

FIVE MINUTE SERMON

BY REV. WILLIAM DEMOUY, D. D. THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

SATAN'S MODERN ACTIVITIES

"At that time: Jesus was casting out a devil, and the same was dumb; and when He had cast out the devil, the dumb spake, and the multitudes were in admiration at it." (Luk. xi, 14.)

Some people are inclined to think that possession by the devil is confined to the times of Christ. History, however, since His time, records thousands of cases where people were under the influence of the wicked spirit, and were freed only through the rite of exorcism as prescribed by the Church.

On some occasions a simple exorcism was not sufficient, and it was necessary to add to it much prayer and fasting. But the Church's exorcism invariably produces the results required when to it are added the accessories demanded in certain obstinate cases.

A remarkable case, reported at Rome a few years ago, was of a native of Africa, who was a member of the Church. The particulars were given by the bishop who performed the rite of exorcism over him.

At first it failed, and the possessed one became more violent than he had been before the rite was carried out. But the bishop added long prayers and fasting and finally, after several applications of the spiritual medicine, the man was freed of the wicked spirit and was totally transformed in his conduct.

But when one remains behind the battlements of the Church, he must do what she, his guide, commands and suggests. Today parents are too blind to the faults of their children, and too neglectful of the dangers to which they are subjected. They allow them to wander, improperly and insufficiently protected, too far from the walls of safety.

WHERE THE BEST TEA GROWS The tea plant flourishes best on the well drained side of a mountain in a country where there is plenty of moisture and a warm sun.

QUESTIONABLE LITERATURE

"Evil unto him who evil thinks," it may be assumed, is the slogan adopted by the gentlemen who have become so deeply attached to the production of novels having to do with sex questions and such matters.

Justice Wagner of the Supreme Court, Special Term, New York, has just given a decision which has a most effective bearing on the case. Thomas Seltzer demurred to an indictment charging him with unlawfully possessing an indecent book on the ground that the facts stated in his indictment did not constitute a crime.

Justice Wagner overruled the demurrer and the defendant was given leave to withdraw the same and plead to the indictment. Section 1141 of the penal Code says that "a person who sells, lends, gives away or shows, or offers to sell, lend, give away or show, or has in his possession with intent to sell, lend or give away . . . any obscene, lascivious, lewd, filthy, indecent or disgusting book, magazine, etc. . . . is guilty of a misdemeanor."

The decision is of particular interest to all who believe in clean literature as it is of very special interest to members of the Clean Books League, who have been accused of trying to establish a censorship which would interfere materially with the so-called freedom of the press.

ment can object to such a provision.—Catholic Sun.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PEACE MIND

Strife, contention and war, whether they occur in private, social or international life, have their origin in the hearts of men. External circumstances, in the last analysis, are merely the occasions, not the real causes of the numerous quarrels and the ugly squabbles that have rendered this little globe the scene of so much misery.

This, in a sense, is a consoling and comforting doctrine; for it shows that wars can be avoided. If it is man that precipitates war, then human effort can also prevent war.

The transformation can be brought about by education. Nations can be educated for peace as, in the past, they have been educated for war. They can be taught that it is more advantageous for them to settle their differences by peaceful means than by recourse to arms.

THE SHEPHERDS AND WISE MEN NOW COME TO THE CHURCH "There is no question," said the late Monsignor Benson, "that, considered in general, two kinds of persons are drawn toward Catholicism and remain faithful to it."

One of these kings is Gilbert Keith Chesterton, the celebrated writer who recently joined the Church, and who knells at the crib as a Catholic.

One of these kings is Gilbert Keith Chesterton, the celebrated writer who recently joined the Church, and who knells at the crib as a Catholic. He left them, followed the star of his keen mind once more, and when it stopped over where the "Child" was, falling down, he adored.—Southern Cross.

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