

## The Charities' Investigation of New York.

Statement By Mgr. Dunn, Chancellor.

Ante the controversy before the public of New York and which has reached into all quarters of the country, it is well to remember the following in weighing the entire charity question:

First—Catholic institutions have always been in a position to submit to the most rigorous investigation. It has been stated over and over again during the past four months that the Sisters have always welcomed an investigation conducted along the ordinary lines of fairness and justice.

Second—There has never been any time, directly or indirectly, opposition to the administration of Mr. Mitchell on the part of Catholics. The charge made is baseless.

Third—Monsignor Dunn never gave a dollar to anyone to evade a process of the law. The question of money was mentioned in a single sentence over the telephone as a trap to show that the wires were being tapped. It was shown conclusively that it was a trap by the proceedings before the Strong Commission. Father Farrell proved before the Kings County Grand Jury that the conversations imputed to him were false. As a result Commissioner Kingsbury and his attorney, Mr. Hotchkiss, were indicted by that body and are now awaiting trial.

Fourth—Mayor Mitchell, by his actions proved that he was in league with the Charity trust to "take God out of the hearts of the children in private institutions," by attempting to secularize all charities. He used the disproved charges contained in the Moore pamphlet to stampede the community, but without success. He knew or should have known, if he were honest, that the dreadful accusations against the child-caring institutions—Catholic, Protestant and Jewish—were without the slightest foundation, as was proved before the Strong Commission.

Fifth—Mr. Mitchell showed his animus as early as 1910, when he demanded that an examination of books of the Catholic institutions be made, to show that the city's money was not properly expended. The firm of Patterson, Teele & Dennis was engaged by the Catholic institutions to examine their books and after months of patient research these expert accountants could not find a single penny that had been misused or misappropriated. The archdiocese of New York paid this firm \$59,908.94 and the institutions of Brooklyn paid \$23,273, making a total of \$83,182.94. The present Strong investigation is the second attempt to prove that the city's money has not been honestly expended by our Sisters, but it has failed as the first failed. Yet Mr. Mitchell insists that there is something wrong, despite the fact that he employed all the machinery of the administration to prove his charge and the Catholic institutions engaged the most prominent firm of expert accountants to disprove his malicious assertions. He knows these facts. This is sufficient to demonstrate the hollow mockery of "reform" which he represents.

The investigation of the charities of New York has attracted attention all over the country. There is a great deal of misunderstanding of the question. Some are under impressions that are fully arranged series of conversations, which were supposed to thought that the Catholic Church have been taken from the wires is on trial; that Catholic authorities of three private citizens who were ities opposed the investigation of accused of being inimical to their institutions; that politically they were antagonistic to the present administration and so on through a long list of wrong theories. The whole question may be summed up in a few sentences, which need a lengthy explanation to give the proper perspective.

The State Board of Charities visits and inspects through its agents the various charitable institutions and reports the results of its findings. To discredit the work of this board and to show that it was not doing its duty or doing it in a negligent manner, the Department of Charity of New York City undertook to visit the institutions with the avowed purpose of "making a case."

Its inspectors and investigators started on their dark work, with the results that their reports were made up of half truths, innuendos, misstatements and deliberate falsehoods.

On the strength of their alleged findings of ill treatment and abhorrent conditions, the New York City Commissioner of Charities, Mr. Kingsbury, complained to the Mayor, who in turn lodged a complaint with the Governor, who appointed a commission to examine into conditions and report at the end of the so-called investigation.

The entire proceeding was well staged and not a detail was omitted to "make the case" they aimed at. A paid publicity agent was engaged, who gave to the papers the most horrible accusations, but failed designedly to state in every instance the disproof of the charges made.

The whole proceeding dragged along its slimy length until March 23, when an anonymous sixteen page pamphlet appeared containing misleading headlines. This publication aroused a storm of protest against the malice that was now apparent. It must be remembered that the testimony of the inspectors and the so called "experts" consisted simply of charges, which were shown to be absolutely groundless.

On Monday, Feb. 23, the Moore pamphlet was in circulation and a copy of it reached the Chancery Office of the Archdiocese of New York. Then the wire-tapping commenced ordered by Mayor Mitchell, to discover and uncover the so-called conspiracy. Conversations were taken down, some of them correctly reported when it served the purpose, and others made out of whole cloth to make a convincing story. The Thompson Committee, which was investigating public utilities, insisted on an inquiry.

Mr. Mitchell first tried to sidetrack the inquiry on the plea that it would interfere with the Federal Government, which was supposed to be on the trail of someone who was breaking the neutrality laws. When this was shown to be untrue, Mr. Mitchell desperately attempted to save the situation by turning attention to a so-called conspiracy of the Catholic Church, which never existed except in his own overwrought fancy. This also failed. He stated that he would not tolerate religious interference, as he added "that Government shall not lay its hand upon the altar of the Church, so the Church shall not lay its hand upon the altar of Government. And let me say that while I am Mayor it will not." It was a good sentence and intended to stir up religious feeling, but it failed. Fair-minded citizens saw through the transparent assertions. He knows these facts. This is sufficient to demonstrate the hollow mockery of "reform" which he represents.

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## The Grand Jury of Brooklyn Was Shakespeare a Catholic?

It is of interest to note some of the circumstances which leave an impression that Shakespeare was a Catholic.

During the earlier years of the Elizabethan persecutions Stratford, like the rest of Warwickshire and the other midland and Welsh-frontier counties—all nearly as Celtic as Wales itself—remained loyal, though secretly Catholic. John Shakespeare, the poet's father, conformed outwardly for so brief a time that his name soon appeared upon the list of suspected Papists—"recusants," but protected by the local burgesses, none of whom appears to have been anti-Catholic, the elder Shakespeare was not penalized for non-attendance at the Anglican chapel.

The poet's mother, Mary Arden of the Asbies, was a gentlewoman of an ancient Catholic family which had never wavered in its allegiance to the Mother Church. When her gifted son was but nineteen years old his cousin Robert Arden, suffered for his faith on the gallows at Tyburn, with all the post-mortem indignities of diabolism.

In not one of his works did Shakespeare openly or covertly profess himself a Protestant, nor did he glorify the then dominating State church and the "virgin-queen," its head, as was the manner of contemporaneous Protestant poets. "Spencer in particular. What Shakespeare has said about justification and grace, freedom and tradition, purgatory and the veneration of saints, prayer, penance and religious vows is in harmony with Catholic doctrine, whilst on the other hand it is directly opposed to the teachings of Luther, Calvin and the Anglican church.

Macaulay seems to find evidence that Shakespeare was a Catholic in "his well known partiality towards monks," and the fact that the Ghost of Hamlet complains of having died without Extreme Unction and in spite of the Protestant Article condemning the doctrine of Purgatory, that Shakespeare makes the Ghost say that he was "confined to fast in fires till the foul crimes, done in his days of nature, are burnt and purged away." (Hamlet I, 5.)

Carlyle has this paragraph: "This glorious Elizabethan era with its Shakespeare is itself attributable to the Catholicism of the Middle Ages. The Christian faith, which was the theme of Dante's song, had produced this practical life which Shakespeare was to sing. For religion then, as it now and always is, was the soul of practice; the primary vital fact in man's life. Middle-age Catholicism was abolished, so far as acts of parliament could abolish it, before Shakespeare, the noblest product of it, made his appearance. He did make his appearance nevertheless. Nature at her own time, with Catholicism or what else might be necessary, sent him forth, taking small thought of acts of parliament." (The Hero as Poet.)

The Davies MS. preserved at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, relating to Shakespeare, concludes thus: "From an actor of plays he became a composer. He died April 23, 1616, aged fifty-three years, probably at Stratford; for there he is buried and hath a monument, on which he lays a heavy curse upon any who shall remove his bones. He died a Papist."

Knights of Columbus Elect. Buffalo, June 7.—The state convention of the Knights of Columbus ended Wednesday with the election of these officers: State Deputy, James E. Finegan, of New York; secretary, James A. Dowd, New York; advocate, Arthur J. W. Hilly, New York; treasurer, Frank S. Shields, Auburn; warden, Philip Hammes, Utica.

At Thurles, Ireland, the Christian Brothers recently celebrated the centenary of their establishment there.

Several new dioceses have been erected in the Republic of Honduras, Central America.

To-day the birth-rate in France is less than the death rate, 19.6 per thousand.

The Catholic University in Chile is one of the most magnificent buildings in South America. It was founded by Archbishop Casaneva in 1888.

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## Foreign Mission News

Special correspondence by The Propagation of the Faith Society, 343 Lexington Ave., New York City.

His Holiness has made the following recent appointments: Rev. Daniel Foley, to be Bishop of Ballarat, Australia. Rev. Jean Damascene, O. M. Cap., to be Bishop of Port Victoria, Seychelles Islands.

Right Rev. John Baptiste Marie de Guebriant, P. F. M., to be Vicar Apostolic of Canton, China, transferred from the Vicariate of Kien-tohang.

Right Rev. Evangeliste, O. M. Cap., to be Vicar Apostolic of Arabia.

Sister Agnes, a nun laboring among the destitute children of China, tells a touching story in a few words: "We and our little ones at the orphanage are contented with very little. As for the Sisters, well, everything we want we are very pleased to do without, while our babies are as happy as possible for hours at a time playing with an old piece of newspaper or an empty cotton reel in a tin can."

Madagascar Has The Work of the Propagation of the Faith. Madagascar is a mission district especially marked by poverty and presenting many difficulties to the apostles, but in spite of these facts, our Society has been founded there. Bishop A. Forineau, Vicar Apostolic of Diego Suarez says: "Notwithstanding the Misery of the country, we are trying to establish the work of the Propagation of the Faith in all sections, confident that Our Divine Master will reward our efforts."

Councilor Mathew McInerney has died lately at Limerick.

On his translation to Williams-town, the parishioners and friends at Castlebar, where he ministered for eleven years, wished to present the Rev. P. J. Madden, P. P., with a testimonial and address. While reciprocating the kindly feelings of his former parishioners, he declined to accept the proposed gifts.

The Rev. James P. Prendergast, C. S. C., has been appointed by the Most Rev. Dr. Higgins, spiritual director of the Total Abstinence association.

Died—At Castle street, Castlebar, Thomas D'Arcy.

The death of Henry Duffy, ex-N. T. Kells, has been announced, which sad event occurred after prolonged illness, at the age of 55 years.

A motor driven by Francis J. Dolan of Castlebar was charged with having driven a motor car without a license in Strokestown.

The Countess Markevitz, at present serving sentence in Ireland, is the eldest daughter of the late Sir Henry William Gore Booth, Baronet, of Lissadell, County Sligo.

James Keane, Drumfin, has been appointed a magistrate for County Sligo.

A grand concert and variety entertainment was held in St. Patrick's hall, Gurteen, on May 7. There was a record crowd, and fine music, under the leadership of P. Ryan, bandmaster.

## News From Ireland

The police of Belfast made nine arrests of persons connected with the Sinn Fein movement, including a schoolmaster, who was taken in his classroom.

Larne has been added to the list of ports from which passengers may leave Ireland.

There were no magistrates at Tullow at last petty sessions court, and no cases had been entered for hearing.

The death of Thomas Reilly, Drumcrow, Killeshandra, is much regretted in the district. The funeral was largely attended.

The County Donegal Teachers' association passed a vote of condolence with the relatives of the late P. O'Doherty, Ballintra N.S. Dabbins.

Richard O'Carroll, T. C., secretary of the Ancient Guild of Incorporated Brick and Stonemasons' Trade Union, has died as the result of gunshot wounds.

No evening newspaper was produced in Dublin from Easter Saturday, April 22, to Tuesday, May 2. No morning paper was issued from Thursday, April 27, to Monday, May 1.

Miss Sexton, who lived close to the residence of a notable Volunteer leader, died of fright on the South Circular road while his house was being attacked.

Mr. Kennedy, county surveyor for Galway East Riding, has been appointed to the surveyorship of the West Riding, vacant by the death of Mr. Moran.

C. Hourihane has been selected to represent Kildare at the national school teachers' convention.

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## Motor Boats And Autos The Dream of the Missionaries.

If the time ever comes when our missionaries reach a point resembling affluence, their first purchase will be a gasoline boat or an automobile, according to the district they evangelize.

The time, labor and traveling expense saved would make these articles not such a luxury as they appear, and would enable one priest to accomplish two or three times his present amount of work.

Bishop Breyhat, O. M. I., of the Mackenzie Vicariate, Alaska, is one of those to whom a motor boat strongly appeals. He could make his summer visitations in half the time and transport the priests and nuns from their missions to the central post. More than this he could bring children to the schools and sick people to the hospital. Once gathered in these institutions, the Government is willing to aid in supporting them, but will not pay for their transportation.

Mgr. Fenton, the Bishop-Auxiliary to Cardinal Bourne, of Westminster, celebrates this year his golden jubilee of ordination.

In 1914 the Gregorian University in Rome had about 1,400 students; this year the number is only about 400.

The Irish nuns of Yores will be domiciled in Macmine, County Wexford, Ireland. A home for them has been acquired by public subscription.

The Holy Hour Confraternity of St. Martin's Church, Baltimore, has a ciborium ornamented with nearly 1,500 pieces of jewelry contributed by 2,000 members. It has 160 precious stones, eight amethysts and a sunburst of diamonds.

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