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What The President Does Not Know.

The daily papers have reported that on our national Thanksgiving Day, President Wilson, in order to express his thanks to God, attended a Catholic mass. Everyone well acquainted with the importance and significance which the Roman Catholic Hierarchy will at once attach to such an act cannot but consider the conduct of our admired President as undise for the interests of his party, as unbecoming to his office, as inconsistent with his past—yea, as greatly misleading American people at home and truly misrepresenting American ideals abroad. And to begin with, it is but fair to state that I do not criticize the President's act of yesterday from the standpoint of some Protestants who believe that he began to make concessions to Romanism when he assumed his office as President by retaining his former private secretary, Tumulty, a Catholic. No: I am not the man who has gone so far as to praise both in private and in public his American policy in that. I am a man who believes that true separation of Church and State and honest fair-play strongly demand that we choose the fittest men for public office regardless of any religious considerations. To exclude a capable Jew or an able Catholic, and so on, on account of his religion, is plainly unfair, sectarian and un-American. And I will say in passing to my protestant brethren who in this respect differ from me, that I know as well, if not better, than many Protestants, the real doctrines of Romanism and the plans and policy of the Roman Catholic Hierarchy, as I know also that a Catholic as to stand—in case of conflict—rather with his church than his country, rather with the ecclesiastical law than the civil law. But at the same time I know from long experience and many historical instances that the best means of checking the encroachment of Romanism is not by excluding able and patriotic Catholics from public office. On the contrary, when many truly patriotic Catholics are put in responsible public offices, they will realize by themselves that there is absolutely incompatibility between Romanism and Americanism, and then they will speak out and expose the abusing claims of their own church, as has happened in Italy, France and Spain. To believe that patriotic native American Catholics—and there are many such—will endure the yoke of priesthood in public affairs, when Spanish, Italian and French laymen have become emancipated from that priestly tutelage, is to forget that we live in America and in the twentieth century.

Nevertheless I repeat that the conduct of our President on Thanksgiving Day was unwise for the interests of his party, unbecoming to his office, and inconsistent with his past.
 The only public and official religious observance prescribed by a national custom in our country is Thanksgiving Day. When the President of the United States on such a day, being as he is a Protestant and a Presbyterian, leaves his own church and attends service in a Catholic church, his attitude will unquestionably be interpreted both by the Roman Catholic Hierarchy and by many Americans as indicating favoritism to Romanism. I know that many Protestants who know our President will see in that act only his willingness to promote good-will and mutual understanding between all American republics; but many others, and especially, the Roman Catholic Hierarchy, will give to his act another and very different meaning. The more so because the service attended was a Catholic mass. One of the main contentions between Romanism and Protestantism is the practice of the mass. Catholics say that Protestantism is not a Real religion because it lacks the offering of any real sacrifice—it has no mass. For Roman Catholics there is in fact no other sacrifice worthy of God but the mass. Evangelical Protestants, on the contrary, believe that the Roman Catholic mass is the most superstitious and idolatrous practice of Romanism. Now, our President, being a Presbyterian and a scholar, has given, unconsciously and unwillingly, I grant, the best practical illustration to make believe that Roman Catholics are right and evangelical Protestants wrong. The Roman Catholic Hierarchy at home and abroad will rejoice at this and will say, "If the Roman Catholic mass is a superstitious and idolatrous practice, can you explain that the President of the United States, being himself a Presbyterian, and a great scholar, has chosen that very practice as a means of giving thanks to God on the only day which the American nation as such worships God?" To attend mass at some other time might be an act of politeness and courtesy, but to attend mass on Thanksgiving Day as the nation's President, is another and very different matter.

Again the main contention of Romanism in the United States is to obtain from the State officials recognition as a church. If our President would read a certain document of Leo XIII. to the American Catholics, he would realize at once that the papacy advises as the best policy even in the United States union between Church and State. The Roman Catholic Hierarchy will consider the attitude of our President as a good step toward the policy. They will say, and they will be correct in saying so, "There is but one day on which the United States, as a nation, worships, and on that day we as a church gathered together to worship publicly, and the President as such, came to us publicly in spite of the fact that he is a Presbyterian. At last we are united on some public and official ground."

Finally, the open favoritism to Romanism shown by our last President, Mr. Taft, has over generous concessions to the affairs of the Philippeans, his attitude in regard to the Indian Schools affairs, his practical recognition of Cardinal O'Connell, of Boston, as a prince of the blood, and so on, aroused the suspicions and sensitiveness of millions of patriots. To see the truth of this one has but to consider the appearance and growth of the societies like the Guaraidns of Liberty, the Knights of Luther, and so on, and especially the astonishing increase in circulation and popularity of "The Menace." It would be a pity to arouse more the suspicions and to provoke more the sensitiveness of that large number of Americans, and I confess that the attitude of our President will not reassure them. The more so because many of them were disappointed in his choice of a private secretary.

I truly believe that in all situations there is no other way to follow worthy of a true American statesman than the one taken by ex-President Roosevelt in Rome—to appear neither as Catholic nor Protestant, but as American.

CATHOLIC AGGRESSION.

This paper does not believe in the methods of The Menace. It has no liking whatever for men like J. J. Crowley, who run around the country and hand out hot words about the priests—words that are not only hot but coarse and obscene. It does not believe that the best way to advocate the truth is by abuse of other people. But while all this is true we are alarmed at the constant encroachments the Catholics are making through governmental favors and influence. There is no danger whatever that the Catholics will ever make substantial headway through the methods employed by other denominations. They tried to evangelize Wake county, and failed. Catholics cannot compete with Protestants in winning adherents. They cannot stand the light.

But they can gain a foothold through governmental influence. With Washington as their center they can reach the States, and this is their hope. We admire the President of the United States for his wisdom, tact and great common sense. He has made fewer mistakes perhaps than any President of this generation.

But he made one. The Presbyterian Standard apologizes for his attending the Catholic mass on Thanksgiving on the ground that as he is a Presbyterian and also a Scotch Irishman he became stubborn and did as he pleased. This may be an excuse but it is not a reason. This act of the President opened the road for the Catholics toward their goal. Tumulty, the President's secretary, is an intense Catholic, and he is busy placing men of his faith wherever they can serve Catholicism. He is in high favor with his Chief, and his position enables him to help his church toward the place of power in our political life toward which it is bending every energy. It is high time that the Protestants were waking up to the situation. This

government must not be Romanized. We hoped with the retirement of Taft the peril would have passed; but official Washington is afraid to lift its voice. The pastors of the city were right. They advised the President to stay away from the Thanksgiving mass; and they had the best of reasons for their warning.—Charity and Children.

We clip the following extract from a sermon preached by a Catholic priest in St. Louis, named D. S. Phelan, and published in the Western Watchman, a Roman Catholic paper of St. Louis, which has a large circulation:

Priest Phelan said: "And why is it the Church is strong; why is it everybody is afraid of the Catholic church? And the American people are more afraid of her than any people in the world. Why are they afraid of the Catholic Church? They know what the Catholic church means. We of the Catholic church are ready to go to death for the church. Under God she is the supreme object of our worship. Tell us that we think more of the church than we do of the United States; of course we do. Tell us we are Catholics first and Americans or Englishmen afterwards; of course we are. Tell us, in the conflict between the Church and the civil government we take the side of the church; of course we do. Why, if the government of the United States were at war with the Church we would say tomorrow

"TO HELL WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, and if the Church and all the governments of the world were at war we would say, to hell with all the governments of the world. They say we are Catholics first and Americans decidedly afterwards. There is no doubt about it. We are Catholics first and we love the Church more than we love any and all the governments of the world. Let the governments of the world steer clear of the Catholic church; let the emperors, let the kings, and the presidents not come into conflict with the head of the Catholic Church. Because the Catholic Church is everything to the Catholics of the world; they renounce all nationalities where there is a question of loyalty to her. And why is it the Pope is so strong? Why is it that this country, where we have only seven per cent of the population, the Catholic Church is so much feared? She is loved by all her children and feared by everybody. Why is it the Pope is such a tremendous power? Why, the Pope is the ruler of the world. All the emperors, all the kings, and all the presidents, all the presidents of the world today are as these altar boys of mine. The pope is the ruler of the world. Why? Because he is the ruler of the Catholics of the world; and the Catholics of all the world would die for the rights of the pope."

The Scramble.

When the pie is opened the birds begin to sing, whether they are Democratic or Republican birds; and it is the same old song. The words are different but the music is the same. The scramble that has been going on about Washington and the scrapping that has filled the air at home for the past six months, are familiar, but disgusting. The President, great and strong as he is, has yielded to the pressure from without and has violated his purpose not to remove any office holder for political reasons. We think it would have been a great deal more seemly not so very prudent, for the administration to have allowed Messrs. Logan, Seawell and Dockery to have served out their terms. They had held their offices and discharged their duties under this administration for nine months and only about 60 days remained to them. But little time has been saved to the Democrats and a great deal of just criticism has been passed; nor is this the last of this matter. The people of the United States are not particularly interested in providing places for politicians; what they are interested in is efficient and capable service on the part of officer holders. Mr. Wilson is too big and broad a man to allow a few partisans to discredit the great work of his administration by involving a lot of hungry wire pullers in a row over the distribution of the offices. It was Cleveland who made the wise remark that "public office is a public trust." It seems to be commonly regarded around Washington as a private snap. The wonderful thing about the whole business is the strange fascination there is about a public office for the average man. Some people will abandon a good business that furnishes an ample income for a precarious period of office holding that does not yield a competency for the present and promises nothing for the future. Happy the man who enters the new year with no bee buzzing in his bonnet.—Charity and Children.

Snapp—Well, all the fools are not dead yet.
 Mrs. Snapp—I'm glad of it. I never did look well in black.—Boston Transcript.

An Appeal for Help on Behalf of Japan.

Washington, Jan. 15.—President Wilson as the head of the American Red Cross, late today issued an appeal to the American people for funds to assist the people of Japan, who are suffering not only from earthquakes, but from failure of crops.

The President's appeal follows: "Our sister nation of Japan is suffering from two very serious disasters. The failure of crops in the northeastern part of that country has brought hundreds of thousands of persons face to face with the terrible misery of slow starvation, and in the southwestern island of Kiusiu, a sudden great volcanic eruption has carried death and desolation to large numbers in a thickly populated district.

"I appeal to the humanity of our American people that they may give expression of their sympathy for the suffering and distress of so many of their fellowmen by generous contributions for their aid. Such contributions can be made to the local Red Cross treasurers or sent directly to the American Red Cross, Washington, D. C."

Red Cross headquarters announced tonight that an appeal had been sent out to all State chapters asking local chapters to gather the funds.
 Pete Crafts, a Pet Dog, Has Fallen



Perhaps One \$1.00

your boy or girl is in need of a new pair of shoes these cold days, if so we have a good selection of sturdy, solid leather shoes made expressly for the boy or girl that demands only the best of leathers to withstand the many hard knocks of the sidewalk and other rough uses that they are expected to go up against.
 Our shoes will come as nearly meeting these requirements as it is possible to make a shoe.

FOSTER SHOE COMPANY,
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Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills

will help you, as they have helped others.
 Good for all kinds of pain. Used to relieve Neuralgia, Headache, Nervousness, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Kidney Pains, Lumbago, Locomotor Ataxia, Backache, Spasmodic, Cerebralgia, Irritability and for pain in any part of the body.
 "I have used Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills when troubled with headache, and find that one pill invariably affords relief in a very short time. I am considerably affected with neuralgia in the back of the head, and find the Anti-Pain Pills of much benefit. The Dr. Miles' Remedies are beyond comparison and I recommend them to all my friends."
 W. L. COLLIER,
 119 Collied St., San Antonio, Tex.
 At all druggists. 25 cents box.
 WILES MEDICAL CO., ELKHART, IND.

Woman-Like.
 "Judge," said the forewoman of the jury of ladies, "we want to speak to you about that sealed verdict we just rendered."
 "Well! ladies?"
 "Can we unseal it and add a postscript?"—Washington Herald.

B. Goodman's
Big Inventory Sale of Men's and Boy's Clothing, Beginning Friday Jan. 16
 Before taking stock it is our purpose to immediately reduce our large stock of Men's and Boy's Clothing. This is your opportunity to buy Suits and Overcoats at a great saving in price. The worst of the winter is yet to come, why not take advantage of the low prices we are offering and save money on the apparel you must have for comfort and good dress?
 HOW THE PRICES ARE CUT
 \$25.00 Suits at \$16.50
 \$20.00 Suits at \$13.50
 \$18.00 Suits at \$12.00
 \$15.00 Suits at \$ 9.50
 \$12.50 Suits at \$ 8.00

This Inventory Sale means something to you. You know we never advertise anything we haven't got and we always make good every promise. Come and see for yourself.
B. GOODMAN
 THE HOME OF GOOD CLOTHES
 Burlington North Carolina

One \$1.00
 Will bring The Twice-A-Week Dispatch to your door twice-a-week twelve months.

Buchan's 5-10 & 25 Cent Store.
 We have decided to put in a line of dry goods which will be sold at popular prices.
 Come in and let us show you the goods and give you the price.
BUCHANAN'S
 5-10 & 25 Cent Store.
 Burlington North Carolina

Play No Favorites.
 Hostess (gushingly)—They tell me, doctor, you are a perfect lady-killer.
 Doctor (modestly)—I assure you, my dear madam, I make no distinction whatever between the sexes.—Tattler.
 w,esa,leptolovekx, etain shrdiul
 Crisis Passed.
 Minister—Is your poor father any better my dear?
 Little Girl—Oh, yes. He is so much better that my mother's stopped prayin' again.—Junk.

What Did Mr. Bryan Mean?
 Washington, Jan. 22.—Democrats in the capital were gossiping today over whether Secretary Bryan meant to launch a senatorial boom when at a Democratic dinner last night he declared it had been his ambition since boyhood to sit in the United States Senate. His own career, he said, all through his earlier years had been based on a hope that he eventually would go to the Senate.
 Prices cut half at Ralph's Place.

POOH