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WHEN the Star gets through waging war on the A. P. A. its owner may realize where his hired men made a mistake.—Kansas City American.

WE are indebted to a number of friends for copies of valuable books that have been sent during the past week.

MRS L. S. SMITH, living in South Chicago, will please accept our thanks for twenty-five new subscribers which she has sent in since the first of the year.

THINK of every candidate for a Republican nomination for governor of the great state of Missouri, addressing an A. P. A. meeting in Kansas City! "The world do move!"

PLEASE send this paper to a friend in some other state when you have read it, and write him that you would like to know whether he has enlisted under the banner of Americanism.

The interview published in the daily World-Herald Thursday evening and credited to this editor is, barring a few minor statements, substantially correct, so near so that we are disposed to find no fault with the gentleman who wrote it out from memory.

THE contrast between the work being done by Missouri councils and that being done by the councils in Illinois and Nebraska is painfully apparent. There they work openly and defy the powers that be, while here what is done is done behind closed doors.

F the Monroe doctrine is to apply as to one country it should apply as to all. It should apply to the pope of Rome. What right has he to interfere in the affairs of any country on the western hemisphere any more than the Queen of England, or the Emperor of Germany? Does he not lay claim to temporal power?

THE citizens in the congressional district of Nebraska represented by E. J. Hainer in congress, will make a great mistake if they allow the Roman church and her ally, the public press, to defeat him for a re-election. He is manly, straightforward, honest and outspoken. He stood for law against Roman Catholic thievery.

In all the history of the union, the American spirit has never predominated so much as it has in Kansas City during the past two weeks. Among some of the meetings were: For the Door of Hope, at the Auditorium, with an audience of about 4,000. The historic meeting at the Academy of music, with some 2,000 present and at least 2,000 turned away. The debate at the Coats Opera House, with over 2,000 and hundreds turned away.

MR. CHURCHILL WILL RUN AGAIN

The daily press of the east recently contained some very flattering opinions of two of Nebraska's leading attorneys—Hon. John L. Webster and Hon. A. S. Churchill. The favorable comment was elicited by the masterly manner in which they handled the maximum freight rate case then pending before the supreme court of the United States and now awaiting a decision of the court. We understand the brief submitted in the case was prepared by Hon. A. S. Churchill, the attorney general of Nebraska, and a candidate for a re-nomination on the Republican ticket. It is said by attorneys to be one of the most logical and convincing briefs ever filed in the supreme court in any case. They inform us that it reflects great credit upon Nebraska's legal adviser, and places him in the front rank as a reasoner and a logician.

It pleases us to hear these words of commendation showered upon Mr. Churchill as we believe he is deserving of them all and, while the state of Nebraska has had many able attorneys in the office he now holds and to which he aspires for a second term, none of them ever gave more general satisfaction, or filled the office more acceptably. Mr. Churchill has been a student all his life, is still and probably always will be, and for that reason is better equipped to fill the office he now holds than any man who spends his time in politics to the neglect of his legal training. We believe most of our friends would be glad to see him renominated.

CHICAGO POLITICS.

One of our regular correspondents contributes the following: At the present time in Illinois, and especially in Chicago, one hears a great deal of "machine" politics and "machine" leaders, and to a great number of people the word "machine" as used in connection with politics is as much Greek. The most simple definition of the term "machine" is, "An organization of men (or rascals as the case may be) organized to control the nominations in the different political parties. Now when the "machine" is in such a position and is powerful enough to dictate the nominations, it does not overlook the key to the situation, namely, controlling the nominees. The whole "machine" may be and often is manipulated by less than a dozen men, and these men in turn may be handled and directed by one. The Roman machine, the greatest and most corrupt political machine on the face of the earth, is operated from the fountain head on the Tiber. It is composed of innumerable smaller machines, all working in harmony and to the one end of "Roman Catholic government for the world and the supremacy of the pope." The Republican and Democratic parties in America are two of the "minor" parts of the one great "machine." To illustrate how one of the small machines can be put together for the benefit and glory, and also for the financial gain of the holy church, take for an example a county in any state. The bishop will select, say a dozen of the faithful who are taking an active part in politics. To do this without making any mistakes in his selection, he will request a dozen of his priests, each to pick out for him a man in his vicinity.

To get the right man, the priest will have to go over all the evidence in his possession, as received through the confessional. The man finally selected may not be a good church member, that is not a regular attendant, and for having committed some crime, or being mixed up in a scandal he may not have been to confession for a long time. But Mr. Priest has been hearing the confessions of the wife or daughter, sister or mother of Mr. Politician, and he knows considerable of his crooked ways and dark deeds, as well as his financial standing, and in fact knows more and remembers more of the man's history than the man knows himself. The bishop selects one man of the dozen and in a nice quiet way hints at the necessity of having an organization to assist the faithful into office, using as an argument that when employed at good wages with very little work attached, the church is benefited. Number one sees the point, and having been given the names of the other eleven, who he understands are good fellows for the work in hand, he starts out to get them together.

They meet and organize secretly, and arrange to divide themselves equally between the two big parties, circle number two. Now as there are only twelve, and they do not represent all the wards or townships, it is their first work to find a suitable representative in each of the several districts. In this class they can take in recruits from different classes—men who are ambitious and not overly scrupulous, men whose honor is a secondary consideration to wealth and position, men who lead public lives that are models of all that is good, but whose private lives are monuments of corruption and dishonesty, men who will steal to-day and confess to the priest to-morrow and receive absolution, with a penance to swell the receipts of the poor (?) box. When this gang, circle number three, get together and bind themselves to abide by the decision of the majority when selecting candidates for office, the machine is in fair working order.

The power behind the throne, or rather the throne behind the power, now commences to select available candidates for office.

The bishop, through the information furnished by the priests, can have on hand at all times a large list (in all parts of the county and in both parties) of eligibles for office who will see to it when elected that no legislation is enacted that will curtail in any way the power of the church. Circle number four, which is composed of the "ward-workers" or "ward-healers" as they are called, and who compose largely the delegates to conventions, are the outside "ring." They are kept in their party lines by small payments of "cash" or "stuff," and by small positions, such as inspectors, ward foremen, etc. It is their duty to keep the voters in line by controlling their precinct clubs, by selecting the proper persons for delegates in their primary districts and to take up the cry for a candidate "who has been decided upon by circle number one" and quietly pushed to the front by "circle number two." The information gets abroad in the ward that Mr. So and So is a candidate for a certain office, the ward-healer takes up the cry and shortly the information appears in the partisan press that Mr. So and So is being put forward in his district by his "friends." In a district where everything goes Democratic it is only necessary to get the right man on the Democratic ticket, and in a district where the voter swallows the Republican ticket, yellow dogs and all, it only needs the right kind of a dyed-in-the-wool Republican. In the district that is close, or where the independent voter resides, it needs two of the faithful, one of whom generally knows before election that he is only put up to be defeated, as the "machine" is to quietly knife him, but he will be taken care of after election in some appointive office.

At intervals, reform organizations spring into existence, either brought to the surface by the "machine" to cover up some "dirty work," or by good, honest men who have the question of good government at heart but who lack experience. When the reform is started by the latter class, the machine immediately takes steps to capture it. This is done by members of the "gang" getting into the movement in sufficient numbers to control its action. A "leader" is selected who can "yell" reform in a loud voice and who makes himself conspicuous at all meetings, and it is not long before he is up in the front rank on the platform, and chairman or president of the organization. The presiding officer having the appointing of committees, it is not long before the movement is diverted from its original purpose and becomes powerless. Great patriotic movements have thus been side-tracked in their efforts. If some of the members become suspicious that all is not right, the president may go so far as to call upon some of the "machine leaders" and have them remove an obnoxious aspirant for office in order to quiet the restless members and put them to sleep. The great A. P. A. movement has come in some parts of the country under the control of the "Roman machine," and is being used to assist "petty politicians" and ward-healers into office. The rank and file, as a rule, are honest and true patriots, but when the president of an A. P. A. council is seen coming forth from the parish residence of a Roman Catholic priest at the bewitching hour of midnight, it is time to ask, "Where are we at?" While the people of to-day are such partisans, the only genuine reform can come through the capture of the machine by honest and conscientious men. This can only be done by getting control of the very smallest of the cogs of the machine, the precinct club. This is a club which under ordinary circumstances meets about once a year for the election of officers. The presidents of the precinct clubs constitute the executive committee of the ward club and can dictate its president and the city central committeeman, and so on along the line. If they attend the meetings of the ward club they can inform themselves of the dates of the caucuses in their primary district and can thus control the delegates who are selected before the primaries. If the honest voters ever expect to have any lasting reform or break the power that is at present ruling our cities, our states and our nation, they must not overlook the little precinct club, and put none but "Americans on guard," remembering that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." AJAX.

SOME WISE SUGGESTIONS.

Since the passage in the national congress of the amendment prohibiting the appropriation of money for sectarian schools, Congressman W. S. Linton has been thanked individually and collectively for his patriotic action in securing the amendment. A member of a Chicago council of the A. P. A. wrote him a personal letter, to which he received a courteous reply, as follows:

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 19, 1896.—My Dear Sir: In reply to your esteemed favor of late date, will say that I appreciate and thank your council for the kind action taken. The victory is not yet complete, however, unless we win in the senate, by having the house amendment "Prohibiting the use of money for sectarian schools" retained in the Indian Appropriation Bill. I would therefore suggest that the members of your order can do the cause a great deal of good by not only writing to the member of congress who represents your district, commending the action of the house upon its good work in adopting the amendment, and striking out sectarian appropriations, but at the same time, do not fail to have them write the senators from your state, and also adopt and forward resolutions from your council, requesting them by all means to see that the house provision above referred to remains in the bill. The senate will soon be called upon to act in the matter, and members of that body should know, if they do not know, that the American people are aroused upon this question. Thanking you for your kind letter, and with best wishes, I remain sincerely yours, W. S. LINTON.

THE POLITICAL DECOY.

The American Patriot, of San Francisco, does not miss the mark when it says: Though not necessary, it may be apposite to allude to the character and use of the decoy-duck. The special functions of this peculiar bird are familiar to the sportsmen of this coast. The very first thought relating to this specimen is fraudulent. In deception was it conceived and constructed, and to deceive is the prime motive of its proxy character. It is built on lines so closely resembling the feathered tribe which it counterfeits, as to completely conceal its identity, and pass as a genuine member. As a result, when it is found floating around in the haunts of

the real bird, no suspicion whatever is entertained of its true personality or the business it is commissioned to execute. Its habits, its pursuits and its appearance are not distinguished by its victims as different from their own. To all intents and purposes it is a wild duck, and so the genuine birds are misled to consort and fraternize with it whenever it seeks association with them. Its peculiar characteristics do not awaken the distrust of its live comrades. It never quacks, or flies, or dips its head. It is never observed to eat or drink. Rather is it taciturn and impassable. But these peculiarities are unnoticed by its unsuspecting associates, who flock around it with apparent unconcern, never dreaming that one in their midst is there for the purpose of baiting them into a trap whereby they may be captured by the owner of their wooden representative. Yes, the decoy-duck is a very peculiar creation, set to decoy and mislead; and we be to those whom it victimizes, for not only their liberty, but their life often, pays the penalty of their ignorance and indiscretion.

Without enlarging further on this illustration, or pushing the parallel closer, we will transfer it quite naturally to a consideration of the decoy in politics. There are many attributes of the two in common. The political decoy is designed for very much the same purpose as his prototype. His first business is to deceive, allure and capture. He is far superior in the comparison to the sportsman's decoy, in that he is anything but inanimate or a wooden article. A very lively, active and vigilant fellow is this political decoy. He does not congregate on him. He is a hireling, however, and does the work of the man or party that owns him for pay, and for pay only. His harvest is ballots. He is all things to all men and all parties to win votes. It would be pure childishness to suppose that the political decoy is not at this very writing busily plying his trade within the ranks of the A. P. A. It would be a moral and physical impossibility to exclude him. He is with us under orders from the old parties and in their pay. Our order is the great hunting ground, the political "preserves" of this decoy for the campaign of 1896, and we are his would-be victims. His ordinary conversation is very much the same as the genuine A. P. A., and although hard to detect, if he is intelligently sized up he may be discovered. He is not confined to any one stratum of the order. He is in the rank and file and on the official roll, an omnipresent evil. Whenever a man is found seeking to disarm and dissipate prejudice against either of the old parties, by sophistry, by discriminating praise of past records, by copious promises and pledges in behalf of old-party candidates for office, then beware of the decoy. Whenever affiliation of the A. P. A. vote with either of the old machines, by stealthy combinations and bargains, is sought for, beware of the decoy. Whenever the names of party men are presented for our suffrages who are not unequivocally above all suspicion and reproach as American citizens, and whose words and acts have not been consistent with the principles we espouse, beware of the decoy. Whenever we are told that the Republican party cannot succeed without the A. P. A. vote, and that we can have what we want of that party, beware of the decoy. Whenever a proposition of a political character comes before the membership of the order for their consideration and acceptance that is not perfectly clear and straightforward on its face, without the shadow of some trick or design concealed in it, beware of the decoy. The honest A. P. A. must have his eyes and ears open to every visible and audible indication, or the decoy will get away with his vote.

What the guardian at Washington of our principles suggests to a local council will apply to all councils. Let each council throughout the union immediately make known their desires to their senatorial and congressional representatives, and urge them to adopt the amendment. WHEN the Romanists thought they had a chance to embroil this country in war with England, they offered the government 100,000 armed and drilled men to sustain it in its position on the Monroe doctrine. Now Cuba is imploiring aid from America, asking an enforcement of the same doctrine. Do we read any burning editorials in behalf of the Cubans? Where are those 100,000 Roman Irish? Don't they care to have the Monroe doctrine maintained except as against Protestant countries? Can Roman Catholic countries abridge that doctrine without offending the spirit of Americanism? We think the animus of the cry in behalf of an enforcement of the Monroe doctrine in the Venezuela controversy is easily detected when viewed by the light afforded by the silence maintained by those same 100,000 Irish Romanists, when a province or a dependency of a Roman Catholic country is pleading for help. It shows that Romanists are sworn to break down Protestantism. How could they break it down more surely and effectually than by having Protestant countries engage in war? THE POLITICAL LANCE. An effort will be made by the Ninth ward delegation to the congressional district convention to send John C. Cowin to the national convention. It will take considerable explaining to make some people believe that Mr. Cowin is entitled to be thus honored by the Republicans of this district for any political service he may have performed. The "four Johns" were the attraction at Boyd's opera house last Tuesday evening. No doubt some people in the audience were amused at the manner in which one of them flaunted the flag and spoke of the little red school house. C. L. Chaffee, Dr. W. O. Rogers, W. G. Whitmore and our old farmer friend, James Walsh, are candidates for delegate to the National Republican convention. Hon. W. J. Bryan, of Nebraska, delivered his time-honored free silver speech in Kansas City a few days ago. There is a suspicion among his populist admirers that he is quietly working up a presidential boomlet for himself among the free-silverites of the Democratic party, in the hope of securing an endorsement from the Populist convention at St. Louis next July, but it is hardly probable that the latter party will refuse to honor such honest advocates of their principles as the Hon. Paul Van Dervoort, William H. Allen or Governor Waite. It has been quietly hinted that Texas and Oregon Populists intend sending solid delegations for the first named gentleman. The Republicans of the Fourth ward at Washington Hall gave Senator Thurston a splendid reception last Monday evening. Mr. Thurston spoke briefly and to the point upon some of the quest ones as to how he stood upon the make-up of the Nebraska delegation. From there he went to Twenty-fourth and Cuming streets, where the Eighth Ward Republican Club was in session, and met with a similar reception. The Senator can well feel proud of the manner in which he was received. Our friend John B. Smiley is a candidate for mayor of South Omaha. Should he be fortunate enough to be nominated and elected, that city will have a live, business-like executive. Paul McAuley is building a political fence around the police judge's office in South Omaha. He expects to get it finished before May 1st—in time to take possession of the enclosure. From present indications, the friends of McKinley have "gobbled" the entire Douglas county delegation in his interest. We do not believe Douglas county will have any trouble in making a settlement with Albyn Frank, as the books are being kept in better shape and more systematically than ever before. That was an interesting session of the Central Labor Union last Wednesday night. The investigating committee evidently was satisfied as to the reliability of the evidence upon which the report was based. The Central Labor Union cannot afford to allow itself to be controlled by self-confessed bootleggers, who prostitute their positions for personal gain, and it did perfectly right when it accepted the committee's report. But it should go further, and recommend to all the loyal unions that they expect every man who dares accept money from politicians for acting as decoys and for influencing the members. The laborer can never obtain relief unless he acts independently and votes for the most honest man regardless of his party affiliations. The letter presented by Mr. Boyer at the Central Labor Union the other night was an interesting document after all. Mr. Rosewater's campaign methods at the last election have the appearance of "hoodlumism," and sim-

ply confirms the oft-made assertion that money was used in every conceivable way to thwart the will of the people.

The "Catholic Leader." This, I believe, is the only Roman Catholic paper published in Nebraska. The editor is a reverend of that church, and therefore must be endorsed by the said church. If I were to give my opinion I would say the editor of this sheet must be losing money, but if he can throw mud at the Protestants for a while, he will be given a church where he will receive a larger income, and therefore it will be money in his pocket. If his creditors know how the Omaha Roman Catholic paper went, they will be careful that this editor does not become very heavily in debt. Let us see what the reverend gentleman prints about Mr. Linton of Michigan. This gentleman was not in favor of giving public money to a sectarian institution—The Roman Catholic church—when all the other denominations had withdrawn because of an unjust division of the money between the denominations. On the other hand, the Catholic Leader of Orleans, Neb., wants the public money to be given to its church, while the other denominations do not receive a cent. It says of Mr. Linton, "narrow minded fanatical viper," "rabid fanatic;" Morgan and other "bigots dare not strike except from behind the screen."

It seems to me that it is strange that men who respect the United States and those who are trying to allow all churches to have the same benefits and who are trying to keep this land out of the hands of a foreign despot would advertise in such an un-American sheet. If I wished to be disloyal to my country, a traitor to everything she holds dear, I would patronize just such sect papers as this. It says of the government schools among the Indians, that they are "sinks of immorality for their young." I wish to ask one question, "Why is it that the priests of the Roman Catholic church—this editor is one—will not allow the convents to be opened for inspection?" It is generally believed, because of the reports of those who have been on the inside, that they are exactly what he prints of the government schools. Mr. Linton may be the next president and we know the reverend gentlemen of the Roman Catholic church, in all parts of the United States will fill their papers with exactly the same language as used in the Holy (?) Catholic Leader, and for this reason, I think he would "make a good run."

ORLEANS.

How Is This? The following are some of the names appearing on the list of delegation to the Democratic city convention. Study them and try to figure where an American would come in for representation, says The Kansas City American: First ward—P. Kennally, William J. Shea, Thomas Carty, John Kelly, Sr. Second ward—John O'Grady, John Conlon, J. B. McGowan, M. Moran. Third ward—John C. Mahoney, John Coffey, James Flanigan, E. F. Brady, John Keating, John Grady, E. S. Foley. Fourth ward—J. J. Reilly, Peter Gulnan, James Collins, H. J. McGowan, Frank J. O'Flaherty, James Burke, Bernard Corrigan. Fifth ward—J. E. Fitzpatrick, Tim Ryan, John Scanlon. Sixth ward—Matt Kenlon, Peter Leary, John J. O'Connor, Charles Creehan, William Foley, James Gleeson, H. C. Brady. Seventh ward—W. C. Scarritt, J. A. Callahan, William Bailey, James Patrick, John J. Burke, William Sullivan, John Larmon. Eighth ward—Con Murphy, C. E. Corcoran, John Lanagan. Ninth ward—John Leahy, S. O. Flanigan, M. S. Shinnick, Andrew Scanlon, William J. Carroll, M. McGrath, Thomas Gleason, Ed Burke, Charles Mallon, Jerome Donnelly, James Keenan, John Gilday. Tenth ward—Thomas W. Brady, J. C. Bronaugh, John Sullivan, James McKinsey, Larry J. Burns, John Leceiski, Frank Kelly, W. E. Hogan.

A Good Suggestion.

EDITOR AMERICAN: The American flag floats over thousands of our school houses. The scholars formally salute the flag in occasional patriotic exercises. The love for this symbol of nationality is deepening yearly. It would be well were the flag displayed in our homes, teaching the children that under its folds there is protection and peace by virtue of the national power. In place of less worthy devices on walls now bare and inexpressive let the American flag be unfolded and reverently cherished. SUBSCRIBER.

The Central Republican Club held its regular weekly meeting Thursday night. There were a number of new members present and fifteen applications for membership were acted upon favorably. The program for the next meeting includes a debate upon a phase of Romanism that will interest every American citizen. Next Thursday night is the regular night of meeting.

1302 Farnam Street is the Union Pacific City Ticket Office.