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BIBLE BURNING RECALLS INQUISITION

VIGAN FRIARS PUBLICLY DESTROY 2500 COPIES OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Awe-Struck Spectators On Plaza Witness Anathema of Protestant Literature by Representatives of Roman Catholic Organization. Three World Powers May Be Plunged into Serious Controversy as Result of Religious Moving Picture Exhibit

TWO thousand five hundred Bibles burned in the public plaza of Vigan, the largest and most important city in Northern Luzon. Burned by representatives of the Roman Catholic Church. Burned as an evidence of the displeasure of the old established church of the activity displayed by the Protestant missionaries in spreading the word of God through the provinces. Thus, iniquitous act perpetrated in the name of religion since the days of the Inquisition. And all of which is an occurrence of the past week, and which was not only witnessed by thousands of spectators, but by invited spectators as well.

Scarcely for centuries has so gross an act been committed as was the burning in the plaza of Vigan, Ilocos Sur, on January 16, by the officials of the Roman Catholic church, of the Bibles given as premiums by the representatives of the American Bible Association for admission to the traveling agent of that association. Reported in Manila only yesterday by returning spectators, the occurrence has aroused the authorities of both denominations, and the result in all probability will be an ecclesiastical question which must of necessity involve some three nations.

As reported by witnesses of Vigan, the facts are as follows: Some three weeks ago the committee of the American Bible Association announced a series of moving picture exhibitions in Vigan, the capital of Ilocos Sur. The Bibles sold were paper bound, and printed in the Ilocano language. As an inducement to the purchase of the Bibles, and an added inducement to witness the Scriptural films to be shown by the traveling moving picture entertainment, two propositions were made to the public of Vigan.

The first was that with every Bible sold a ticket was to be given gratis to the moving picture show. The second was that with each ticket to the performance a Bible was to be given. The prices of the Bibles were 10 and 20 centavos only. As a result, more than 6,000 Bibles were sold during

the three days during which Protestant missionaries exhibited the films.

Two religious organizations however, are contesting the field in that district, the representatives of one of the Roman Catholic church organizations contesting the entrance of the Protestant missionaries. In opposition to the Bible distribution scheme of the Protestants, the Roman Catholic authorities evolved an idea which was executed to set at naught the effects of the American Bible Association.

During the three evenings' performance of the traveling moving pictures, the lighting arrangements of which were operated by means of the automobile motor which carried the moving picture machine outfit, some five thousand admission fees to the tent-hall erected by the Protestants.

The day following the last Protestant performance, announcement was made by the representatives of the Roman Catholic church that they had leased the local cine, owned by Sr. Reyes, and that a cine performance, under the auspices of the Roman Catholic church, would be given on that evening. Most interesting of all was the announcement that the price of admission would be a Bible. No cash would be accepted: Bibles only were to be legal tender at the box office.

More than two thousand admission fees to the older church cine performance were paid by means of the unique currency. Little knew the

spectator who had paid their admission by means of Bibles as to what was to be the final end of their admission fees. The result was shown on the following afternoon, however, when the public of Vigan was invited by the representatives of the Church of Rome to witness a unique spectacle upon the church plaza.

Thousands of Vigan people gathered at the hour named, and were treated to the unprecedented spectacle of two thousand five hundred Christian Bibles being consumed in a fire ignited for their destruction in the center of the plaza. No explanation of the meaning of the act was given by the Roman Catholic authorities, but the understanding was that jealousy of the success of the Protestant missionaries was the primary cause of the action of the Roman Catholic church officials.

All of Vigan is in a furore at present over the occurrence. Communications by the score are said to have been exchanged between church and insular authorities over the matter, and the departments of three countries may soon be in correspondence. The act of the Catholic authorities served in a way as a boomerang, as regards the sale of Bibles, as on the day following the plaza Bible burning, more than three thousand more Bibles were sold by the representatives of the American Bible Association.

The above is taken from the *Renacimiento Filipino*, a daily paper published at Manila, Philippine Islands. The date is Feb. 3, 1914.

Commenting upon this fanatical act so thoroughly characteristic of popery, the editor warns our people that the same spirit that led to the burning of these Bibles will lead again to all the horrors of the medieval Inquisition, when men, women and children were tortured, butchered and burnt because they rejected the monstrous claims of popery.

IN CLUBS OF TEN ONLY.

With cash accompanying the order, can The Weekly Jeffersonian or Watson's Magazine, be offered at the rate of fifty cents for a year. Where lists containing less than ten names, are sent, the subscriptions will be entered only for six months. There can be no deviation from this rule.

The Frank Case:

FOR many years, I have not taken the *Atlanta Journal*, nor have I read it. Recognized by everybody as the organ of Senator Smith and edited with the most utter disregard of truth and liberality, I have not cared to pay any attention to it.

Last week, however, there came to my address a blue-marked wrapper, enclosing the *Journal*; and the leading editorial was blue marked, also. The blue pencil smacks of that issue, specially marked on the outside, and specially marked on the inside, it is reasonable to suppose that everybody got a copy, just as everybody gets copies of Senator Smith's senatorial utterances—the same being equivalent to oracles from the fountain-head of Wisdom.

The marked editorial in Senator Smith's newspaper organ bears the modest headline, "FRANK SHOULD HAVE A NEW TRIAL!"

The case is still pending: Judge Ben Hill knows that he will soon have to pass upon an extraordinary motion for a new trial; hence, Judge Ben Hill is preemptorily, abruptly,

When and Where Shall Rich Criminals Be Tried?

and insolently told, by Senator Smith's organ, what he must do.

I wonder how Judge Ben Hill likes to have the whip cracked over his head in that threatening, dictatorial style.

Not only has Judge Hill received the orders of the *Atlanta Journal*, but the Justices of the Supreme Court are notified that they had better be prepared to bend to the rod of Senator Smith's omnipotent organ.

Who is paying for all this? No such attempt at dictation to the courts, and no such arrogant exhortation of the courts, has ever before been known in this country.

I defy anyone to name an instance where a daily paper of general circulation, and the recognized personal organ of a U. S. Senator, has ever made such an illegal, brutal and suspicious attempt to bring the courts into disrepute, drag down the judges to the level of criminals, and destroy the confidence of the people in the orderly processes of the law.

If one half of what Senator Smith's personal organ impliedly charges, against sworn jurors, against the trial judge, and against the Supreme Court, is true, then it is a farce to try any case, IN THE COURT HOUSE, where the guilt of the accused is so universally believed that the public is excited because of a most hideous series of crimes.

The effort on the part of Senator Smith's newspaper organ to degrade our Supreme Court, vilify Judge Roan, brand twelve jurors with eternal infamy, blast the future of a thoroughly brave and efficient Solicitor-General, AND TO DICTATE IN ADVANCE TO JUDGE BEN HILL, moves me to enter a protest against what seems to me a new, ominous and lawless method of trying a criminal case.

Charles W. Morse is one of the foulest criminals that ever walked God's earth; and, if he had such a thing as a conscience, the dying cries and moans of the helpless victims of his merciless Ice Trust would haunt his soul forever. Yet, he is a free man, in the flush of healthy manhood, able to buy space

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THE FRANK CASE: When and Where Shall Rich Criminals Be Tried?

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in the daily papers for any amount of dope favorable to himself.

In his behalf Atlanta lawyers of a certain sort were willing to scheme, to lie, to bribe, to slander—to do anything to get their rich client pardoned out of the penitentiary.

In his behalf, Atlanta papers, of a certain sort, were willing to aid the schemes, back up the lies, publish the slanders, and apparently share in the bribes.

Public sentiment was fed on lie after lie, published regularly every day, with scare head lines running across the entire front of the paper.

"Morse is a dying man. Morse has an incurable disease. Morse is beyond all hope of recovery. Morse cannot possibly live more than a week. Morse's only prayer is that he be allowed to die outside the prison," &c., &c.

Then when lies and bribery had done their work, a human screen was built around the rich, robust criminal, and nobody could see him at all, save the bribed witnesses, and the well-paid lawyers and Dodge's ex-wife.

There is another recent instance familiar to all:

A Jew named Rosenthal incurred the deadly hatred of the New York police grafters by "squealing" on the men who had held him up and made him divide his winnings—Rosenthal being a gambler.

The grafters marked the Jew for slaughter, and the Jew was warned of his danger. The wife of the Jew was terrified, and begged him to stay at home.

But he never suspected that the police Bosses would send assassins to shoot him down in broad daylight, in the most frequented streets; therefore, he walked into the death-trap.

Lieutenant Becker of the Police picked out four obscure "gunmen," and sent them to "get" the Jew.

They got him.

As Rosenthal was about to enter a restaurant, the four "gun-men" opened fire upon the Jew, and he was shot down like a dog.

After some delays, the case comes to trial. Becker and his four accomplices are found guilty, and are sentenced to death.

The lawyers appeal the case; and at length the highest court gives its decision.

By that decision the four poor devils who did the shooting, are sent to the death-chair, while Lieutenant Becker, WHO SENT THE FOUR MEN TO DO THE SHOOTING, is given a new trial.

This decision, it is claimed, virtually amounts to giving entire freedom to the chief criminal, Becker.

The Lieutenant was a part of "the system;" the system has plenty of money; the system was bound to save Becker, to screen itself. As to the four gun-men, it was different.

Now, in Georgia, we have been going through another experience of what money can do, with lawyers, fake witnesses and newspapers of a certain sort.

Leo Frank was accused of the murder of Mary Phagan, one of the numerous girls who, for a mere pittance, worked under him at a pencil factory. Upon the fiendish brutalities that were practised upon the little victim, I need not dwell.

Upon what has been said and proven about Frank's abnormal sexuality, I will not comment.

Upon the decadent and satyr-like features—eyes, lips and jaw—that Nature gave him, it might not be fair to remark.

It is sufficient to say that any trained law-

yer who followed the evidence in the case, as delivered in court, must have reached the conclusion, *by a process of elimination*, that the hideous crimes perpetrated upon the poor little girl were either the joint acts of Frank and the negro, Conley; or, were the acts of the one with the connivance of the other.

From the sworn testimony before the jury, it was utterly impossible for them to have reached any other verdict.

It is said that Judge Roan, who presided, was not certain as to the guilt of Frank.

He did not have to be. That was none of his business. His duty was to see that the case was legally conducted, and that the jury was properly instructed as to the law.

It was for the jury to pass upon the evidence. If Judge Roan had expressed any opinion, either way, he would have committed reversible error.

The jury having found Frank guilty, Judge Roan refused a motion for a new trial; the Supreme Court affirmed his decision, and Judge Ben Hill sentenced the condemned man to die, for the awful crime which had been judicially ascertained.

He had been defended by the best of Atlanta lawyers. It would seem that he even employed lawyers, before he was accused.

Those lawyers exerted themselves with desperate energy in behalf of their client. I will not say that some of their methods were unprofessional; but every one knows that things were done in behalf of Frank that have never been done in a murder case in Georgia.

In a practise at the bar which covered 25 years of active experience, I never knew any State's attorney to be so brutally, persistently and violently abused as Hugh Dorsey was, by Reub Arnold and Luther Rosser.

That both the Solicitor and the Judge bore with this unprofessional and prohibited personal abuse, speaks loudly for the patience of both Judge Roan and Solicitor Dorsey.

There are some trial Judges, and some Solicitors who would never tolerate similar brutality from Arnold and Rosser.

After Judge Ben Hill sentenced the defendant, was the case ended? By no means. It had just begun.

A vain, conceited, boisterous, loquacious, pseudo-detective, one W. J. Burns, was employed to hunt for new evidence! To hunt?

If that was the purpose of his employment, why wasn't he engaged before Frank came to trial? Or while the motion for new trial was pending?

The lawyers announce that they will file an Extraordinary Motion. Very extraordinary, indeed. And very expensive, no doubt.

If the noisy Burns discovers any evidence that could have been discovered, by diligent methods, before the trial, it is worthless in law. Else, there never would be an end of litigation.

But the chief purpose of this editorial is to emphasize the Extraordinary manner which Senator Smith's personal organ has said, in advance, that the Extraordinary motion for new trial must be granted.

JUDGE BEN HILL HAS GOT HIS ORDERS, so far as the Atlanta Journal can issue them.

Those carefully selected jurors—the twelve good men and true—are accused, by Senator Smith's organ, of "judicial murder."

Judge Roan, presumably an honest man and upright judge, is accused of "judicial murder."

OUR SUPREME COURT IS ACCUSED, by Senator Smith's organ, OF "JUDICIAL MURDER."

Those oath-bound, incorruptible officers who are chosen by law, to try cases of this kind, have tried it.

According to law and to uniform practise,

Frank has had a fair trial and has been justly condemned.

But according to a writer, who is not under oath, and who was not charged with any legal responsibility in the case, Frank has not had a fair trial, and his execution under the sentence would be "judicial murder."

WHERE SHALL OUR MURDER CASES BE TRIED?

Are the newspapers to do it?
Are the pulpits to do it?

If so, let us try all of them the same way. Let us not have one law for the rich and another for the poor.

Let us not save our courthouses for the blacks, while we try the whites in the Editor's sanctum.

If murder cases are to be decided by pseudo-detectives, by hack-writers, by back-door conferences and underground methods let us apply the same rule to the Gentile, as well as to the Jew.

Since Frank's case came upon the courts many a negro, many a white man, many an Italian, German, American and Irish-American has been tried in exactly the same way; has been convicted on evidence no stronger; has been denied a new trial; and has paid the penalty of his crime.

In these cases, W. J. Burns was not employed to hunt evidence, after final conviction. Senatorial organs did not heat themselves up with righteous wrath concerning "judicial murder."

Is Frank better than anybody else? Does a Jew expect extraordinary favors and immunities, because of his race?

In this case, the defendant is taking that position. Anyone who has noticed the New York papers, has noticed the persistent efforts made from Atlanta, to arouse the Hebrews into believing that Frank is a victim of race prejudice.

Is it wise for the Jews to risk the good name and the popularity of the whole race, in the extraordinary, extra-judicial, and utterly unprecedented methods that are being worked to save this decadent offshoot of a great people?

Some months ago, Judge A. W. Fite wrote a card in an Atlanta paper criticising the Court of Appeals—of which Judge Ben Hill was then a member—for its decision in a criminal case. Judge Fite was arrested and tried for contempt of court, and fined \$500.

I did not think the sentence just, for the reason that Judge Fite's card was written after the case had been decided, and could not in anyway obstruct justice, or influence the decision.

But, in this Frank case, while it is still pending, Senator Smith's organ denounces all the judges concerned. The Atlanta Journal editorially denounces those judges as accomplices before the fact to "judicial murder."

If Frank shall be executed, according to decisions of Judge Roan, of the Supreme Court and the sentence of Judge Ben Hill, all these officers of the law will have been guilty of "judicial murder." So says the Atlanta Journal, Senator Smith's organ.

Is there no contempt of court in THIS instance?

Does Senator Smith's personal organ hold a license to abuse jurors, solicitors and judges?

Is the Atlanta Journal a privileged trader of constituted authorities?

Is James R. Gray, the man of the watch and the shot-gun, the custodian of Georgia's good name, Atlanta's honor, and of the morals of our judiciary?

If that editorial is not contempt of court, why was Judge Fite guilty?

If that editorial in the Journal is not contempt of court, what sort of an editorial in the Journal would be?

If the Journal is to have the exclusive right