

DECLINE OF SOCIALISM

A FALLING OFF IN MEMBERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS—TROUBLE WITHIN THE PARTY ITSELF

In the New Review, Herman Simpson, the editor, publishes a leading editorial pointing out a crisis in Socialism in this country.

He refers to the great increase of the Socialist vote in 1912, in spite of the entrance of the Progressive party into politics, and then shows that since that time there has been a tremendous falling off in membership and in contributions.

Mr. Simpson thinks the trouble is in the Socialist party itself. He thinks that the party has become too much of a machine and has taken to ostracizing certain elements instead of co-ordinating them in effort for the new dispensation.

He emphasizes the significance of the mortality among Socialist publications—the Coming Nation, the Chicago Daily Socialist, the Cleveland Socialist, the absorption of a Washington paper in the Appeal to Reason, and the desperate plight of the publications that survive.

William M. Reedy, in the St. Louis Mirror, says: "Mr. Simpson knows, and I judge by the frantic appeals of the Appeal to Reason, that there is a real difficulty in keeping up to the standard of evangelistic energy that is required. What is the matter? I don't presume to be able to give the correct answer. But it may be that we have been mistaken as to signs and portents. Socialism doesn't invite Americans. It means too much regulation. It attacks private property. It attacks marriage. (This is true because it is necessary to attack marriage to get rid of private property). Socialism is mixed up with Syndicalism and sabotage in the public mind."

"And the acute Yankee sees under the generalities of sentimentalist humanitarianism the steel glove of a tyranny, as bad as, if not worse than that of capitalism. So that the more Socialist books there are read, the more people are deflected from scientific Socialism. As for the Socialist papers, they are hopelessly one-sided. They are extravagantly exaggerated in all their utterances. They are inhumanly unpurposive and they are fiendishly uncharitable. They all sound out one note and of that the most willing readers weary soon. They offend much more than they ingratiate."

"Now for the political. I think the Socialists mistook the meaning of the enormous increase of the vote for Debs for president last year. Everybody who voted for Debs was not a Socialist. I voted for half a dozen Socialist candidates for state offices in Missouri, but I am not a Socialist. The vote for Debs was a vote signifying, in large measure, nothing but confusion. The excitement dies down. It is natural that the Socialist party diminishes in size in 1913 from what it was in 1912. And as for subscriptions of cash, even in five-cent pieces they would naturally fall off with the cessation of spell-binding and with the tightening of money. The I. W. W. must have lured away many of the Socialists as a result of the successful Lawrence strike, the trials of Etior and Giovannitti and the Joan d'Arcism of Miss Elizabeth Gurley Flynn. There are enough reasons in sight, upon the Socialist slump, and one that I should not forget is, that Socialism in Ohio, at Milwaukee, and Schenectady and other places, didn't make good. It wasn't bad government, but it simply had to play politics to try to curry favor with the electorate, to make compromises, and could not inaugurate any real Socialism."

"IRISH INTOLERANCE"

To the Editor of The Gazette:

Sir,—I have read your editorial headed "Distorted Religious View" in your Saturday edition and believe that it is quite misleading, owing, no doubt, to your informant, a Montrealer, a keen observer of men, who just returned from Ireland, as you cite.

I will premise my remarks by stating that, not like your itinerant Montrealer, I have spent twenty-seven years of my life in Ireland, have known its people, north, south, east and west, that I have been educated in Blackrock College, Dublin, a Catholic institution, which had among its thirty professors three Protestants from Trinity College, under whom I graduated, I ought, therefore, to have a fair knowledge, as fair at least as your Montreal tourist, of religious views in Ireland.

You state: "The Roman Catholic suspects his fellow-countrymen of another faith and the Protestant is equally suspicious," etc., etc. I believe, Mr. Editor, you cannot point to one instance where the Catholic Ireland has persecuted the Protestant element of the community.

Mr. Gladstone once stated in a public speech, when vindicating the toleration of Catholic Ireland, that when the English Protestants were persecuted under Queen Mary they betook themselves to Ireland, where the Catholics gave them the protection and civil liberty of which they were deprived in England.

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The fact that there are nine Protestant M. P.'s who were elected in Catholic constituencies at the last general elections is one out of a hundred proofs I could give that intolerance is not a characteristic of the Irish Catholic.

On the other hand, I would invite the fair-minded reader to view the other side of the medal. Who were the persecutors in the past, and who are they to-day? Who but the men whom Edmund Burke called "the Ascendancy Junta" and branded with his biting scorn and sarcasm? For a century we all know what the 12th of July celebrations mean—in sultry airs, brass bands, and to H— with the Pope. And what does the wild world behold to-day? Organized Orangeism, rebelling against the supreme authority of Parliament. Finally I ask you, Mr. Editor, was not Louis Riel hanged in Canada for a less offence than that now perpetrated by Sir Edward Carson in Ireland?

M. MONAGHAN, Quebec, September 29, 1913.

RECEPTION AT MOUNT ST. JOSEPH, LONDON

On the morning of September 27th the beautiful chapel of Mount St. Joseph was the scene of a most impressive ceremony in which six young ladies took part, five receiving the holy habit of the Order and one making her profession. The Mass was celebrated by the Right Rev. M. F. Fallon, D. D., assisted by Rev. Fathers Egan and Hanlon. His Lordship addressed the candidates choosing for his sermon the text, "Speak Lord, Thy servant heareth."

The young ladies who were received were Miss McDonald, Sarnia, in religion Sister Mary Dymna; Miss Stock, Kinkora, Sister Mary Adrienne; Miss Kenny, London, Sister Mary Alberta; Miss Kneil, Stratford, Sister Mary Amedea; and Miss Krauskopf, St. Columban, Sister Mary Victorine. Sister St. Peter, Toronto, made her final vows which bind her irrevocably to the Order. There were also present in the sanctuary Rev. Fathers McKeon, Foley, Valentin, Hanlon, Laurendeau, McCullough, Labelle and Harding of this city. Rev. Father West, St. Thomas; Egan and Lowry, Stratford; Rev. Father Hussey, Kinkora; Rev. Father White, St. Columban.

NEW CONVENT IN MEDICINE HAT

A new convent boarding school to cost \$40,000 will be erected in Medicine Hat, Alberta. Mr. E. D. Bennett has donated a number of lots on Crescent Heights for that purpose. The school will be conducted by the Sisters of the Charges of St. Louis. At a later date two wings and a chapel will be built. We congratulate Father Cadoux upon the splendid work being accomplished in his parish. His zeal is beyond all praise.

French speaking members of the congregation was read by Mr. J. P. Ouellette and was signed by Messrs. M. P. Ouellette, N. Piche, A. Bilodeau, S. Theroault, J. B. Wise, M. Mulligan, and others.

We send our hearty congratulations to Father McMenamin. He is but continuing the apostolic labors which were a characteristic of his residence in this diocese.

DIED

TRUVENS—In Fort William, Ont., May 14th, 1913, John Truvsens, formerly of Pembroke, Ont., aged seventy years. May his soul rest in peace.

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ANOTHER ONE.—Criminals in the United States have a habit of taking Irish names. George E. Davis, a member of the Iron Workers Union, who has made confession of dynamiting bridges and other structures upon which non-union men were engaged to work, assumed the name of George O'Donnell. It would therefore be reasonable to suspect that criminals bearing Irish names are not always Irishmen.

BROTHER ANTHONY'S MISSION.—We have received from Rev. P. O. Dowdall, Eganville, the sum of \$5 for Brother Anthony's Franciscan Monastery, Bellary, India. The amount has been forwarded to him by money order.

OLD VIOLIN.—A Cobb violin was lately sold in the city of Toronto for the sum of \$925. They are considered great treasures. Mr. John B. Coakley, Box 27, Florence, N. S., is the possessor of another one.

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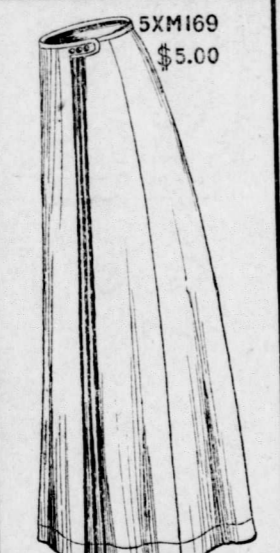
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