

The Slum And Family Life.

Vital Effect of The One on The Other.

Strong Facts by Governor of Kansas.

We are all most vitally concerned with the preservation of healthy family life among the people of our country. Such family life spells the welfare of the nation. It means also the protection of the individual. Even those who most brazenly assault the institution of marriage and the family relationship do so as a rule, strange as it may seem, under the pretense of strengthening this fundamental social organism. They implicitly recognize the important and vital position which the family holds in the fabric of society.

Moral environment—the good example of parents, the influence of religion,—plays an important part in the well ordering of the family. Material environment must not, however, at all be lost sight of. Bad housing, congested conditions, often mean a low moral and physical condition for the father and mother and little children. "Shelter," says the Bishop of Northampton, "is as necessary to human beings as food and drink. And the proper shelter for the human family is home with all the beautiful associations that that word recalls—recalls, that is, for the average fortunate Briton, but so empty of meaning or even so replete with sad and shameful memories for some thousands both in town and country." (Program of Social Reform, Catholic Social Guild of England; leaflet, Central Bureau of the Central Verein.)

That the houses of our working people in this country are in many instances far from conducive to healthy family life is by now well known. That it is the rich and wealthy people of the community who are thriving off of these so-called "homes" in a great number of cases has been repeatedly told. The Governor of Kansas, in an address to the members of the Kansas City Council of Women's Clubs, recently reiterated this fact. "The tax records of Kansas City, Kas.," Governor Capper said, "show that some of the most filthy, tumbledown rental property is owned by wealthy citizens or corporations controlled by them. These men live well on the 15 per cent they get from the rental of this unhabitable property."

"There should be a law," the executive added, "compelling the landlord to clean up the property he rents. The state law should see that the room in which the child sleeps is in a sanitary, healthy place, and not a dark closet at the end of a blind hallway, in a tumbledown shack, owned by a man who thinks only, 'How much rent can I get?' The health records at Topeka show that in 1910 at least 2100 children born last year died before they reached the age of one year and 60 per cent of diseases that can be prevented. As to the influence of bad housing on morality, records cannot show, but that intense overcrowding is most baneful in its results can well be understood. Lack of proper playground can also be the cause of the acquisition of evil habits by the little "inhabitants of the city streets."

The provision of good housing is one of the most necessary, because one of the most fundamental of our reforms. Slum landlords should be reminded of their great duty to provide decent places of habitation for their tenants. Laws should be passed establishing a standard for housing conditions, such as in existence in certain commonwealths. This is an effort which deserves the strongest support and sympathy of all.

C. B. of C. V.

Spring Flowers

Tulips, Hyacinths and Daffodils, H. P. Neun, 9 North St., and West Main St., in Hotel Rochester. Adv.

Foreign Mission News

Special correspondence by The Propagation of the Faith Society, 313 Lexington Ave., New York City.

It is not God's way that great blessings should descend without great sufferings.—Cardinal Newman.

The Little Sisters of the Poor have a house at Tunis, North Africa, where they shelter one hundred and fifty aged men and women, and it is said to be little less than a miracle that permits them to keep this refuge open during the war. The Sisters themselves "scarcely know how it is done. They live from day to day on the bounty that chances to be offered and try not to think of the morrow. A rule of their Society forbids them to receive foundations.

A woman patron of the missions has taken a perpetual membership for the most abandoned souls in purgatory. What a beautiful thought, and what gratitude will be hers from those poor suffering souls.

Sharing In The Apostles Labor.

The help we give the poor apostles in their poverty and solitude is deeply appreciated. Many are the sentiments of gratitude recorded on the pages they write. The latest come from Fr. Rene Michelson, whom we know as an apostle in Tagudin, Philippine Islands. After a hard three weeks' trip among the Igorots he came home to find an offering waiting for him, and he says:

"How great a spiritual joy the missionary feels, when he thinks that there are, far away, brother hearts sympathizing and sharing in his labors and apostolic duties."

Papal Consistory After Easter.

Pope Benedict will hold another consistory at an early date, possibly soon after Easter. If conditions permit, the red hat will be bestowed upon Cardinal Scapellato, Apostolic Nuncio, at Vienna, and Cardinal Frurth, Nuncio at Munich. These were created Cardinals at the last consistory but have not received their hats, owing to war conditions.

Probable new cardinals are Msgr. Donato Sbarretti, assessor of the Holy Office and once auditor of the delegation at Washington; Msgr. Peter La Fontaine, Patriarch of Venice; Msgr. Dei Bianchi, titular archbishop of Tyre in Phoenicia and major doctored down shack, owned by a man who thinks only, "How much rent can I get?" The health records at Topeka show that in 1910 at least 2100 children born last year died before they reached the age of one year and 60 per cent of diseases that can be prevented. As to the influence of bad housing on morality, records cannot show, but that intense overcrowding is most baneful in its results can well be understood. Lack of proper playground can also be the cause of the acquisition of evil habits by the little "inhabitants of the city streets."

Combined Auxiliaries To Hold Reception at Powers Hotel.

The combined auxiliaries of the Knights of St. John of this city will give a reception to members and their friends, on Monday evening, May 8th, at Powers banquet hall. Mrs. Mary Staub will act as chairlady. Pedro and Five Hundred will be played. Some very nice prizes have been donated by the Auxiliary and their friends for this affair. There will also be gifts for guests who do not play cards.

The Auxiliaries extend an invitation to the Commanderies, hoping that they will lend encouragement by being present at this reception, as it is the first of its kind to be given by the combined auxiliaries of the city of Rochester.

The reception committee will consist of the 14 presidents of the Auxiliaries with Mrs. Teresa Renner, Supreme President of the Auxiliaries acting as chairlady of that committee. Adv.

Antiphonal Mass To Be Sung For The First Time.

At the Church of St. John the Evangelist (Philadelphia) a new mass composed by Rev. L. Refici, the choirmaster of the Basilica of St. Mary Major, Rome, is to be given its first rendition in this country on Easter Sunday, by the double choir under the direction of Nicola A. Montani, organist and choirmaster.

The mass is the first of a series to be written for the use of congregation and choir in alternate style.

At St. John's, the parts intended for the Congregation are to be sung by the choir of thirty boys in the sanctuary while the choir of twenty men will render the alternate sections (written for three and four-part chorus) in the organ gallery at the rear of the church.

Not only is the entire mass to be rendered in this antiphonal manner, but also the offertory and the Gregorian proper for the day which includes the celebrated sequence "Victimae Paschali Laudes".

The "Missa Choralis", as the work is entitled, is written in a modern decree style but is devotional and fulfills the requirements of the papal decree regarding modern liturgical music.

The composer has chosen the great Dresden "Amen" as one of his main themes and because Wagner utilized this same theme in "Parsifal" there will doubtless be considerable comment regarding the "Wagnerian" style, adopted by the author.

ARCHBISHOP HANNA COMING

At a special meeting of the Executive Committee of the Cathedral School Association at the Cathedral rectory, the following telegram from Most Rev. Edward J. Hanna, archbishop of San Francisco, was read:

It will be a distinguished honor to be the guest of the Cathedral School Association at their seventeenth annual reunion on Tuesday evening, May 9th.

The telegram was received at the Cathedral in response to a night letter sent by Rev. J. F. O'Hern on behalf of the committee.

Archbishop Hanna was a pupil of the school under the Christian Brothers. Tickets for the reunion may be secured from the members of the committee and at the following places: Schaefer & Hartel, No. 2 State street; George T. Boucher, No. 3 East avenue; Trant's Catholic Supply Store, No. 10 Clinton avenue south.

What An Alms Accomplished In Yen-Chow.

Yen-chow is one of the poorest missions in the Vicariate of West Che-Kiang. Recently an alms was sent there which could not have come at a better time. Fr. Braets, C.M., says that he was able to recall a catechist he had sent away because he could not pay the man's salary. This means that a Christian centre will now have some one to take charge of those already baptized and to instruct the neophytes.

Though poor, the country about Yenchow has not been affected by the revolution that took place in Yun-nan, and the missionaries can give themselves entirely to apostolic work. Nothing is so disastrous to religious effort as the uprisings that so frequently disturb the Chinese republic. While a revolution is on, the priests must content themselves with prayer rather than good works.

The Gorgeous Rhododendron.

No Easter shrub excels the Rhododendron for magnificence. We have fine specimens in delicate lavender and rose tints. H. P. Neun, 9 North street and West Main street, in Hotel Rochester. Adv.

24,922,062 Catholics

There are 16,564,109 Catholics in Continental United States according to advance sheets of the 1916 edition of "The Official Catholic Directory," published and copyrighted by P. J. Kennedy & Sons of Barclay street, New York. With fifty-two dioceses reporting increases, six dioceses showing decreases, and with forty-three archdioceses and dioceses making no change in the population figure, the increase in the number of Catholics during the year 1915 is shown to be 254,799. This figure may not satisfy the critical observer, but it must be remembered that it is impossible for all of the archdioceses and dioceses to take a new census each year.

To the figure 16,564,109 could be added, according to Joseph H. Meier, the compiler, who has been studying Catholic population figures for over ten years, at least 1,656,410, representing the floating Catholic population of the United States. No records are kept of the floating Catholic population, and the ten per cent would represent a very conservative addition. Adding this 10 per cent would increase the Catholic figure to over eighteen millions. Instead of deducting fifteen per cent for children and infants as is frequently done by statisticians, Mr. Meier believes that ten per cent should be added to arrive at the real Catholic population figure of the United States. It must be understood, of course, that the figures shown in "The Official Catholic Directory" are exactly the figures furnished by the Chancery Officials. No additions are made for floating population. For that reason the figure in the 1916 edition is given as 16,564,109.

Including the Catholics of the Island possessions of the United States it is found, according to the 1916 edition of "The Official Catholic Directory," that there are 24,922,062 Catholics under the United States flag. In the United States proper there are 16,564,109; in the Philippines there are 7,285,458. The additional 1,072,495 are in Alaska, the Canal Zone, in Guam, in American Samoa, in the Hawaiian Islands and in Porto Rico. The 1916 Directory shows, therefore, that there are almost twenty-five millions of Catholics under the protection of the Stars and Stripes.

Death laid a heavy hand on American prelates and priests during the year 1915 and not in a score of years have so many changes taken place. One Archbishop and ten Bishops passed away and, according to the necrology section of the present edition, 321 priests went to their eternal reward.

It is also shown that there are 19,572 Catholic clergymen in the United States. Of these 14,818 are secular clergy, while 5,254 are regular clergy, that is, members of religious orders.

The publication also lists 10,508 Catholic churches with resident priests; 5,105 mission churches; 85 seminaries with 6,201 students studying for the priesthood; 112 homes for aged; 210 colleges for boys; 685 academies for girls, and 5,588 parochial schools. In these parochial schools there are enrolled 1,497,949 children. "The Official Catholic Directory" furthermore reports 283 orphan asylums with 48,089 orphans.

HOLY CROSS ALUMNI DINNER

The second annual banquet of the Central and Western New York Alumni Association of Holy Cross College will be held at the Powers Hotel on Tuesday evening, April 25th. The guests will include Bishop Hickey, Rev. Jas. J. Hartley, D. D., Rev. M. J. Nolan, S. T. D., Rev. Joseph N. Dinand, S. J., president of Holy Cross College; Rev. Joseph Mulry, S. J., president of Fordham University; Rev. J. F. Leahy, S. J., former president of Holy Cross, and Rev. Edward Fitzgerald, president of the General Alumni Association.

Philip H. Donnelly, of this city, also will be one of the speakers of the evening.

News From Ireland

On his departure from Larne a presentation from the townsfolk and railway officials was made to W. J. Orr, who has been appointed stationmaster at Ballyclare. Arragh.

Most Rev. Dr. Crozier, speaking at the Armagh Technical Schools, said he would like to ask Cardinal Logue to join him—if they had the power—to ensure that no girl in the city should be married unless she passed an examination in cookery; and he would begin by asking each girl whether she could boil a pot of potatoes. Carlow.

J. Dawson, auctioneer, sold by auction a farm at Killierig, Tullow, for Mrs. Nolan, for \$558, and commission, to Mr. McDonald, Grange. Cavan.

Married—At parish church, Three-Mile-Hoyse, Monaghan (with nuptial Mass), by the Rev. Bernard McGarvey, C. C., assisted by the Rev. Eugene Coyle, C. C., Fintona, County Tyrone (brother of the bride), Francis Sheridan, son of Francis Sheridan, Gortmore, Smithboro, to Annie Coyle, youngest daughter of the late Patrick Coyle, Nohill, Smithboro. Carlow.

The profession took place at the Ursuline Convent, Waterford, of Miss N. Mulcahy (Sister Mary Otterman), daughter of P. Mulcahy, postmaster, Ennis; and of Miss Ryan (Sister Mary Monica), daughter of P. Ryan, Roheen House, Lisnargry, Limerick. Carlow.

Died—March 8, at Corofin, County Clare, John Kevin, aged 83 years. Carlow.

As a result of two flag days in aid of Cork, it is stated that over \$200 was realized. Carlow.

Died—March 7, at Main street, Banagher, Francis McCarthy, at an advanced age. Down.

Newry Urban Council passed unanimously a resolution asking the directors and shareholders of the Dundalk and Newry Steam Packet Company not to sanction the proposed sale of that company's steamers. Dundalk Harbor Board passed a similar resolution. Carlow.

James Cusack, father of John Cusack, B. L., has died in Newry. Fermanagh.

Justice Dodd congratulated the grand jury on the peaceful state of County Fermanagh. There were only three single cases since the winter assizes. Galway.

From many points of view the people of the archdiocese of Tuam (according to Most Rev. Dr. Healy in his Lenten pastoral) hold the highest moral record of any people in Ireland. Galway.

The death has occurred at her residence, Parkmore, Galway, of Mrs. Burke, mother of Rev. T. Burke, secretary to the Most Rev. Dr. O'Dea. Kilkenny.

Married—At the Church of the Assumption, Graignamanagh, County Kilkenny, by the Rev. Father Benedict, O. S. F. C., Church street, Dublin, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Rev. Father Mooney, P. P., Graignamanagh, Michael, youngest son of the late Edward and Mrs. Lennon, Goolin, Ballymurphy, County Carlow, to Margaret Mary, eldest daughter of the late Sirmon and Mrs. Carroll, Newtown, Graignamanagh, County Kilkenny. Carlow.

Died—March 5, at Harristown, Piltown, County Kilkenny, Hannah, third daughter of Daniel and Mrs. Butler, aged 23 years. Leitrim.

The fund for a monument to be erected in memory of the late Caden Gilligan is still growing in amount and popularity. Tipperary.

Over £40 has been realized by the annual collection for the Town Tenants' League in Tipperary.

Catholic Notes of Interest.

Domestic.

The marble which will sheathe the walls of the St. Joseph Chapel in St. Paul's Cathedral, Minn., will cost \$17,853.

Cincinnati has an Archdiocesan Music Commission, founded by Archbishop Elder and reorganized by Archbishop Moeller, and a School for church music.

The debt on St. Peter's Orphanage at Lowell, Mass., has been liquidated.

The Bishop of Pittsburgh officially characterizes the Catholic Women's League of the diocese of Pittsburgh as one of the most active, progressive and successful of the Catholic societies engaged in social and charitable work in Pittsburgh.

The contract for the building of the new building for St. Norbert's College, at De Pere, Wis., to cost \$100,000, has been let.

At the Catholic University, Washington, 62 Sisters are reported as studying for degrees.

The Catholic students of the colleges of the Des Moines diocese have organized into a club under the auspices of Bishop Dowling.

A preparatory school building costing \$115,000, 300 feet frontage is to be erected on a 90 acre tract near Rockville, Md., for Georgetown college.

Eight congregations in the diocese of La Crosse, Wis., are to build new schools.

At Fort Wayne, Ind., the new \$100,000 St. Peter school will be dedicated May 14th.

In New York, last year, the Mission of the Holy Name provided free lodgings for nearly 16,000 men.

In Cincinnati, the Church is engaged in building improvements aggregating \$209,000.

Foreign.

Recent excavations in the Basilica of St. Sebastian, Rome, revealed a memorial of the deposition of the remains of St. Peter and Paul, Apostles.

The ecclesiastical seminaries and religious novitiates in Europe are empty. A famine of priests and religious faces the Church there.

The Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Mary have thirteen establishments in China. In Peking they have now charge of St. Joseph's School.

The Archbishop of Sydney, Australia, says the war brings men to Mass, to Confession and to the Sacraments.

A Santos Dumont, the noted Catholic aeronaut, attended the second Pan-American Scientific Congress as the delegate of the Aero Club of America.

The Bishop of Vich and the Bishop of Badajoz, both Spanish prelates, urge the restoration of the Temporal Power in their recent pastorals.

The Charles Oldham prize at Oxford, England, was won by the Jesuit Rev. Martin Cyril D'Ascq, of Pope's Hall.

The magnificent German-Hungarian College of the Jesuits, in Rome, is now an important hospital; likewise the Massimo College of the Jesuits.

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