

Knights of Columbus

To Hold Supreme Convention in Western City.

Davenport, Iowa, is actively engaged in making arrangements for the entertainment of the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus, which will convene in that city on August 1, 2 and 3.

When the matter of selecting the next convention city came up at the meeting of the Supreme Council in Seattle last year, a number of cities put in an application for the honor.

That idea seemed to appeal to the convention instantly, and in a moment cheers for the Hawkeye state rent the air.

Davenport, from the standpoint of population was the smallest city among those that had extended the invitation.

The Davenport convention, however, is to be an interstate affair. Located on the banks of the Mississippi river on the eastern border line of Iowa, Davenport is one of three cities, Rock Island and Moline, Illinois, are directly across the river, and so closely associated are the tricity socially and industrially, that in an enterprise of this kind they are one community.

When Supreme Knight James A. Flaherty of Philadelphia, Pa., paid a visit to the tri-cities in February, he was so thoroughly impressed with the surroundings that he made the prediction that between 7,000 and 10,000 visitors would assemble for the Davenport convention.

committee met with his hearty approval, and he departed satisfied that the 1916 convention of the Supreme Council would go down in the history of the Order as one of the most successful on record.

Situated in the heart of the Middle West, Davenport is an easy access from all parts of the country, the east, west, north and south, as any other city that could be selected.

Home For Sailors On The Isthmus.

Seamen's Friend Society Receives Governmental Gift.

Catholic Agency Needed in This Work.

"To provide for the social and religious welfare of the sailors of all nations who touch at the Atlantic end of the Panama Canal Zone, the United States Government, it was learned today, has through Major-Gen. George W. Goethals, set aside a plot of land near the docks of Cristobal Colon, for the use of the American Seamen's Friend Society, 76 Wall Street, New York."

Thus ran the announcement of the 1st of April. "Hundreds of seamen," General Goethals was quoted as having said, "will be in the port of Cristobal Colon, at the Atlantic end of the Canal, in normal times. These will be not only seamen of ships passing through the canal, but also of ships bound for South America which touch at this point in the Canal Zone. There is no special provision for the social and religious needs of the men, and the offer of the American Seamen's Friend Society, an interdenominational Christian organization, to supply this want meets with our hearty approval."

The effort will be not so much to house the seamen, as is the aim of the Society in the maintenance of its well known home in New York, but rather to provide a social and religious atmosphere of the best sort for the sailors who stop at these ports. The Society has for fully one hundred years carried on its work among seamen and its activities now extend to many parts of the world. While "interdenominational," it is frankly Protestant in atmosphere and in its religious endeavors.

Certainly any one truly interested in the seamen must hear with pleasure of this effort in their behalf. Regret cannot but be expressed, however, that there is no Catholic organization taking up this work in this same way for the sailors in particular of our faith. Many of them will likewise stop at the Canal ports and certainly they should be cared for and their faith protected. The care of these men of the sea was one of the works dearest to the heart of the sainted Pius X. It would be an exceedingly happy thing to hear of the establishment of a Catholic Seamen's Home in Panama and at other international stopping points.

C. B. of C. V.

The first Catholic Church in Morocco, near Tetuan, has just been consecrated by the Bishop of Fes, Capuchin, and Vicar Apostolic of Morocco. He was accompanied by the Spanish High Commissioner. The attitude of the Arabs, many of whom are Catholic converts, was most respectful. The church is built in the old Spanish style of architecture which can be traced along the Sunset Route to San Francisco. In his sermon the bishop spoke of the colonization and Christianization of the United States by the Spaniards centuries ago, and hoped that Spain would be permitted to Christianize Morocco also.

The Tenebrae.

The service commonly called Tenebrae (darkness), consists of the offices of Matins and Lauds as they are said in the Church towards the close of the day on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Anciently the Matin office was said or sung on these days at the usual hour shortly after midnight; but since the thirteenth century the practice of anticipating the customary time has grown up, probably in order that the solemnities might be attended by many persons who would be unable to be present at the midnight hour.

The title Tenebrae appears to have been applied to these Holy Week services because of the very ancient custom of gradually extinguishing the lights during the course of the aforesaid offices, or of conducting them, as was done anciently on Holy Saturday, in a church where there were no lights save one by the lectern. According to modern usage ceremonial lights are used on each of the three days, and consist of the six candles upon the altar and fifteen upon a wooden candelabrum which is placed on the floor of the sanctuary opposite the epistle side of the altar. Of the latter, fourteen rest in sockets set at regular intervals on the two ascending slopes of a triangular frame which forms the upper part of the candelabrum, and one in a socket at the apex.

At the close of each of the nine psalms of the Matin office one of the candles on the candelabrum is extinguished, beginning with the lowest on the left hand or Gospel side, and then alternately from side to side until all but the uppermost three on the right hand slope and the uppermost two on the left are extinguished. A like method is used in the office of Lauds which follows immediately after Matins, so that when the four psalms and the canticle which intervenes between the third and fourth psalm, have been sung, all the candles on the candelabrum, save the one at its apex, have been extinguished.

Then during the singing of the last six verses of the canticle Benedictus, the lights upon the altar are put out, one at the close of each verse, beginning with the candle at the Gospel corner and then alternately from side to side until all are extinguished. At this time all other lights in the choir are put out, so that only the candle at the apex of the candelabrum remains burning. Then, while the antiphon of the Benedictus is sung, the Master of Ceremonies takes up the lighted candle and holds it above the Epistle corner of the altar.

The antiphon ended, the Master of Ceremonies carries the lighted candle with him behind the altar or else hides it in some seemly and convenient fashion at the Epistle end of the altar. After the final prayer, "Almighty God, we beseech Thee graciously to behold," etc., a moderate noise is made, the Master of Ceremonies striking a step of the altar, or some bench, with his hand, and others both of clergy and people doing something of the kind or uttering groans and sighs. After a very brief interval the Master of Ceremonies again displays the lighted candle, the noise at once ceases, and all depart quietly, and then the candle is extinguished. Pope Benedict XIV, writing about the middle of the eighteenth century, explains the mystical significance of the Tenebrae ceremonies and then gives a reason for the modern anticipation of usual time of the offices, as follows: "On the three days before Easter, Lauds follows immediately on Matins which on this occasion are said at the close of the day in order to signify the setting of the Sun of Righteousness and the darkness of the Jewish people who knew not the Lord and condemned Him to the gibbet of the Cross."

The darkness and the mournful characters of these solemn services at the close of the last three days in Holy Week are expressive of the mourning of the faithful over the Passion and the Death of Christ, and make, as it were, a background against which the brilliant illumination

and the joyful Alleluias of Easter Eve stand out in strong contrast. The noise commonly made at the close of Tenebrae is supposed to represent symbolically the quaking of the earth at the death of Christ. If the holy Eucharist is commonly reserved at the altar before which the Tenebrae service is said, the Sacrament is first removed to some other suitable place; and this rule is a token of the great antiquity of the ceremonies of the Tenebrae, for most anciently the Mass was not celebrated at an altar where, at the same time, the Sacrament of the Eucharist was reserved. (American Catholic (Anglican).)

News From Ireland

Antrim.

The city coroner held an inquest relative to the death of Patrick McArdle, cooper, of 12 Great George street, Belfast, who died suddenly in the place where he was employed.

Carlow.

Married—February 22, at the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow by the Rev. J. Killian, C. C., Dominick, third son of the late Patrick Murray, and of Mrs. Murray, Stramore, Newport, County Mayo, to Bridie, second daughter of John and Mrs. Ryan, Carlow.

Clare.

Mrs. Curtin, Kilkee, County Clare, and Miss Roche, daughter of J. Roche, Oulart, County Wexford, have been received into the Perpetual Adoration Order at the Convent in Wexford. The reception ceremony was performed by the Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Ferns.

The ladies of the Kilkee cookery classes voted condolence to Miss N. Bowler, instructress, on the death of her father, E. Bowler, Macroom.

Down.

At a special meeting of the Down County Council in Coleraine, Colonel J. J. Clark, M. H. L. (chairman), presiding, William Aubrey Lane, of the firm of Messrs. B. H. Lane and Company, Limavady, was appointed solicitor to the council in succession to his uncle, the late B. H. Lane.

Donegal.

The Donegal County Council have co-opted Rev. Joseph McKeefrey, P. P., Killygordon, a member of the county infirmary committee in room of the late Mgr. McLaughlin.

Down.

James Barnes, a Portlerry fisherman, aged 75, has died in Downpatrick infirmary from injuries caused by being accidentally run over by a motor car.

Dublin.

Died—February 27, at Jervis street hospital, Dublin, John J. Keilty, N. T., formerly of Arklow and New Ross.—February 28, at St. Mary's, Tallaght, Very Rev. J. D. McCarthy, O. P. P. G., aged 78 years.

Kerry.

Died—On March 3, at his residence, Castle street, Tralee, John Collins (merchant), aged 72 years.

Kilkenny.

The death has taken place at the age of 83 of P. Dalton, who for fifty years was relieving officer in the Kilkenny district of Carrick-on-Suir Union.

Leitrim.

The Mohill Board of Guardians appointed Edward Reilly, of Cashel, as the Union tailor at a salary of £20 a year. He was the only person to apply for the post.

Died—At Cunnaghawall, Balinamore, Philip Gaffney.

Mayo.

The Irish class at Crossard, which is under the personal conductorship of Philip Waldron, G. L. O., has increased in membership to the record number of 170.

Married—At parish church, Parke, by the Rev. M. Burke, Adm., Islandeady (cousin of the bride), and the Rev. J. Prendergast, C. C., Parke, Joseph W. Cowles, to Kathleen Mary, second daughter of P. Healy, of Anglers' Hotel, Pontoon, County Mayo.

