RIGHT

THE EPIDEMIC OF VULGARITY

Edward F. Garesche, S. J., in America

Considering the influence of print it is really astonishing that society is not more deeply corrupted. One would think that the stuff they read would make half the world criminal and the other half crazy. Look over the heaps of magazines of every color that litter the newstands and con-jecture what influence they are likely to have on the credulous, receptive, and uninstructed mind! It is sen-sationalism and emotionalism that versal. the current fiction of the masses what the chaste authors would call its kick, and the sensationalism runs into the lurid and the emotion verges to the vile. We are overcome by an avalanche of vulgarity. It is this avalanche of vulgarity. It is this that impresses itself on the charac-ter of the age more than the offenses of current literature against the laws of morals. The trivial, the cheap, the falsely senti-mental really does get into the minds and the lives of the people who read in their idle and recenting hours the and the lives of the people who read that comes one's way is, nowadays, nowas, now title significant ?-stalls.

feelings.

It is a supreme calamity to have an immoral mind, but it is also a pictures, shows, sensations, exper-great misfortune to have a vulgar inces, which finds its supply in and "light literature" that clutter have somewhat outgrown them,) the newstands are making our people moving pictures, vaudeville, plays, more vulgar, they should assuredly operas, good and bad, and all the more vulgar, they should assuredly operas, good and bad, and all the be cleared away. Evidently there hectic array of commercialized is profit in vulgarity and it will re-quire no little power of protest to nervous to stay at home, requires stamp out this plague at its fountain head, the conscienceless publishers. The dictionary defines vulgarity bulk of written matter that is needed

as meanness, grossness, coarseness to feed the ogree of the daily press of manners, but of course, the word It is impossible, considering the in its original deriva ion comes from the Latin term for crowd. So that in its literal sense "vulgar" means male and female together, to shovel according to the taste and manners of the crowd. Combining these ster. Therefore, tribes of "pen of the crowd. Combining these meanings of the word one comes to a conclusion that is not very com-plimentary to the multitude, to wit, that the taste and manners of the crowd are mean, gross, coarse by habit and preference. At least it will be interesting to inquire whether this low taste of the multitude is a cance or so after effect in other the construction of the multitude is a cance or so after effect in other the source of the multitude is a cance or so after effect in other the source of the source of the source of the source of the the source of the source a cause or an after effect, in other wide sense appeals to one or the words, whether vulgarity is only a other. To appeal to the noble side and natural craving of the many for skill, and a power of patient applicawhether the apparent taste for us is easy, obvious and, alas ! natur-meanness, grossness and coarseness al. The angel in men often needs is only the result of being fed upon things unworthy, low and mean. The second theory is far more prob-is only natural that the tribe of pen-

able. Taking the common run of pushers, being pressed for copy men and women one may say that write vulgarity. And since vulgar their taste depends in great meas ure upon what their imagination, intelligence, and feelings have been that it finds a sale. The publishers, fed on. One must of course, except the two extremes, those who have naturally such sound and excellent taste that it will scarcely be corrup-ted by a diet of vulgarity, and those whose natural equipment is so gross of better as the demand grows, the and mean that they will scarcely state of culture is progressively relish higher and nobler things even injured, the scribes and their conge when urged upon them. But both ners in other lines of commercial these classes are the exception, the ized amusement-for in that class second almost as much so as the first. Take the child of the slums out of his gross environment and give him only what is noble, beauti-ful and lofty to contemplate, and what must modern publications be set-grow more hurried and badgered, the monetary rewards of vulgarity. What are we Catholics to do to stem his love and desire will be fixed on the higher things. Set the child of artists and poets in the sour and crude atmosphere of the slums and he will batten on vulgarity.

stages of society when refinement standards and aspirations of our Not au revoir was meant, but sad and the taste for beauty were in the air and common to high and lowly. them from it nor keep it from them In the fortunate middle age, when Catholicism had sway to exercise its refining influence, the recreations, and best resource is to forbify them the delights of the poor were often against it. The work must begin in as refined as those of the learned. the schools. The fireside legends of those days were literature, the balads were poetry. The art of glorious cathepoetry. The art of giorious cathe-drais and the paintings of the mas-ters stirred the common people as much, though with a less conscious joy, as they did the email company of the learned. More, the craftsman who wrought the iron for the minis-toric doer was no less an artist in his It is with the deepest regret and heartfelt sorrow we appound the death of Pte. P. F. Crowley who was who wrought the iron for the minis-ter's door was no less an artist in his way than the sculptor who carved the statuary above it. The taste of the people in those times whether drowned on board of the Leinster on Oct. 10, 1918. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Crow ley, Gads Hill Station, Ont., three for things to be heard or things to be seen, was not vulgar in the evil sense. The culture of the mind was, PTE. MICHAEL J. BRENNAN was far more common. What has charged all this and made vu'garity, the taste of the crowd, once more a synonym for baseness and coarcences as it was in the pagan times? Ucquestionably the pagan times? Unquestionably the destruction of Catholic traditions brought about in the sixteenth cenolic Order of Forest rs. He leaves to mourn his loss, his parents, eight sisters and two brothers. Reverend brought about in the sixteenth cen-tury is in great part responsible. The ancient monasteries were centers of culture. Catholicism is the great patron of the great arts. True Christianity is of its nature Sister Mary Monica, Ogdensburg, inimical to coarsenes», baseness, meanness. Let the Church have a free sway and she will refine any stratum f society. The corruptions that preceded the revolt of Luther weakened her refining influence on great bodies of society, and that revolt killed it altogether. It is sig nificant that whenever our separated brethren become highly cultured in the true sense they recur to Catholic odels. Teonyson rewrites the Mort d'arthur." Longfellow transrewrites the Mort d'arthur," Longrellow trans-lates Dante ; the best modern art is busy with the great Catholic orig-inals, architecture hangs on the summits of the medieval masters, musicians over the unapproachable creations of men who were Catholic Halifax Montreal Ottawa Toronto Winnipe

or touched with Catholic inspiration John Whalen, South March Ont., Mrs. J. P. Devine and Mrs. Harry Forbes of Stittsville, Mrs. George Monnier of Montreal, Miss Celestine and Cecilia, Ottawa, and Miss Contends The huge destruction of lovely works of art that was wrought by the bar-barous "reformers" was an allegory. Their principles destroyed culture in the hearts of the peoples no less than their hands destroyed its mas-Miss Gertrude at home, Austin at-tending Ottawa University and James at home. May his soul rest in peace. terpieces. But there is a still more fecund

LT. HARRY LALANDE, C.A.M.C., DIED source of vulgarity that has risen in AT SEA FROM SPANISH INFLUENZA ON OCT. 6

modern times. It is the immense increase of information and curiosity without a corresponding increase in This week Mr. and Mrs. J. T. La lande received the particulars of the death at sea of their eldest son, Lieut. R. H. Lalande, C.A.M.C. the true culture of the taste and Education is almost uni-Culture is, even more than Lieut. R. H. Lalande, C.A.M.C. Lieut. Lalande was on his way to England, and on the voyage over of old, the possession of the propor-tionately few. If a man knows how to read and not what to read his case was taken with Spanish influenza is more desperate so far as culture is concerned than that of him who does passing away in a few days. He was but twenty nine years of age, and an exceedingly affable and clever young man. He was born in Morrisburg, not read at all, A man may be cul-tured with the knowledge of but a few excellent books, or without Ont., coming to Cobourg with his parents fifteen years ago. He received his education at the Conbooks at all, from intercourse with He those who have good taste and fine feelings. So, too, one may be an omniverous reader and withal very vulgar minded. To read everything vent school and the Collegiate In-stitute, and, taking up the study of medicine, graduated spring from Queen's College, ston. He was then attached to this Kingston. the Ontario Military Hospital, Cobourg, and about two month's ago

reading and for all things else that can be heard or seen, such as songs, was ordered to report on the Cana dian expedition to Siberia. This order was changed, and he was ordered to England, but failed to reach there on account of his death at sea. He was married on June 27th to Miss Beatrice Collins of Sault Ste. Marie, who in addition to his sorrowing parents, two sisters, Miss Beatrice Lalande and Sister Agnes Maris, both of Sault Ste. Marie, and one brother, Archie, survives.

DIED

FORTUNE.-In Dublin, October 27, Mr. W. J. Fortune, at the age of forty years, of pneumonia. Besides his widowod mother he leaves three sisters, Mary at home, Sister Fidelis of St. Joseph's community, London, and Sister Fortune of the Sacred Heart. Halifax. N. S.

Tomlinson, aged seventy two years May her soul rest in peace.

October 23rd, 1918, Adela, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Langlois of Amberstburg, Ont., in her twentywhat is mean, gross, and coarse, or tion. To appeal to what is baser in fifth year. May her soul rest in

> THE WAR MOTHER' The days are heavy and the nights

> are long: My boy, now grown to be a man, is

I dream of him, a little lad once more-

the door. I see him coming, clasp him in my

Then wake-to feel the woe of War's alarms.

me, His eyes, so full of baby mystery,

to greet.

e will batten on vulgarity. This may be seen clearly in those even chaste minds and lowers the well I knew

adieu. Dear Mother Mary, look with pity

down



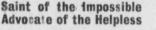
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scarum propensities sobred, if possible, Ciare is not in the convent twenty-four hours before things begin the poen.
F. J. This is a fine college story, full, of healthy vitality, and it will amuse all the vita of healthy vitality, and it will amuse all the vita of healthy vitality, and it will amuse all the vita of healthy vitality, and it will amuse all the vita of healthy vitality, and it will amuse all the vita of healthy vitality, and it will amuse all the vita of healthy vitality, and it will amuse all the vita of healthy vitality, and it will amuse all the vita of healthy vitality, and it will amuse all the vita of healthy vitality. The destination will be vitable to be vitable. The vitable vitable the vitable vitable to be vitable. The diffs of a Tenement House fairs by VS 5.5 Whitmore. The author's sympathematic children with his contexters of little, neglected children, forced to haracters of little, neglected worked the vitable v

clever one; it is well constituted and where a master hand. (Quest Of The Golden Chest, by George Barton, An absorbing tale of real adventure—young, fresh, vital. To the boy who loves the romance which broods over ocean pathways as well as the myster broods over ocean pathways as well as the myster on but of transcal forces 1 a journes "In Ques

Total. 10 Ins 100 Who Lynes the romance which broods over ocean pathways as well as the mysterious lure of tropical forest, a journey "In Quest of the 'colden Chest' will fire his ambition to many deeds.
In Cool's Goot Time. By H. M. Ross. This is a strength of the 'colden Chest' will fire his ambition to many deeds.
In Cool's Goot Time. By H. M. Ross. This is a strength of watabast, stirring in it the live-iter sympathy for watabast, stirring in it the live-iter sympathy for watabast, stirring in the live they stirled they are they apply they are strength of the sympathy for watabast, stirring in the live iter sympathy for watabast, stirring in the live iter sympathy for watabast, start iter strength of the sympathy for t

and downs and some remarkable adventures he eventually triumphs over adverse fate. Ned. Rieder Fate, by Rev. John We's. Around Ned Rieder Father ~ets hault a beautiful story of parochial school and family life. The boys are a splendid set, interseted in their tasks and games and not above an occasional bit of mischief.

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sweet, And I would clasp him close, his love On that last day before he sailed for France, The same look in his eyes was like a lance

On these thy daughters sad, who

wear the crown Of martyrdom for pangs they will

TOMLINSON .- At her late residence hould 119 Spadina Ave., Toronto, on Sun-For day, October 20, 1918, Mrs. Edmund LANGLOIS .- At Montreal, Que.

peace.

gone!

And, dreaming, wait for him beside

arms:

Before his lips could utter words to

Would look into my own, intent and

OBITUARY

PTE. P. F. CROWLEY

not own ; And force their lips to smile that hide a moan. -Sergeant Joyce Kilmer's Mother in the Ave Maria.

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of a storm at sea, and her

ates, by Mary T. Waggaman. Pip a boy af ye, is lying at death's door, without hope of f, is close, unwholescome city quarters. A k on the coast is ronted, and there the family up their quarters. How the excursions in little hoat, which brings back the roses to each at them acquisited with Roving

reading. alisman. The, by Mary T. Wagesman. The young hero of this story is mixed up with the saving of the famous Connection on Indian messacre and is taken prisoner of the famous Connection of the saving and is taken prisoner of the famous Connection of the saving Mother Salome has gone to the Lives of the Saints and the volumes of early Church history and has gathered a great variety of coisedes and adventures. Temptingly they are laid eut before us.

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