

DEPLORES BAN ON PRIESTS IN ROTARY CLUBS

International President
Says Group Has No Link
With Masonry.

By United Press
The recent hint of disapproval expressed by the consistorial congregation at Rome, against priests having any connection with Rotary clubs—either as members or speakers before Rotary meetings—has drawn the interest of thousands of Rotarians.

A Vatican spokesman told the United Press recently that the only expression of the Holy See's views concerning the Rotary was represented by the recent consistorial congregation indication that it considered it inopportune for priests to become members of the Rotary or to attend Rotarian meetings.

Criticised Principles
No decision has been taken, or is likely to be taken, the spokesman said, where laymen are concerned unless new facts should intervene, prompting the Holy See to manifest its mind again.

The spokesman set forth that church authorities were viewing with growing suspicion the activities of Rotarians, fearing these were influenced by free masonry.

Osservatore Romano, in an article last month, commented on the coming congress of the Rotary International in Naples next May, reviewing what it termed the Rotarian policies from the Catholic viewpoint.

The publication criticised the use of too many phrases on altruism, social well-being, and high ethical principles, and omission of "God" and "Credo."

Policy Is Attacked

The policy was characterized as naturalistic and materialistic, without knowledge of faith and religion.

The United Press has obtained a statement set forth below, from R. B. Sutton, president of the Rotary International, who has been in Rome holding a series of conferences with high church authorities for the purpose of terminating the controversy that had developed and clear the situation.

Sutton is en route to New York from Europe on Berengaria. The article follows:

By R. B. SUTTON
President of the International Rotary
(Copyright, 1929, by United Press)

ABOARD THE S. S. BERENGARIA, EN ROUTE TO NEW YORK, BY WIRELESS, MARCH 1.—A recent attack contained in the article of the *Osservatore Romano* is merely a reprint of the last article in the *Civiltà Catholica* published Feb. 16.

Since this was written, I have held numerous conferences in Rome with the director of the *Civiltà Catholica*, Father Enrico Rosa, S. J., and many of the highest church authorities.

Clarifying Doubts

As a Roman Catholic myself, I have been explaining and clarifying the doubts and misunderstandings and presenting a formal statement that Rotary has no connection with Masonry or any other organization.

The statement says that religious and political discussion positively is forbidden, that Rotary has no record whatever of the religious faith of its membership, that Rotary meetings, activities and records are public with no vows or secrets of any kind.

It further says that there is absolute respect for the religious faith of all members and that Rotarians do not attribute to themselves any private moral code nor intend to create any sect or natural religion, much less do anything contrary to the dogma of the Catholic faith.

Unauthorized Statements

The statement continues with reference to actions or statements attributed to individual members throughout our vast, international organization, which might seem to contradict the latter statements, the directive authority or Rotary must declare the same to be unauthorized and, furthermore, deplore any act contrary to any of these fundamental principles of our organization.

The *Civiltà Catholica* will publish my formal statement in its issue of March 15, with their observations which I believe should end all further controversy and terminate the previous misunderstanding.

**SAVES ATTORNEY'S JOB
BY AMENDING BILL**

Appointment Power Taken From Governor.

Senator Anderson Ketchum (Dem.), Greensburg, by a series of amendments to the bill providing \$6,000 for an attorney to represent the public service commission in the court of appeals saved the job for Samuel Artman, former industrial board chief.

The bill, which provided that the Governor make the attorney appointment, was on second reading in the senate Thursday afternoon.

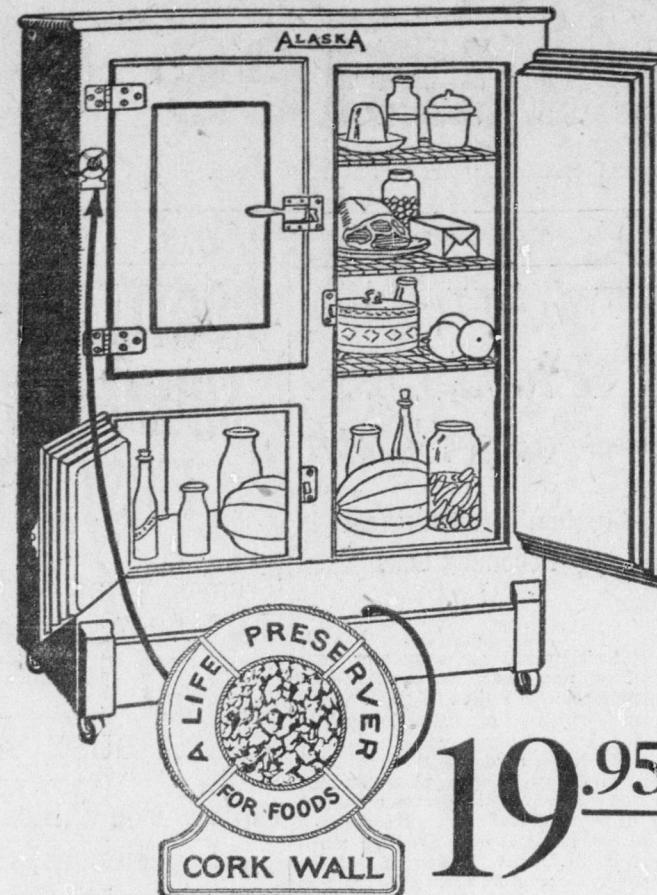
Ketchum's amendments put the appointment in the office of the attorney-general, where Artman is now employed in that capacity.

Governor Leslie would not have appointed Artman, it is said.

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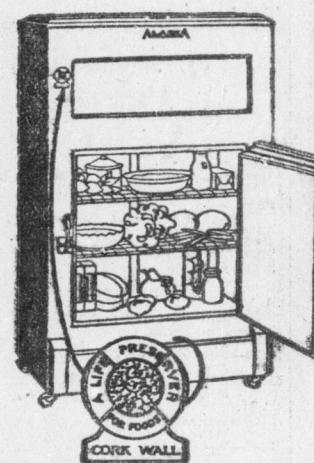
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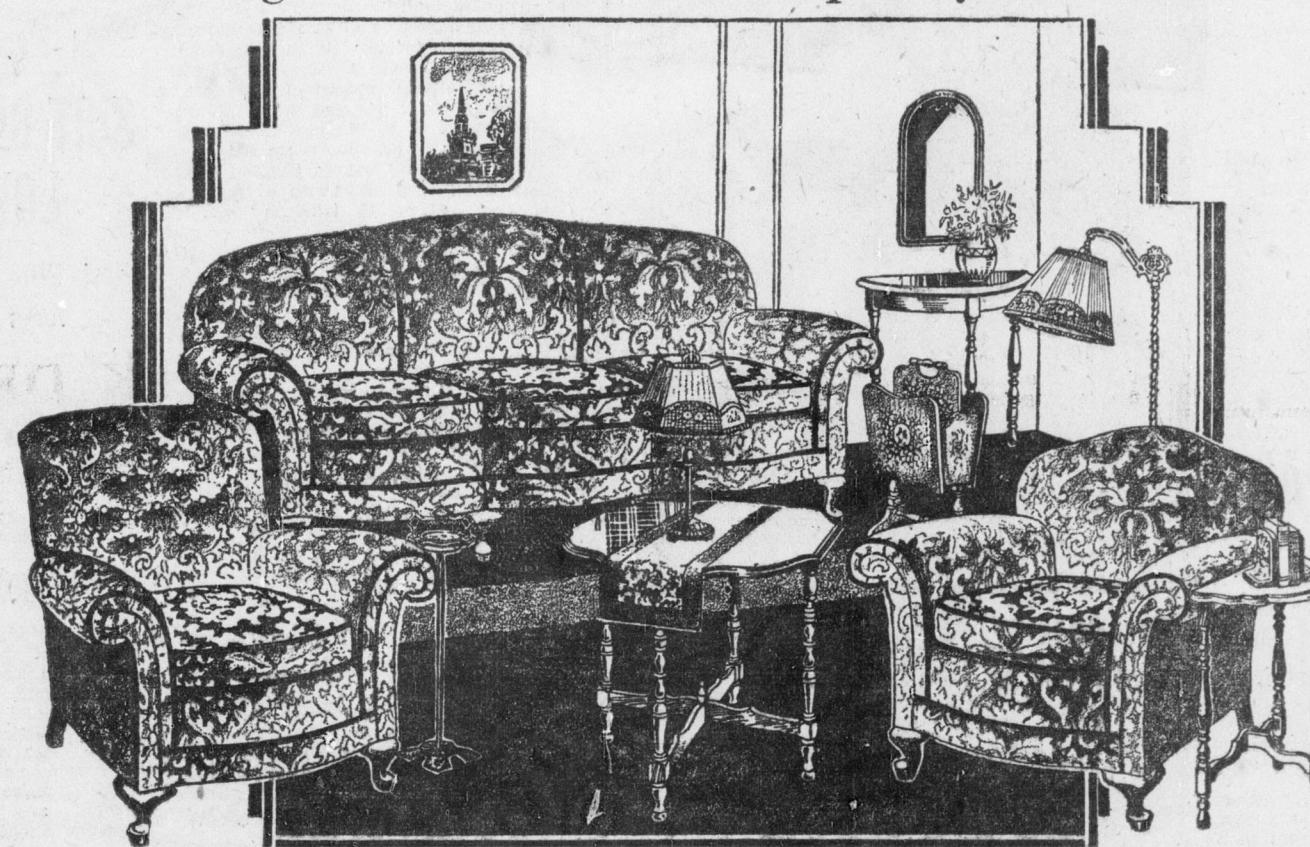
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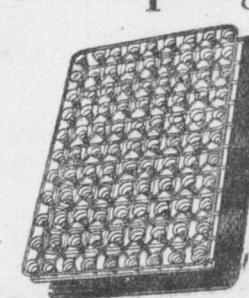
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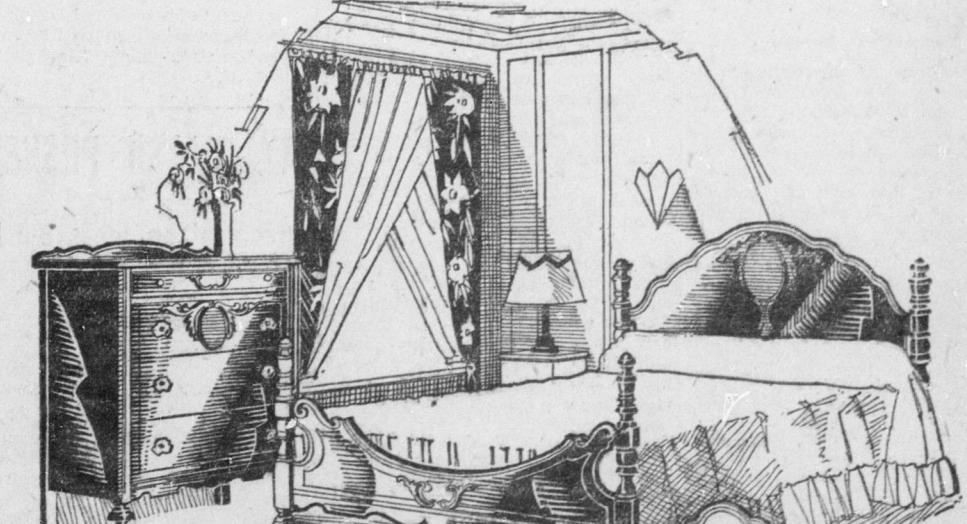
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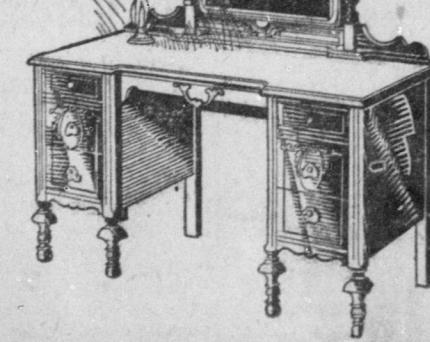
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