

EDITORIAL

A KNOCK-OUT TO THE ARCHBISHOP

By DANIEL DE LEON

AN announced in these columns, the Rev. Father Thaddeus Hogan of the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, located in the Diocese of Trenton, N.J., has announced with much sorrow that he finds young Catholics abstaining to a shocking degree from marriage. Archbishop Corrigan had better see to it quickly, he can't see to it too quickly, that the aforementioned Father Thaddeus be disciplined. He should be fired out of the Church. His announcement needs but to be stated to carry conviction of its truth. It is one of those truths, moreover, that open the eyes to other truths. The fact that young Catholics are to a shocking extent abstaining from marriage needs but to be mentioned, and it brings home to all that the identical plague is rampant among young Protestants, Jews and Agnostics. The Father's statement, therefore amounts to a knock-down given the Archbishop's painfully constructed and recently uttered libel against Socialism as a "destroyer of the family" and a promoter of "free love." The Father's statement furnishes one more fact to demonstrate that it is the Social System of Capitalism which the Archbishop upholds, that is the real blaster of the family and inciter of "free love."

The Capitalist System of society drains from the masses the wealth that they produce, and places the plunder in the hands of a class that furnishes the front-pew holders in the tabernacles where the Archbishop Corrigans of the Catholic, Protestant, Jew and professional Atheist persuasions preside. Such impoverishment of the workers tears asunder existing family ties, and keeps new ones from forming: It sends the mother out of the house into the factory; it sends the father to distant towns in search of work, even into the Army to fight and kill and be killed in faraway climes for a living; it raises she-towns in Massachusetts, and he-towns in the mining centers of the West; it throws upon the streets the young girls to whom the above-named front-pew holders allow wages the smallness of which is an insult to common decency;—in short the Capitalist System of society reeks from top to bottom with all the filth implied in "free love;" that social system is corner-stoned

upon ruptured family ties; and the Archbishop Corrigan are its praise-singers, extending over it their pontifical blessing.

Archbishop Corrigan should lose no time in excommunicating Father Hogan.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.

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