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Annie Besant.

Questions regarding Dr. Annie Besant, who died last week in India at the age of 86, were deferred until the old lady had decent burial. Annie was much publicized as the leader of the Theosophists (she stole the show from Madame Blavatsky almost 50 years ago); she had the knack of speaking the blasphemies that make the front page. "Reincarnation" is always a good gag -- good for money from rich neuresthenics. Annie played it up strong after the scandal growing out of her husband's divorce action and her subsequent transfer of residence from England to India.

Annie brought a "Messiah" from India a few years ago - to Chicago and Pasadena. She had the front-page stories and the back-page pictures, and it seems reasonable to assume that she lost no money on the venture. But the "Messiah", Jeddu Krishnamurti, spoiled the game by giving forth statements prefaced by such futile phrases as, "it seems to me," "it is my opinion," etc; it was never, "Amen, I say unto you."

"Christian America" chuckled when Annie blasphemed; it lost interest when her puppet made himself common. "Christian America" does chuckle at blasphemy, however.

Now look over the following propositions:

1. Salvation can come only through Jesus Christ, "the way, the truth and the life."
2. The doctrines of Jesus Christ are to be known through His Apostles; "He that heareth you heareth Me."
3. These Apostles were sent to establish His Church throughout the world: "Go ye into the whole world and preach the Gospel to every creature."
4. All men must follow the teachings of the Church once they know them: "He that believeth not shall be condemned."
5. Only the Catholic Church through a continuous history and an unbroken line of Popes from Pius XI back to St. Peter proves its direct descent from the Apostles and Jesus Christ.
6. Therefore, the Catholic Church alone can speak authoritatively for Jesus Christ,

Does that last proposition sound like blasphemy? If so, does Christian America chuckle? If not, why not?

Propositions 1 to 4 get by without much opposition, except in so far as the modernists have leaders who are critical; their followers pay little attention. Number 5 is a proved historical fact - it has never once been disproved. Number 6 is a necessary conclusion. Does Christian America examine honestly and deeply into the truth or falsity of Nos. 5 and 6.

If Christian America could laugh off Krishnamurti as a "potential reincarnation of Christ," why can't she laugh off Propositions 5 and 6?

Catholic college men have an obligation in conscience to know all about Propositions 5 and 6. At them Christian America's eyes fire, her claws spread, she shows her teeth. Sometimes Christian America pounces upon the man who adheres to them, tears him to pieces publicly. Sometimes, only secretly, Christian America lays him away.

Know well Propositions 5 and 6. Their answer is Yes or No. There is no room for hedging on them: "He that is not with Me is against Me; He that gathereth not with Me scattereth." If you have the courage to put your Yes into practical life, some day Propositions 5 and 6 may cost you dearly in Christian America.

PRAYERS: deceased - Harold Pohlmeier's father; the father of the Stephen boys of Ft. Wayne (deceased alumni); relatives of Wm. Page and Anthony Marra. Ill - Tom Steele (operation); a friend (sleeping sickness).