

News and Comment

Fight Sunday Blue Laws

THE residents of Mountain Lakes, N. Y., recently held a mass meeting protesting against a proposed Sunday "blue law" ordinance, which aimed to "make nearly everything people do nowadays on Sunday a crime," punishable by a fine of \$50, or in lieu thereof imprisonment of thirty days. It seems strange that the ministerial associations which usually demand these ordinances, are incapable of sensing the propriety of things, and knowing that public sentiment resents ecclesiastical interference in public affairs.



Sounding Out Public Sentiment

THE Lord's Day Alliance of New York State is trying to sound out public sentiment on the possibility of framing "a winning Sabbath law" for New York State, since they met with a signal defeat in the last legislative session. If they want to know how public sentiment stands toward compulsory Sunday observance laws, we would advise them to consult the initiative and referendum vote of California and Oregon on this question. California turned the Sunday law proposition down by a majority of more than 167,000 votes, and Oregon by a majority of more than 32,000 votes.



A Very Liberal Church

THE "Liberal Church" of Denver, Colo., elected Clarence Darrow, a self-styled agnostic, to honorary church membership. Bishop Frank H. Rice said that this action was taken because of the prominent part Darrow played in the defense of John T. Scopes, charged with violating the Tennessee anti-evolution law. The church went on record when it elected Mr. Darrow to church fellowship, as "accepting his

theory of Christianity." We do not see how any church could be more "liberal," for Mr. Darrow says he does not believe in "miracles," nor in the hope of immortality, nor in the deity of Christ, and that he does not know whether there is a God or "Supreme Cause." We do not see why Satan should be shut out of this church, for the Bible says that "devils also believe, and tremble."



Broke Thirty-Year Sunday Calm

A MOTOR cyclist on July 13, for the first time in thirty years, broke the Sunday quiet in Ocean Grove, N. J., through which no motorists are allowed to pass on Sunday. The town is owned by the Ocean Grove Camp-Meeting Association of the Methodist Episcopal Church. A town policeman, blowing a whistle, pursued the motor cyclist on foot without avail. Police in near-by towns were asked to find the breaker of the Sunday calm, who had the audacity to ride a motor cycle through its sacred precincts on Sunday.



Sunday Law in Disfavor

THE Rye Beach Pleasure Park and Paradise Park of Rye, N. Y., petitioned Supreme Court Justice A. H. F. Seeger to restrain the village authorities from enforcing the Sunday law of New York State against amusements and Sunday excursions, but Justice Seeger denied the injunction. Public sentiment was so strongly in favor of Sunday amusements and excursions that the police finally refused to interfere with the opening of the parks and Sunday excursions. Col. I. Austin Kelly, manager of Rye Beach Pleasure Park, said: "I welcome a test case before the courts. I will give the village authorities \$100.