

teen hundred years; and then hear with amazement their Church of to-day contemptuously referred to as the "Italian Mission," in the attempt to label as foreign that which is the most ancient and English thing in England. The zeal and sincerity, the learning and piety of the Anglo-Catholics are not held cheaply by the Catholics of England, whose generous acknowledgment is in sharp contrast to the treatment meted out to the high-churchmen by the extreme Evangelicals in the Established Church. But beyond that, human justice cannot expect the English Catholics to go. There is a past that stretches too far back, a tradition that is too crowded with greatness, an army of martyrs whose blood has been too lavishly poured out in England, for the English Catholics to make as much as a single gesture that would imply the denial of even one drop of the martyrs' blood. There was a day, in 1559, when the English had to make a choice, and they chose. The English Bishops, who were Englishmen and not Italians, rejected the Elizabethian settlement, and chose rather to go into exile, and the supporters of the Reformed Religion stepped into their bishoprics. The Anglo-Catholics of to-day trace their religious descent from these last, and from no other source. Their fathers chose to go from the Catholic family in the sixteenth century: the sons, to-day, choose to adopt some of the customs and manners of that family. But the English Catholics, remembering the blood that has been shed, beginning at Tyburn with the Carthusians in May, 1535, and ending also at Tyburn with Archbishop Plunket in July, 1681, have a simple and, it seems, reasonable duty: either to declare to their Anglican fellow-countrymen that imitation of Catholic customs is imitation, and nothing more; or else by their silence let it be implied that Fisher and More, Campion and Plunket, were mistaken and deluded.

'Bulls' and 'Bears'

Some years ago Frank Norris wrote a book which he called *The Pit*. He dealt minutely with the great gambles in American wheat, and he showed how the food supply of a nation was made the sport of Wall Street gamblers. The book was such a damning indictment of the whole commercial system that many thought the picture was overdrawn. Senator Shipstead, of Minnesota, contributes an article to the *Dearborn Independent* in which he discusses the annual "fleecing of the lambs." The *Echo*, commenting on the Senator's article, says that the gambling in wheat is not restricted to actual wheat. For every bushel of actual wheat there are scores of bushels represented by "futures." On March 13 last, Chicago alone sold 527,000,000 bushels of wheat "futures" or double the world's visible supply. Thus, the main food of 112,000,000 persons becomes a counter in a gambling game, and the producers have but little chance of honest marketing. The Government itself too often helps to develop the inflated price bubble which is the inevitable cause of the ultimate collapse. Early last season the Department of Agriculture aided the "bull" propaganda by estimating the

American crop as below normal. Then it heralded rumors that there was a world scarcity. In both cases it was wrong. The Federal Reserve System loaned the speculators on the stock exchange "call" money at the low rate of two per cent., and aided speculation by releasing a tide of loanable funds estimated at more than a million dollars. In the short period of ninety days the level of leading stocks was lifted 25 points and added \$6,000,000,000 to their picture valuation. When the truth about the grain crop leaked out there was a terrific collapse on the stock exchange, and the investors found they had been swindled by the "bull" propaganda both in industrial stocks and in grain. Mr. Shipstead expresses the "hope that the time may come, under a free and sometime independent press, when such a national sham as that we have just witnessed shall not prosper under the Government and become a national disgrace." It all goes to show what can happen to a people when they throw first principles out of the window. It is then a case of everyone for himself and the devil take the hindmost.

About Galileo

It would be too much to expect that Galileo would escape the Tennessee trial. Under the management of Mr. Clarence Darrow he made his bow at Dayton in his historic role of "the martyr to science." Mr. Benedict Elder contributes an interesting article to the *Fortnightly Review* to show that Galileo was not in any sense a martyr to science. Mr. Elder points out that Galileo is credited with being the first to hold the theory that the earth moves. This is contrary to fact. He did not prove that the earth moved, and he was not the first to hold the theory. The ancient Greeks held it before him, as did also Nicetas of Rome, Philolaus of Egypt, and Aristarchus of Samos. The theory was not proved until the middle of the last century, when Foucault invented the gyroscope, by means of which he measured the motion of the earth, and for the first time demonstrated by mathematical proof that the earth does move. Galileo tried to prove it by the phenomenon of the tides, but his claim in this respect is now recognised as a grave error. Galileo has a claim to greatness for his laws of falling bodies, his proportional compasses, his demonstrations in statics, his principles of virtual velocities, and his inventions. But he is never mentioned in connection with these achievements. It is only as the stalking horse for propaganda against religion that he is honored. Nicholas of Cusa and Copernicus both held the theory that the earth moves. Yet they were not silenced as Galileo was. The reason was this: they did not teach the movement of the earth as a fact, but as a theory. Galileo, on the other hand, claimed that it was demonstrated and offered the false proofs noted above. The general public, even the educated public, concludes Mr. Elder, must accept the teachings of science largely on faith; that is to say, faith in the competence, the integrity, and the prudence of the scientists, who will not rashly assert that to be a fact which is not demonstrated. Unless those of us who

have neither the time nor the means for the special study necessary to equip one in the field of science can trust scientists to teach as a fact only what is fully demonstrated, we cannot put faith in them. In Galileo's case the Holy Office merely applied this rule. They acted in the interests of science. They accepted the verdict of the scientists of their day, that Galileo's "proofs" were inadequate. They said to him, you are not able to prove your theory; you must therefore follow the example of Cusa and Copernicus and teach it as a hypothesis only. And science has vindicated their judgment by rejecting the proofs which Galileo offered and producing real proofs.

Snake in the Grass

The unreasoning and uncompromising hatred which the world nurses against the Catholic Church peeps out at us in a multitude of trivial acts. The eagerness with which the newspapers misrepresent her in small affairs shows that they are ever on the watch for an opportunity to deal her a staggering blow. For example, the *Chicago Daily Tribune*, in describing the flogging of some prisoners in a Canadian prison, managed to convey the impression to its readers that the punishment was inflicted under Catholic direction in a Catholic institution. The story was told in sensational style, and good Protestants shivered as they learned that "the fangs of the 'cat,' the medieval avenger, hissed through the air in the high-walled quadrangle of St. Vincent de Paul's, and curled across the cringing flesh of three crucified men, until the white skin turned livid and blood spurted from the stripes." After the flogging the prisoners were sent to the hospital, where they were "spead-eagled on their cots and held fast, despite their feeble writhings, while salt was officially rubbed into their wounds." The Canadian Department of Justice promptly denied the allegations contained in the scurrilous article. The official refutation says in part: "A supposed account of the awarding of this punishment has been sent broadcast over the world by a Montreal newspaper. The description given of the carrying out of this part of the sentence awarded by the Judge is entirely misleading and incorrect. The punishment was carried out in the most humane method possible. There were no faintings, no struggles. There was no salt used and the men were not placed in hospital. The punishment awarded by the court was carried out in the presence of one of the inspectors of penitentiaries, a deputy warden of the institution, and the prison surgeon." A Catholic exchange points out that the St. Vincent de Paul prison is a State institution with which the Catholic Church has no connection whatsoever. It derives its name from the municipality within the precincts of which it is situated. In itself this particular calumny counts for very little; but it is disturbing to think that the men who lie so easily and so cunningly about small affairs are in a position to shock the ears of millions with a serious slander. And it is miscreants of this type who are always bleating about the freedom of the press!

We Sell

ALL BUILDERS' HARDWARE. Hudson Boiler Frames and Copper Asbestos Fibrolite Building Sheets. C. A. WILKINSON LTD.
Fencing Wire and Staples. Seeds and Manures—Pure Bone, etc. Write for Quotations.

Dun & New Plymouth.