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TAKE THEM FROM THE PRIESTS.

It is none too early to begin asking yourself "what laws do we want enacted by the next legislature?" Probably the first thing that will pop into your head will be, "a law taxing unimproved church property, or property held by church organizations for speculative purposes." This would be a good law. It is one that must be enacted sooner or later, and the sooner it is placed on the statute books, the sooner will the power of the Romish church in our affairs of state be reduced to the minimum. But there is one other law which must be enacted. It is a rigid compulsory educational law. One that will make it obligatory upon parents and guardians to send their children and their wards to public schools for a certain number of years. The years they should be sent to the public school should be between the age of five and fourteen. After that age the parent or guardian should be allowed to send children under their charge to any school they may prefer.

Some may say this would deprive the parents of a God-given privilege—which the Roman sheets usually assure us parents have—a part of their natural right to do with their children as they seem to think most fitting, and that, for that reason it would be unconstitutional. We do not claim to be a constitutional lawyer—or any other kind for that matter—yet we believe those who would raise that point, are not any better posted on constitutional law than they are on the theology of the Roman church.

Now, what is law? Is it not an established usage or custom? Is it not the written will of a people through their representatives? That is so, and we elect a Legislature. If it passes a law in direct conformity with the constitution of the United States, will it not be lawful? Who will presume to say the state has not the right to regulate how, when, and where her future citizens shall be educated. The government has the right to protect itself. It can only do so by interesting itself in the formation of the character of those who in the years to come, will be its rulers. No child that acquires a thorough Roman education will be a proper person in whose hands to trust the interests of this great nation. A Roman parochial school education tends to make its recipient "better Roman Catholics, but worse American citizens." This is the testimony of their own bishops, of the editors of their own papers, then why should we not accept it as true, and make it obligatory upon parents to educate their children in the public schools, and give them the "polish" in whatever school they may deem best adapted to the needs of the children.

The one thing to be guarded against is the influence of the priest. Take the child out of his hands between the age of five and fourteen, and send him to the public schools, and when he leaves he will be proud to boast of the fact that he is an American citizen

first—probably a Roman Catholic afterwards.

No one knows what the result of such a law would be, better than the priest, for that reason they would oppose bitterly any and every man whom the Protestants would nominate on such a platform. They would begin by showing, in their Jesuitical way, that the fight was not in favor of a public school education, but against Roman parochial schools. They would raise their old, threadbare cry of "dragging religion into politics," their senseless charge that it was a know-nothing movement, engaged in by white caps, backed by such "disreputable people" as ministers, doctors, lawyers, mechanics and merchants who had "been born to be damned" (M. V. Gannon) long before the reigning pontiff—the prisoner in the vatican—became infallible. Yet what will all this result in? Simply in consolidating the Protestant vote and making it more apparent, if possible, that the Roman church is the greatest enemy our form of government has ever known, and causing Protestants to regard with suspicion every act of the Roman hierarchy.

And well may they begin to regard its acts in that light, for have they not boasted that they would control America before 1900? Do they not now—even today—claim this as their country? Do they not claim all the murders—when they could claim all the murderers with better grace? Do they not regard you as a resident and a citizen only through their kindness? Do they not teach false history in their schools—lauding John Hughes and but barely mentioning the martyr Lincoln, extolling the trickster Loyola and almost ignoring the illustrious Grant? We say they do. It is easy to prove. For that reason we favor a strict compulsory educational law which will contain the words: "All children residing within this state after the passage of this act shall attend the public schools continuously between the ages of five and fourteen years."

The Working Women's union will meet every Thursday evening at 123 North Fifteenth street, corner Capitol avenue, Jacob's block. The aims and objects of this organization are to form a protective union for as many of the thousands of working women in Omaha as feel the need or see the benefit of such an organization. Clerks, factory employes, domestic servants, and all women who earn their daily bread are eligible to membership and are cordially invited to attend these meetings.

MRS. F. E. DOWNS,
Mrs. A. E. HOUGH, President.
Secretary.

Mr. B. P. Knowlton has been doing some painting for us the last few days, and we can heartily recommend him to all our friends as a good workman. He can paint the inside of your house without soiling your carpets, if you do not care to take them up. His office is located at 409 Sheely block. Give him a trial.

THE constitution of the United States should have a place among the text books of our public schools. So should the Declaration of Independence.

SOME STATISTICS.

M. V. Gannon (late attorney for Murphy the slugger, before Lee Helsley, the police judge who "made a mistake") candidate for district clerk, at the Grand Opera house made the assertion that every republic except black Liberia had been founded and settled by Catholics." This is true in one respect only—for it was owing to Roman Catholic intolerance, oppression and persecution that the Puritans left Britain and the Huguenots left France to seek religious liberty in the new world. But when he went on to speak of Irish Catholic patriotism and loyalty in the late war the palpable falsehood of his statements becomes rank and disgusting, in view of the official figures as given by the New York Sun and the Inter-Ocean of Chicago. The total enlistment during the war period, 1861-1865, was:

Native Americans.....	1,523,000 or 75.48 per cent.
Irish.....	144,200 or 7.14 "
British Americans.....	51,500 or 2.60 "
German.....	177,000 or 8.76 "
English.....	45,500 or 2.29 "
All others.....	74,800 or 3.76 "
Total.....	2,018,000
DESERTIONS.	
White troops, regulars.....	16,365
" volunteers.....	170,216
Colored.....	12,464
Total.....	199,045
Irish.....	72 per cent.
American.....	5 "
German.....	36 per cent.
All others.....	7 "

In connection with this, note the fact that the pope, by open letter, December 3, 1863, recognized Jeff Davis and the confederacy and deprecated war—and it is safe to conclude that the 72 per cent. of all the deserters were Catholic. For 72 per cent. of the total desertions are 143,312, and as the total Irish enlistment was 144,200, we have but 888 good or loyal Irish in that entire number, a proportion of one out of every 162. Now, reflect that the class who furnished 72 per cent. or nearly three-fourths of all the deserters, are holding not less than three-fourths of all the official positions in this country, and you have the answer to the oft-heard question, "What is the object and the mission of the A. P. A?" Think of it! One loyal Irishman out of every 162! All honor to that one loyal man; but think of 161 traitors in official positions over each such loyal Irishman.

THE METHODIST HOSPITAL.

There is located in Omaha a new hospital, at 419 South Twentieth street, under the management of the Methodist church. Provision is made for prompt and skillful treatment of patients by educated surgeons, physicians and specialists. Trained nurses devote their time to caring for the sick or wounded who may seek relief in its wards. Applicants who are able to pay are charged a fee. Those who are without money are treated and nursed gratuitously; and no questions are asked regarding their faith or church relations.

Any person in health may become a member of the Hospital association, for a year, by the payment of \$10 into its treasury; and such active member shall be entitled to free admission, in the event of sickness, including bed, board, nursing and doctors' care.

In the opinion of the management

the time has come when a well-appointed Protestant hospital would be patronized in this city. Henceforward every maimed or sick person, who is without a home, may find a place where he will be cared for and receive the sympathy, attention and prayers of conscientious nurses. Good beds and palatable food are furnished, and every want of a patient is anticipated.

Hitherto St. Joseph's (Catholic) hospital had to be depended upon in an emergency. Since the projection of the new institution, patients at least have the opportunity of making a choice. And some having already used the privilege of preference, now express their gratitude without hesitancy that there is an organized Protestant hospital accessible.

The public has been liberal in its gifts to this new charity, for which the ladies who have done a large share of the soliciting are thankful. There is no such intention as to confine the benevolence of this hospital to the city of Omaha. Its patronizing territory embraces the states of Nebraska and Iowa, and its doors are open to any patron living inside these boundaries; and donations, bequests, or any grade of gratuities, will be most acceptable from either state.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mr. A. H. Mertz, editor of the People's Union Mission, of Davenport, Iowa, one of the best American papers published in the west, has been in Omaha for more than a week looking after the interests of his paper. Our people have been, as they usually are, quite liberal, and quite a number of Friend Mertz' papers will go into Omaha homes hereafter.

Mr. Randall and several other Beatrice gentlemen paid Omaha a visit Tuesday.

Mr. J. N. Kilian, of Columbus, was in Omaha Tuesday on his way to Blair.

Messrs. Robinson, Roys, McLaughlin and E. P. Brewster, of Grand Island, were pleasant callers at THE AMERICAN office Tuesday.

J. S. Hatfield, of Columbus, visited THE AMERICAN office Wednesday.

Bayard Fuller, of Columbus, was in Omaha Tuesday accompanied by Messrs. McAllister and Hake.

Messrs. Gould, Thomas, Dexter and other Ashland citizens, were in Omaha the first of the week.

ARE YOU IN THIS?

THE AMERICAN believes in bestowing upon deserving mortals some little token of appreciation for loyal and patriotic services. To this end we have concluded to raise a fund to purchase an appropriate present for Miss Emma Connor, of Crawfordsville, Ind., who courageously placed and kept in position the stars and stripes at the school house in which she taught, after they had been torn down and trampled in the dust by three disloyal Indiana citizens. In order that others may be led to emulate her example we will give her a beautiful gold emblem, on which will be engraved a "little red school house," above which will fly a miniature flag. All those who desire to aid in purchasing this beautiful and appropriate gift, are requested to send in whatever amount they feel able to contribute. Let us honor a woman who will protect our flag. How much will you give? Credit given in this column:

The American..... \$5.00.

Through Pullman Palace Sleepers between Denver and New Orleans via the Union Pacific only.