example in a Lorraine village not far from Bitsch, in the arrondissement of Sarreguemines, an anti-clerical teacher was obliged to leave in consequence of a perfectly successful strike of the pupils). Such occurrences are exceptional, but the seriousness of the problem lies in the system which imposes a teacher without religion upon a school essentially and officially religious. No palliative will hide from the consciences of the people the menace of such an innovation; the menace for the future is too evident.

The disquieting impression is aggravated by certain symptoms of official antipathy against the teaching orders, and especially by two iniquitous acts (substitution of female lay teachers for Sisters), for which a sectarian mayor in conjunction with the school inspector is responsible, concerning two schools of the celebrated Sisters of Ribeauville. These two incidents, local though they were, seem to have had the effect of an alarm signal.

For our Jacobins should not ignore that the Catholics of Alsace and Lorraine are already mobilizing for the defense of their passionately loved Christian education. Guided by a splendid clergy, which exercises a powerful moral and social influence, Christian families constitute in the two provinces the immense majority of the population. Accustomed to resistance against a strong power, they have been neither conquered nor seduced by the German domination. They will not allow themselves to be lorded over by our radical secularizers.

The society of Catholic Fathers for the surveillance of the schools is already organized in every parish. The first article of the political program of the Union Populaire of Alsace is the maintenance of the religious and denominational character of the public primary schools. The Union Populaire, which comprises all the militant Catholics, is the most considerable of the three parties in Alsace and is sure to obtain a far greater number of parliamentary seats than the Liberals and Socialists combined; and the Lorraine contingent will augment still more the preponderance of Catholic members. The denominational school will be vigorously defended on every terrain.

The Catholics of Alsace and Lorraine attach such importance to the religious education of youth that, if the French legislation on primary instruction is imposed on their country despite their formal opposition, they are resolved to desert the public school en masse and to organize the free denominational school, which will have for its pupils the immense majority of the children of Alsace and Lorraine. The Catholic teachers in great numbers will abandon the secularized public school in order to teach in the free denominational schools. The people will not tolerate the departure of the teachers belonging to religious orders, and especially of the Sisters of Ribeauville. They

will permit that teachers of religious orders leave the public school for the free school, but they will not permit that they be deprived of the right of teaching. Finally, all the powerful religious, political and social organizations of Alsace and Lorraine will demand the participation of the free schools in the public budget, for in that country they do not yet see that the faithful should be constrained to help pay for a school which they do not want for their children whilst they have to bear the entire expense of the schools which they want.

These are the very frank views of our brethren in Alsace and Lorraine, and they have proven that they know how to suit their actions to their words. They can not be subjected; they cannot be made to capitulate. As they put it boldly and picturesquely, "they have stubborn heads."

I have just come from Alsace and Lorraine. These are the informations and the impressions which I have received on the spot.

THE GREAT HEARTEDNESS OF LINCOLN

There are so many stories told of our great historical men that I almost hesitate to begin, for fear that it will be one that you have heard before. But this one, while perhaps not new, seems as true to the nature of Lincoln, as we have been taught to know the man, and we think you will want to hear it.

One day in spring four men were riding on horseback along a country road. These men were lawyers, and they were going to the next town to attend court.

It was after a rain, and the ground was very soft. Water was still dripping from the trees, and the grass was wet and damp.

The path on which they were riding was narrow, so they rode along, the four, one behind the other. As they rode, they talked and laughed and were very jolly.

While passing a grove of small trees, and a feeble chirping in the grass by they heard a great fluttering overhead the roadside. It caught their attention.

"What is the matter here?" asked the first lawyer, whose name was Speed.

"Oh, it is only some robins," said the second lawyer, whose was Hardin. "The storm has blown two of the little ones out of the nest. They are too young to fly and the mother bird is making a great fuss about it."

"What a pity! They'll die down there in the grass," said the third, whose name I do not remember.

The first three men, as they passed, looked down and saw the two little birds fluttering in the cold grass. They saw the mother bird flying about, as though she would ask for help. But they rode on, and when they had passed they forgot the matter and began talking and laughing again.

But the fourth lawyer, whose name was Abraham Lincoln, stopped. He got down from his horse and very gently took the little birds up in his big, strong hands. They did not seem afraid, but chirped softly, as if they knew they were safe.

"Never mind, my little fellows," said Mr. Lincoln, "I'll put you in your own little bed." Then he looked up to the nest from which they had fallen. To reach it he would have to climb, but he did it, and put the little birds back in the nice warm nest.

The other lawyers in the meantime had ridden back to get Lincoln, having missed him.

"Well," one exclaimed, on seeing Lincoln descending the tree and guessing the reason, "we always thought you were a hero, but now we know it—you have saved two lives."

Lincoln said nothing, merely smiled gently. And the other three laughed heartily. They thought it foolish that a man like Lincoln, then the President of the United States, should take so much trouble for some worthless birds.

"Learn to laugh. A good laugh is better than medicine. Learn how to tell a story. A well-told story is as welcome as a sunbeam in a sick room. Learn to keep your troubles to yourself. The world is too busy to care for your ills and sorrows."

The levity of these columns at times is not due to lack of sincerity to the sorrows that surround life. We know them and feel them. Joy is few and troubles are many and the utter loneliness of many souls is apparent. We want to laugh. We try to. With this philosophy we "carry on."

For Farm and Garden

TIME TO SPADE IN GARDENS

Spading may be done earlier on sandy soils than on heavy or clayey soils. When the soil adheres together in a heavy lump it is too wet for working. Allow such a garden to dry a little more, because if top wet the clods that form will often remain unbroken throughout the whole summer. A simple test to find out when garden soil is ready for working is to pick up a handful and close the hand tightly on it. If the earth falls apart when the hand is opened it is dry enough for cultivation.

WAR GARDENS.

The war gardens of the U. S. A. and Canada have produced, according to reliable estimates, an amount of vegetables in excess of \$400,000,000. In addition to the value of vegetables the people have been healthier on account of the exercise and outdoor life, and they have also taken a great deal of pleasure in the gardening operations.

This year the garden will be even more important as a food source and as a means of reducing living expenses than last year. A small garden will produce more food than an acre of ordinary farm crops. Every farm must have its home vegetable garden, and every foot of vacant land in the cities and towns should be planted to food crops.

FRUIT TREES AND BUSHES.

A good time to prune in the north is early in spring. When fruit trees and bushes seem to need something—you do not really know what—try some wood ashes. For tree wounds paint is a good dressing. Mix white lead and raw linseed oil and have it rather thick.

INCUBATOR HINTS.

The incubator room should have an abundant supply of fresh air without drafts and without too great changes in temperature.

When warming up the machine do not try to get too much heat at first.

When filling the egg trays do not double deck the eggs or stand the eggs on end.

Turn the eggs morning and night. Turn trays end for end in the morning and from side to side at night.

Remember that burning twenty-four hours a day for more than three weeks is pretty hard on any kerosene lamp and that it needs careful attention.

Don't handle hatching eggs with dirty, oily hands.

DUST BATH FOR HENS.

Laying hens must have their morning dust bath if they are to lay the maximum number of eggs. It is a necessary luxury for them. By its use they are enabled to rid themselves of mites and to remove all scales and dirt from the skin. Lice and mites do their greatest injury to the fowls at night, while on the roost. Instinctively they look for a place to dust in the morning. Do not force the hens to dust in the droppings or feed litter. Nail an old box in one corner, elevate it above the floor so that it will not become filled with straw or litter and put in 6 to 8 in. of dusting material. A little slaked lime added to it would not hurt anything. During the summer hens usually find their own dusting place on the road or under trees and shrubbery, but in winter it must be provided for them.

MILK FOR FOWLS.

When there is skimmed milk, sweet or sour, fowls should have all they can use, either mixed in the mash or given separately.

SPARKS FROM THE ANVIL

Thus at the flaming forge of life Our fortunes must be wrought; Thus on its sounding anvil shaped Each burning deed and thought! LONGFELLOW.

The action of the prohibitionists, cranks, and howlers reminds me very much of the bear in a story I read "anno dazumal". A man had a tame bear that was much attached to his master. One day as the man slept, a fly or a mosquito began to annoy him by buzzing around his ear. The bear wishing to remove the trouble, took up a stone and threw it with full force at the insect. He killed it "alright" but he also killed his master.

The prohibitionist may succeed in killing the liquor traffic, (which I doubt very much) but in so doing he will also kill personal liberty. We are told this is a democracy, perhaps it is. We are told we are free men. Yes, free to think and act as these cranks and howlers dictate. But woe! the wight who dares to question their infallibility!

Speaking of infallibility reminds me how these same agitators, cranks and howlers ridicule the idea of the Pope's infallibility in matters of faith and morals. Now, don't these fellows claim infallibility for themselves even in matters outside of faith and morals, — in every day affairs? You must think and act as they wish, or you're not a decent fellow. They're just like the opinionated man who looks at things through the wrong end of the telescope. No matter how sedulously you try to show him that that isn't the way to look at things,—he will not listen — he knows better; all the testimony to the contrary notwithstanding.

Personally I may not care for liquor in any shape or form, but that is no reason why I should try to deprive others of it. If drinking wine for instance were something immoral, Christ would not have begun the manifestation of his Divine power by changing water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana. On the contrary, he would have changed what little wine there was in the start, into genuine water.

But then, I see most of these howling agitators don't believe in the Divinity of Christ, although claiming to be Christians. They concede that Christ might have been just a little holier than they, but he certainly wasn't as "smart" as they.

— This is God's law in regard to the matter — If by just tasting intoxicants you cannot resist drinking to excess, perhaps making a "hog" of yourself, — then it's your plain duty absolutely to abstain from them. If on the other hand you know when to stop, when to say no, and if you have the necessary moral strength to do so in spite of ridicule, then no one has the moral right to stop you from using beer or light wines. — When reforming, you must reform the character. First make a man see he is wrong, then you can make him change his way of living.

IN THE SURROGATE COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF HUMBOLDT.
In the Estate of John Schoer, Deceased.
TAKE NOTICE that all creditors and others having claims against the Estate of the above named deceased, who died on or about December 1st, 1916, at Tipton, in the State of Kansas, one of the United States of America, are required to send in to Durie & Wakeling, Solicitors, Canada Building, Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, for the Administratrix of the said Estate, on or before May 15, 1919, particulars of their claims against the said Estate verified by statutory declaration, together with a statement of the securities, if any, held by them, and that after May 15th, 1919, the Administratrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the said Estate amongst the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which she shall then have received notice.
DATED at Saskatoon, in the Province of Saskatchewan, this 1st day of April, A. D. 1919.
Durie & Wakeling,
Canada Building, Saskatoon, Sask.
Solicitors for Susanna Green, of the above the Administratrix of the said Estate.

NOTICE.
A Pure Bred Percheron Stallion will travel for the season through St. Gregor and Muenster. Will be in Muenster livery barn after April 20. JOSEPH BERTING.

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