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suits have been accomplished through- out the length and breadth of the United States within the past, in the form of purging our grand public schools of Romish influences and domination. It has been with deep satisfaction I have learned that in several states the law requires the raising of the glorious emblem of liberty over the public school houses during school hours. All credit to those who were instrumental in bringing about this result, say I, a prayer which will find an echo in the heart of every true American; yet over one-half of the schools of the United States at the present moment the pope of Rome holds sway, in one form or another. In California an attempt was recently made to have Myers' history taken out of the public schools, because it dares to speak unpleasant truths concerning Romanism, a compromise being effected accomplishing almost the same result; while in a large number of other and far western states, no text book is admitted to the public school until it has undergone the censorship of the local Romish authorities. It may be information to some of my hearers to learn that in nearly every state the text books of history have been mutilated, and all of those portions eliminated which tell an unfavorable story of Romanism. These eliminated passages must be restored, these suppressed facts of history reinstated, in order that our children may know the truth—the whole ungarbled truth—concerning the events of history in general and of Romish history in particular. The keeping alive of the spirit of sectarian hatred or religious bigotry is farthest from my mind, but our children must be informed, that they fall not into the apathy into which the nation seems at present inextricably plunged.

While our own beloved public school thrives like a green bay tree, to nurture patriotism and make the next generation a race of American heroes, as were their great ancestors, I bid you bear in mind that side by side with it flourishes an institution founded on treason, rooted in bigotry, and watered with the alime of retrogression; where traitors are hatched beneath our eyes, by treasonous priests and fanatical women. I mean the papal parochial school, and I believe there is not a patriot upon this floor but what will echo my words. The schools of Rome must go, for they are hatcheries of treason and all unlafulness. I also advocate the issuance of all public school text books direct from a national board of education. I would insist, too, that so long as parochial schools exist, no person who has been educated in them should be permitted to teach in a public school. We cannot afford to permit this matter to remain in its present condition; concerted action must be taken upon it at once by this body, that the order throughout the country may act in harmony to a common end.

The nation's money is still poured out in many millions for the support of sectarian institutions, in spite of the many, but disunited efforts of the various branches of this order to prevent the drain upon the public treasury of an almost bankrupt nation and a starving population. Here again united effort is necessary that all may work to a common end.

In opposition to the true spirit of the American constitution, there exist throughout the country numberless sectarian penal and so-called reformatory institutions, known as houses of Good Shepherds, refuges, etc., where nuns are the officers, priests the overseers, and American women and children the prisoners, in a captivity illegally authorized by the state, and subsidized, in the greater number of cases, by the state. Here the penal labor of the poor, incarcerated wretches is brought into competition with free labor at immense profits to the Romish church, for while for each prisoner the church gains a convert; she reaps a large pecuniary profit from the labor of her unpaid captives. These institutions should be instantly suppressed, and cooperative measures adopted by this body that the suppression may be made general throughout the country.

The ballot, too, once the proud boast of the freeman, has fallen into disrepute through the nefarious methods of unscrupulous politicians and corporations, and the brutalized, unwashed, uneducated hands which too long have wielded it in common with loyal and educated men. The American ballot must be rescued from the grasp of such demoralizing and destructive agencies. We need, it seems to me, an equal franchise, and equal rights to every American citizen above the age of twenty-one years, who can read and write the English language, and understand the fundamental principles of American citizenship, and I would also insist that a residence of at least ten years in the United States be made a primary condition of naturalization hereafter. Although I would not discriminate those whose educational qualifications enable them to intelligently wield the ballot, I would not scruple at any risk to deprive all others of the precious privilege, for it is to the two or three millions of illiterate voters to whom the value of the franchise is represented in a glass of beer or a drink

of whisky, that we owe, in a large measure, the multitudinous evils that have fallen upon us, and the prostitution of national politics. You are too well instructed, my friends, to ask of me an object lesson upon this subject; should you ask it, I refer you to the delegates from New York, Chicago, St. Louis, San Francisco, and the other large cities of the United States, wherein foreignism, corruption and illiteracy have almost completely eclipsed the sun of liberty. I am confident that you will not leave this convention until you have taken ample steps to bring about the desired reformation.

Before leaving this subject of the franchise, I beg of you to consider the matter of woman's suffrage. It seems monstrous that while the illiterate, dangerous Pole; the anarchistic Hun, and the gutter-damian of Sicily and Southern Italy wield the franchise upon an equality with an American citizen, your gentle, cultured mother, your educated and American sister, daughter and wife are denied the freeman's privilege. Give the women the franchise; it will purify politics and strengthen our hands.

We come now to that infamous feature of public taxation, which exempts from assessment the property of all ecclesiastical institutions. Under this exemption, nearly three billion of dollars worth of real and personal property belonging to ecclesiastical corporations, are every year exempted from taxation. By far the greater portion of this amount is held by the Roman Catholic church in—but not of—the United States, in trust for the pope of Rome. Of this, again, not more than ten per cent. is actually invested in the churches themselves, but are as much business investments as those of any commercial corporation. Under the guise of hospitals, retreats, houses of the Good Shepherd, industrial institutions, etc., a thriving business is done under the head of charitable institutions, from which a handsome revenue is derived. Such, for instance, is the Dearborn retreat, adjacent to Detroit, valued at half a million dollars, where wealthy inebriates pay princely sums for treatment, and where only two per cent of the inmates are paupers or patients dependent upon charity, and these labor for their living. A mile distant is the Wayne county house and insane asylum, to which patients from the retreat are shipped as soon as their funds are exhausted.

In Colorado and many of the far western states, the priests have become even yet bolder, and farm out hundreds of thousands of acres of land which are classed as church property, and upon which no taxes are paid.

For all of this the people are taxed, in the midst of poverty and hard times almost beyond endurance.

I am well aware that there are many who propose to exempt religious edifices of minor value, in order that the churches and denominations may not suffer, but whatever may be my private feelings in this matter, I recognize above all things a non-sectarian country, and that it is as unconstitutional to exempt a dollar's worth of ecclesiastical property, as would be a government donation of a million dollars to any sectarian institution. Compel the great religious corporations to pay their just tribute to the state, and the smaller ones will thrive all the more by the increased ability of their members to contribute a larger amount yearly from their tax savings.

I advocate, therefore, the taxation of all property—public property exempted—and recommend that this order throughout the United States do secure the proper legislation to attain this end, and be assisted and advised thereto by this body, that the movement may be made general and unanimous.

I also recommend the introduction of a bill in each state legislature, which shall place upon the same basis as private hospitals, insane asylums, and other private or semi-public institutions, all convents, nunneries, refuges, houses of Good Shepherd, monasteries, etc., which are controlled by any private corporation, or person, to public inspection at any reasonable hour of the day, upon application. I would include in this every institution where men or women, or both, are confined, with or against their consent.

The hoisting of the American flag beneath any other emblem or alien flag, or of any flag save that of our glorious union over any public building or school house, I would construe into treason to the state, and would suggest a federal measure, making it compulsory upon all principals of all public schools, under penalty of a heavy fine, to place the stars and stripes over every public school during certain hours of the day.

I should be lacking in the duty which I owe to this body and to my country were I to close this address without more than passing allusions—and great as may be the provocation to shirk the discussion of the subject upon which so many disagree—I should feel myself unworthy of your confidence if I were to neglect to place before you what ten months of continual travel has taught me, that the labor troubles and the money question of this country must be adjusted before we can hope for

national prosperity or lasting reformation.

I find throughout the land a general desire for a more satisfactory money basis than we possess at present, and a demand that the nation shall do its own banking and shall issue its currency direct, independent of the present system of national banks; a people's money, in short, which would develop the great resources of our own country, and thus prevent the European king-banker, the Rothschilds, and other money-dealing corporations, the interest gatherers for the pope's millions, from cornering the money of this country, paralyzing our business, and bringing us to the verge of ruin.

Another and pressing demand which neither the people of the nation nor we as an organization, can dare to ignore, is the pressing necessity of supplying with immediate employment the millions of unemployed and starving men in our midst. When a large army of such is knocking at the doors of the very capitol of the nation, there must be some other arguments than lead and steel brought to bear upon the subject if we would avert impending revolution.

While many of us condemn the methods taken by certain reform bodies to secure relief, we cannot but admit that the demands themselves command respectful attention. I believe that the many millions now devoted to the building of ironclads for which a nation such as ours has no practical use, and the erection in many places of what have proven to be useless breakwaters, etc., might much more judiciously be employed in opening up the inland resources of the nation, and thus not only giving to honest labor the means of existence, but by proper methods of irrigation and good roads, open up hitherto undeveloped and impracticable territory for the support of the toilers and millions of idlers. I allude especially to the navy, for the reason that it is an arm of the public service which Rome most particularly fosters in order that she may accomplish the double purpose of diverting it to her own ends, while providing for her own subjects remunerative employment. I would also point out in passing that the militia is largely in her hands, as witness the attempted court martialing in New York of several members of a regiment of the National Guard of that city for refusing to parade to a Roman Catholic cathedral upon St. Patrick's day last. This is no exception to the rule, I assure you. Confession boxes and Roman Catholic chaplains are now a part of the inquisitorial institution of Rome which has been grafted upon our army and navy, where loyal soldiers and sailors of the republic are transformed into subjects of an Italian priest.

Another matter which should now receive our greatest attention is the question of partisanship, which in some sections of the country will persist in forcing itself within the council chamber. Members of this organization cannot too early learn that before all things comes the republic, and before party the demands of the organization. Presiding officers cannot too decisively sit down upon all debates of a party nature, nor too completely squelch the ambitious office seeker, who holds up so ubiquitously about election time. Let the office seek the man. Good men are plentiful, especially in this order, and loyal men are quick to discover them. I am pleased to observe in many parts of the country that partisan lines have entirely faded away, and if you ask to what party a member of the organization belongs, you are immediately answered, "the American party."

Let it be remembered, also, that as loyal men as ever trod the earth are to be found in the south—men who are pleased to identify themselves with us for the principles which we advocate. There must be no jar—no discord. Let us as severely censure the waving of the bloody shirt as we decry the advocating of partisan politics. It is only a wily scheme for catching votes by northern politicians, who, for the great part, smelled powder, when they smelled it at all, from a safe distance from the scene of action. Even as carpet-bagger politician was the bugaboo used by a like class of southern politicians to serve their own selfish ends. We must welcome our southern brethren to our hearts as friends of truest worth and the A. P. A. is a link never to be sundered which shall re-unite the north and south under one grand banner against a common enemy of both. Our southern friends are chivalrous and brave. Let nothing be printed or said which can give them just cause for offense. The past is gone—the hatchet is buried—the bloody shirt, once the delight of ring politicians, should be torn into fragments and scattered to the winds, leaving behind only a memory and a warning for the future.

Since we last met many changes have occurred, many societies and so-called patriotic organizations have been ushered into existence. Some of these, I am well informed, have been organized by our enemies, and are composed chiefly of the soreheads of this organization, disappointed politicians and political tricksters, who too late discovered that if they could not use this body for the gratification of their own personal ambition, or a ladder upon which to climb into office and emolu-

ment. We are well rid of them—but let us be careful lest they entice our loyal people into their snare, to the end that they may create discussion and division in our ranks. If these organizations be let severely alone, they will all die natural deaths, and are not to be feared.

I am pleased to note the multiplication of Roman Catholic political clubs with high-sounding patriotic titles. They must be very well satisfied with the results of their efforts by this time, for every time they have run up against the A. P. A. they have met with nothing but disaster, and have not, so far as I have been able to learn, developed any capacity for evil more than an insatiable propensity for bad whisky and worse beer. They are less to be feared, therefore, than their less outspoken associates referred to.

There is a movement on foot having for its object the amalgamation of the various patriotic organizations of the United States, concerning which your chosen representative in this matter, Col. E. H. Sellers, will more fully inform you.

A much-needed reform, which I think we would do well to urge, is the entire suppression of convict labor in the trades and manufactures, and the bringing of the convict-produced article into competition with that produced by honest labor. Let convicts be employed in chain gangs to improve state and county roads, and dig ditches and irrigating canals; in other words, I would have them perform the lowest and most degrading forms of necessary labor, in order that honest men may be enabled to produce those articles which are now manufactured in penal institutions.

It must long have become apparent to the thinking and more progressive members of the order that the association has long since outgrown its primitive necessities, and that while the basic principles remain unchanged, some improvements and changes are needed, both in the constitution and ritual, all of which your committee on same has under consideration and will doubtless present to you during this session.

Careful observation and frequent contact with the various branches of the association throughout the country have convinced me of the great necessity which is most pressing and urgent, and for lack of which the growth and welfare of the organization has been much retarded. I allude to a reliable source of news, independent of the daily press, which, being as you are well aware, almost entirely in the hands of the enemy, suppress and garble the news in the interest of the Roman hierarchy and time-serving politicians.

I strongly urge upon this body, as a remedy, the establishing of an organ of our own—an organ which shall not be in the nature of an individual enterprise, but belonging exclusively to this body, established at Washington, with sub-offices in all the principal cities, in order that the members of the organization and the public in general shall be correctly informed week by week of the movements of their representatives at Washington. With such a sentinel, under the supervision of the supreme executive board, or other board appointed by this body to report in detail, irrespective of party or creed the acts of the people's representatives, the Romish lobby would be broken and scattered ere long, for statesmen and legislators alike would not dare to conspire with the enemies of their country with the gaze of the entire American Protective Association focused upon them. Our loyal members in congress would be strengthened and supported in the knowledge that their deserving acts would be presented to the people in an ungarbled condition, and the unrighteous plots of their enemies exposed.

What would practically be a source

of mutual assistance, would be an educational bureau, from whence could be circulated standard patriotic literature to the state of Michigan with unqualified success.

Again! Each state should be organized under a state committee and divided into senatorial and congressional districts, the duty devolving upon said committee of providing for at least one council in each district, and the proper organization of the voters thereof. I have found that the county advisory board works very well, and harmoniously for the greater part, and I see no reason why the state boards should not act as effectively.

That the order may act the more harmoniously together throughout the country, I believe it to be to the best interest that all state secretaries should be put in touch with each other, and the names and addresses of each interchanged.

I would also advise that a committee be appointed to meet with a committee of the supreme W. A. P. A., in order to arrange a sign of recognition, etc., between those two bodies.

In some sections of the country, I regret to state that I have noticed a disposition to temporize with the enemy—to truckle to the weak knees and the opinions of the press. Such a policy, if pursued, cannot but be disastrous to the order. There is no road but the right road. We are well convinced that our objects are honorable, loyal, and necessary, or we should not be here. Let us pursue our way independently and alone, oblivious of the stabs and stings of uninformed weaklings, many of them members of Protestant corporations.

As for the larger portion of the press, let us ignore it, as we have done heretofore. We have demonstrated beyond all question that it cannot injure us or our cause. Ask the press of Detroit for information upon this point. Five years ago its horns of aggression were of prodigious length but it has drawn them in, piece by piece, under pressure from our councils, until it is as harmless as a muley cow, and as harmless as a worm. One by one the leading papers of the country, once so active to abuse and misrepresent us, are dropping out of sight, or changing their coats. We have not gone upon our knees to them; we have not prayed for their conversion; they are superfluous; we do not need them. If they would be in the procession, let them fall in behind with other weak-knees and place-hunters. Ever since this order was created, as your loyal and noble past president, the founder of the order, well knows, the object of the enemy has been to place us upon the defensive. Every lawyer knows what that means, and understands the disadvantages of such an untenable position. We decline to be placed upon the defensive; we have nothing to defend. Inscribed on our glorious constitution are our principles; they need no modification, no explanation; unscrupulous politicians and the press may accept or reject them, or not, as they choose. The result will not swerve this order one hair's breadth from its course. The same rule applies to parties as to individuals—we lead, let them follow. When measures and men are acceptable to us, we can afford to accept them; but we can never indorse any party as a party, nor pay tribute to its leaders. Let me emphasize this statement.

My friends, in conclusion, let me testify to the unselfish and generous support afforded me during my term of office by the officers of this council. All has been harmony, peace, good will and true friendship, and though the business of the order called me thousands of miles from the supreme office, I was enabled to pursue my way in the pleasing consciousness that the interests of the order were well cared for by my brother officers during my absence. We have much to be thankful for today, and more yet to rejoice over

from unimpeachable authorities, as well as information concerning all conditions for officers of a national character. The system is being carried on in the future, for the great cause never looked so promising, nor has success been so nearly assured as it is at the present moment. This body, the pick of the association in the United States, is met here with but one object in view—the welfare of the order. Upon our deliberations rests the future of our great republic, and no friction must mar the perfect machinery of this council. Differences of opinion must arise, differences as to means must be debated, else we should not be here, but the motive principle must be the same throughout.

When the proper moment arrives I shall surrender to your loyal hands my jewel of office, as untarnished, I trust, as when the glorious emblem was delivered into my keeping, conscious that like all humanity, I may have erred in matters of detail, but well assured that never for an instant have I taken my eyes from the star of my pledge, the Mecca of the American Protective Association.

My Country, my Flag, my Order, have been my watchwords. I have found them all sufficient—may they prove so to you, my friends, is the heartfelt wish of your friend and president, W. J. H. TRAYNOR.

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