

should be some regulation by which the true amount of the disease existing in the country can be obtained, such as compulsory notification. (3) There should be careful and skilled observation of all foodstuffs likely to transmit the disease. (4) There should be efficient disinfection or destruction of all matters likely to convey the disease from one animal to another. (5) There should be legal machinery by which such aids to health as ample air space, prevention of overcrowding, etc., may be brought into operation.'

Dr. Mason (says the report) 'asked medical men to join hands in instilling into the community at large the ease with which the disease could be stopped.' A society was established for the prevention of tuberculosis. We cordially wish it success in its work, and hope that the crusade against tuberculosis will in due time make that disease as rare among our population as Asiatic leprosy, which, during the middle ages, was such a scourge to the nations of middle and southern Europe.

Notes

Miss Catherine E. Conway.

The Boston 'Pilot' has long held a position of special honor in the forefront of Catholic journalism. John Boyle O'Reilly, 'the great ethical poet of America' (as Judge Mellen Chamberlain styled him), gave the paper the literary finish which was the delight of a generation of readers. He sang—in words that aptly apply to himself—'The singer who lived is always alive, we hearken and always hear.' When his spirit flitted, his office and his mantle fell upon James Jeffrey Roche—author, wit, singer of quaint measures, and one of the most accomplished journalists that the America of later years has produced. Among his books are 'Her Majesty the King,' 'The V-a-s-e and Other Bric-a-Brac,' 'Ballads of Blue Water,' 'The Story of the Filibusters,' and a biography of John Boyle O'Reilly. And now James Jeffrey Roche has bid farewell to the 'Pilot' to serve his country as United States Consul at Genoa. His associate editor, Miss Catherine E. Conway, now fills the 'Pilot's' editorial chair. Our pleasantest recollections of Boston are associated with our visits to those two gifted souls who made the 'Pilot' to us a joy forever. Like her two illustrious predecessors, Miss Conway is an author of considerable note. We have more than once editorially recommended her 'Lalor's Maples' and her many other works as an admirable series for school prizes and home reading. We wish her a flowing measure of success in the new and responsible office which has fallen to her lot. For the third time in succession the 'Pilot' has, in the matter of editors, 'struck it rich.'

The Conspiracy of Silence

In our leading columns of last week there occurs the following paragraph:—

'In the meantime M. Guyot de Villeneuve is continuing, in the French Chamber of Deputies, his sensational documentary revelations as to the far-reaching character of the spying and denunciations of officers carried out by the War Office through the instrumentality of the Freemason lodges. And still the secular press of New Zealand is dumb. The Legion of Honor, many leading members of the League of the Rights of Man, the Republican Democratic Alliance, and other non-Catholic associations are preparing or have formulated protests against the infamies of the spy system. But to this moment our secular dailies have not given a whisper, not a breath, about the underground scandals which have shaken France from the Belgian frontier to the Pyrenees.'

We added that the secular press in this country had no word of condemnation for 'the organised underground plotters who have covered themselves with such deep and indelible disgrace in Continental Europe,' and that it 'shuts up its shell in the presence of the colossal Masonic scandal which has thrown the French

Ministry out of power and has shaken the country like an earthquake of national dimensions.'

The editor of our local evening contemporary sends us, in connection with our article, the following courteous reminder: 'The learned editor has surely overlooked the "Star's" article of Jan. 20 last, in which we denounced Combes's policy of spying.' As a matter of fact we read the 'Star' article at the time. We re-read it on receipt of the note just quoted above. Our good friend of the 'Star' has obviously mistaken the whole drift and contention of each and everyone of the three articles written by us upon 'the conspiracy of silence' in regard to the discreditable part played by Freemasons in connection with the scandals of espionage in the French army. The Dunedin 'Evening Star' was almost alone, among New Zealand papers, in denouncing 'this infamous business of spying,' which (it added) the Combes Ministry had raised to 'the dignity of a policy.' But that is not the point raised by us in our articles. It is the mysterious unanimity with which 'almost every secular newspaper in the English-speaking world' concealed from their readers the ignoble part which the dark-lantern fraternity, 'the underground plotters,' played in this scandalous business—'officers and gentlemen' of the Craft selling themselves wholesale as Ministerial spies, a proceeding which (as the 'Star' in effect remarks) is revolting to the sense of any Englishman gifted with a normal sense of decency and honor. But from beginning to end of a lengthy and generally very fair-minded article, the 'Star' was absolutely 'dumb' as to the part played by French Freemasons in those discreditable proceedings. There was 'no whisper, not a breath,' about the 'underground' nature of the scandals; there was no hint as to the 'instrumentality of the Freemason lodges' in the spying and denunciations; not a word was said to indicate that it was a 'Masonic scandal,' or a 'cowardly and traitorous crusade organised by the dark-lantern fraternity against the honor and the efficiency of the country's army.' And thus, up to the present time, our statement as, so far as we are aware, only too true, that no secular paper in New Zealand has given so much as a hint as to the part played in the great French scandals by 'the oath-bound and uniformed League of Freemason spies'; not one of them has published the faintest criticism of the proceedings of the Craft in the army of the Third Republic; and they 'have not among them all so much as a dog-whip to lash the rascals naked through the world.'

More Spying

But the system of organised espionage is not confined to the army and navy of France. 'It is not in the French army alone,' says the 'Ave Maria,' 'that the detestable spying system has been carried to an excess that has disgusted every class of Frenchmen save those immediately concerned in the unsavory work. Monsignor Lacroix, Bishop of Tarentaise, has published a scathing denunciation of similar malodorous methods that obtain in other ministerial departments, and notably in that of Public Worship. In every parish of the country, it appears, there are Government spies, the refuse of social life, whose business it is to pry into the affairs of their pastor, the curate, the Sisters or Brothers, the trustees—all, in fact, who have anything to do with the Church. If the pastor entertains a brother priest or two at dinner, if the trustees buy new vestments, if the Sunday sermon denounces the perennial race of Pharisees, immediately the Mayor, the sub-prefect, the prefect himself, the deputy, the senator, the Minister—everybody must be informed about it. The trifling matter is heralded as a crying abuse: the Government must intervene at once, and the Republic will be endangered if the guilty parties are not forthwith severely punished. Such petty persecution as this is, of course, intolerable. It is no wonder that many French priests await with comparative complacency the dissolution of the Concordat, in virtue of whose tortured provisions the like methods are possible.'