

The Public Schools And The Immigrant.

U. S. Government Assisting Former In Latter's Education.

The Parochial Schools And Citizenship Work.

The immigrant is a factor in our American life demanding a great deal of attention. Within the United States there exists today a great mass of people speaking only the tongue of the country from which they have lately come, ignorant of the common language and laws and customs of America, and not as yet affiliated with our citizenship. Because of these facts, these newcomers are imposed upon in countless ways by those who come in contact with them, and at the same time remain foreigners in fact as well as in name to the country in which they live and earn their sustenance. It is of the utmost importance, as can readily be seen, that these people, both for their own protection and for the well-being of the commonwealth, be educated in the language prevalent in this country and for participation in the duties of American citizenship.

Various private organizations, the Y. M. C. A. in particular, have devoted much time and attention to this work; and now the Federal government is showing an ever increasing interest in the matter. It has come to be recognized that the immigration problem is wider than the mere question of restriction, and that it also emphatically includes the adaptation of the newcomers to American life. The action of the Government in this respect is therefore in itself most commendable. The means which have been taken, however, cannot so readily be endorsed.

Attention has been called in the past to the efforts of various governmental bureaus to direct the education of the adult immigrant into the exclusive channels of the public school. The Bureau of Education went so far last year as to work hand in hand for this purpose with the National Americanization Committee. Now do we find that the Bureau of Naturalization of the Department of Labor is actively supporting the public schools as the exclusive agencies of the adult immigrant's education for citizenship. In the report of the recent Citizenship Convention, held under the auspices of this bureau, we read: "The Bureau of Naturalization sent the names of over 200,000 candidates for citizenship, including the names of their wives, to the public schools in the 44 states." "The number of cities and towns responding to the call for co operation with the Bureau of Naturalization grew to 650 in 44 states, with favorable responses from the public schools of every state in the Union." (Monthly Review of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Sept. 1916, p. 17).

Addresses were made at this convention by some of the leading men in the country interested in this work, the trend of all their expressions being that the public schools should be further and further utilized for citizenship activities.

Why, it may be asked, have the parochial schools of the country been neglected by the Government in the carrying on of this work? The great majority of immigrants who come to this land are of the Catholic religion, and could be more readily conducted to true Americanization under those sympathetic surroundings which the parochial school would afford. At the same time, their attendance at the public school for night work in English and citizenship would naturally attract their attention to these schools as places for the education of their children. Thus would the parochial school system, with all it implies, lose the children of the second generation, who so greatly need its influence.

It is time that this matter were emphatically and effectually brought to the notice of Washington. The parochial schools must not be discriminated

against. They should on their part, it is evident, make a strenuous effort to establish night classes in English and citizenship for those aliens who so greatly need their aid.

C. B. of C. V.
Irish Press and News Service.

Present Irish Conditions by Rev. D. O'Connor.

New York, Sept. 22nd, 1916:

"I would never visit Ireland again during the 'war', said Father Dennis O'Connor to me today in the priory of the 28th Street Carmelite Church. Father O'Connor who was formerly stationed at Tarrytown, N. Y., has just returned on the St. Paul from an eight weeks visit to Ireland having been promoted during his absence to East Twenty-eighth Street. "You see", he went on, "I am an American and the treatment meted out by the military autocrats to Americans in Ireland is not exactly in the nature of a hospitable welcome. We are shadowed and worried everywhere we go, and have to notify the authorities personally whenever we leave or return to a village."

"Why is that?" I asked. "I was unable to understand it at first," he said, "but the recent order prohibiting from landing in Ireland not only Americans but British subjects who have lived in America, throws some light on the question. Things have been done and still continue to be done over there, which it would never do to have judged by Americans or even by anyone who had lived long enough in the States to become imbued with American notions of justice and fair play. They must be preparing for further 'orgies', he added, "because they are now going to deport all Americans who have landed in the country since the first of March."

"But usually," I said, "is it not a fact that things are made specially easy for clergymen when traveling abroad?" "They made me leave my thumbprints like a common criminal at Liverpool," was the reply.

Father O'Connor then described what he had seen. He said the military had power of life and death and were everywhere in control. Every important center, every railway junction, in fact every strategic point, was guarded by a camp of soldiers. Every cross-road was watched and every passing vehicle subjected to the scrutiny of the police. "Everything was being done to identify and overawe the people. Military air-ships were constantly over Dublin and Wexford."

"Had the Sinn Fein movement many followers in Wexford?" "It had followers everywhere," he said, "and now such is the bitterness and anger at the Dublin atrocities, that the few who may be still anti-Sinn Fein dare not give expression to their views. The Republican manifesto and the ruins of Dublin have stirred the people's minds and aroused a burning sense of national self-consciousness and national pride."

"What do you mean?" I asked, "by the Dublin atrocities? Do you refer to the execution of the leaders?" "The execution, needless to say did arouse horror not only in Ireland, but the world over, but when I spoke of the Dublin atrocities I did not refer primarily to them. I have visited Dublin and seen the ruins and made many inquiries of people who saw the fighting. When the insurrection first broke out there was a feeling of anxiety among certain sections of the population, who waited eagerly for the military to come in overwhelming force and protect them from these 'desperate men'."

When the military did come the looting and butchery and drunk and brawling began. They broke into peoples houses and stole silver and jewelry. In North King Street the most awful crimes were committed. In one house there were four men with their wives and children. They had no connection whatever with the rebels and when the women and children were ordered out the soldiers promised that the men would be detained but not harm-

ed. One of the women with great difficulty returned to her home a few hours later, the military being still in occupation. Her husband was dead on the floor with his three companions. They were subsequently found buried in the yard at the back, their watches, money and rings having all been looted from their dead bodies.

Another woman described how the military had burst into her house. Her husband and little 12 year old boy were upstairs. The soldiers ran up and as she listened below she heard the voice of her little son: "Oh! don't do that sir!" When she went up later, father and son were dead, the blood still running from the bayonet stabs in their bodies.

These are only one or two instances, affidavits of these and similar occurrences were taken, and the Lord Mayor of Dublin presented a petition signed by many prominent men, for an inquiry at the bar of the House of Commons, but that and many similar petitions were refused.

There is nothing but admiration for the clean, honest fight which the rebels put up. When they took possession of a house, the first thing the rebel officer did was to lock all the doors save those of rooms commanding the street and to turn over the keys to the owner. They even brought their own food and would not touch any eatables that they could have had for the asking.

"What about Mr. John Redmond and the 'party'?" To quote the Dublin Independent they read as dead as mutton. That there will be no Home Rule and that it was never intended that there should be, is the opinion of all public men. Why the Government knows well that the party represents few now. When Asquith came over to Ireland he ignored the parliamentarians completely. The only man who would be returned at an election is Ginnell. All the others from John Redmond down are politically bankrupt.

Dr. O'Connor then went on to say that the cost of living was very high but that the crops were exceptionally good. There was a movement though to make the farmers sell—hay and wool having already been commandeered by the Government. He said that the press censorship was rigid and that since the rebellion no quotations from American papers have been printed.

Ex-Gov. Walsh's Visit To The Philippines.

The Belgian Canonesses of St. Augustine have opened twenty-six schools in the Philippines during the last six years, and all are prospering. The Superior General of the Order—Mother Louise—has just spent some time in the Islands, and in a letter speaks of an American visitor of distinction whom she met:

"Ex-Governor Walsh from Massachusetts visited our Tondo Orphanage, viewing kitchen, dormitory, laundry and every department with the kindest interest. He left saying that he never saw an institution he admired as much, and would never forget his visit to the orphans."

"A little incident of that visit will show the spirit of the children. The Governor and Mayor Carr, who was with him, had given the children some pesos to buy sweets. We sent three of the eldest to town to make the purchase for all their companions, and told them not to expend more than five pesos at a time. But how surprised we were when the children came back with only three pesos worth of fruit and candies, bringing us two pesos for a Mass to be said for two of our missionary Sisters who died lately from a very sad accident. We told them to take back the money and to use it for themselves, but they told us it was the wish of all the children, and the Mass was said the next morning."

Dr. James M. Flynn of Seneca Parkway has accepted an invitation to be in Battle Creek, Mich., on October 3, 4 and 5, as a guest of honor at the golden jubilee of the Battle Creek Sanitarium.

Foreign Mission News

Special correspondence by The Propagation of the Faith Society 348 Lexington Ave. New York City.

The typical letter of the past two years:

"I am a missionary priest in India, working among a very poor people, and need help very badly. On account of the war, nearly all aid from Europe has stopped; so we are thrown on the charity of Americans to help us out. Any little assistance will be appreciated."

Writing from Tananarive, Madagascar. Bishop De Saune, S. J., says:

"All the resources we have we put into the schools, for our objective point is to inculcate the knowledge of religion in the children. Well formed in early life, their future is almost assured. Unhappily, our schools are all too few in number."

Mgr. Aelen, E. F. M., the Archbishop of Madras, has been nominated a member of the Legislative Council by His Excellency, the Governor of Madras. This is the first time that such an honor has been bestowed on a Bishop, either Catholic or Protestant, in India.

New Posts In Africa To Be Founded.

A year ago Fr. C. Brandsma, a Mill Hill missionary, was appointed Superior of the Congo Mission at Basankusu. Founded in 1905, this station has been visited by many disasters, not the least of which was the ill health of the priests, for the region is a hard one for the white man.

Though poor, the mission is able to do much for the salvation of souls, and it is Fr. Brandsma's ambition to open two more posts in sections where there are already hundreds of Christians awaiting the administration of their religion. It seems a pity that these willing natives cannot have the consolation and support of a spiritual Father, for they are still new to the Faith and need to be strengthened in the doctrine they have chosen.

Nuns In India Earning Money To Help Out.

Fr. J. Laplace, P. F. M., begins his letter from Kumbakonam with a warm tribute to S. P. F. members in the United States, worded thus:

"The keen interest you evince for poor, unknown missionaries is really touching, comforting and encouraging. Oh! the wonderful works of Providence which joins in the same apostolic field souls of different countries. We feel our hopes and labors are yours—yours, too, the reward."

He goes on to say that some Catechist Sisters of Mary Immaculate, who conduct all sorts of charitable enterprises in Kumbakonam, being short of money, have undertaken the work of nurses in two public hospitals, where they are fairly well paid and most appreciated. The doctor in charge states that never before has the institution been so popular, ascribing the success to the motherly devotedness of the Sisters. St. Paul was proud to earn his livelihood—and so are these faithful women.

Is Your Position Satisfactory?

If not a course in the R. B. I. Evening School will help you make it so. New classes will be started in shorthand and typewriting Monday evening, October 2. Evening School Mondays and Thursdays, 7.30 to 9.30. Rochester Business Institute, 172 Clinton Avenue South.

Work for the Blind

If you need Chairs Canned Pianos Tuned, Flavoring Extracts, Toilet Articles or Brooms call Stone 3533.

Catholic Notes of Interest.

Domestic

Rev. Bernard Condon, of Washington, D. C., has been assigned to the faculty of St. Joseph's College, Rensselaer, Ind.

In 14 years, 60 churches have been built in the diocese of Sioux City and 42 schools.

In New York City there are about 102 charitable institutions under the direction of the Church. Their real estate value is about \$25,000,000 and personal property value about \$4,000,000. The money expended by them annually is about \$5,000,000.

In San Francisco has been formed a branch of the "No-Thank-You-League" whose purpose is "the elimination of excessive drinking of alcoholic liquors."

The new chemical laboratory of the Catholic University will cost \$180,000.

Mrs. Marea Reath died at the home of the Little Sisters of the Poor, Milwaukee, at the age of 101 years.

The new church at Berwind, Colo., in the mining districts, cost \$30,000. Mr. Rockefeller gave a large donation to its building.

In St. Mark's Church for Colored Catholics, New York, 50 converts were recently received, and many more are under instruction.

The Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, Ky., have a large colony of members at Brocton, Mass., where they have charge of a large parochial school. Rev. B. F. Killilea of St. Patrick's is now erecting for them a convent, three stories high of brick with marble trimmings.

The cost of the new Quigley Preparatory Seminary in Chicago is estimated at \$500,000.

Recently ordained in Rome the young Chicago priest Father James H. Markey was not allowed by the British Government on his way home from Rome to visit his relatives in Ireland.

Mgr. Teeling, D. D., of Lynn, Mass., will personally erect a home for Catholic young women.

The diocese of New York and Brooklyn, says Thomas F. Meenan, which practically constitute Catholic New York contain two million Catholics, 4,000 priests, 400 churches, 300 schools and 107,000 Catholic school children.

Rev. Joseph S. Loughran, of Long Beach, Cal., has been appointed chaplain in the U. S. Navy.

Foreign.

The American College, Rome, supplied the Church during the last academic year, with 30 priests.

Admirable, especially in Spain, is the progress of the Church.

Bishop Cohan, of Cork, Ireland, says "the war has brought the Pope very prominently before the world." This is true, but when was not the Pope the most prominent personage in the world?

Over ninety per cent of the people of Italy are Catholics.

The Holy Father prays that the Lord of Mercies, moved by the prayers of innocent children imploring peace, may deign to end speedily what he terms "this awful carnage"—this war.

News From Ireland

Cork.

Rev. Dr. Millar has been appointed C. C. Carlow, in succession to Rev. T. Burbage, R. D., transferred to Killeagh, King's county.

After 37 years' service, J. Murray, postmaster, Carlow, retired on pension.

P. Lawler, Carlow, who died recently, was the oldest member of the U. D. C.

Died—At his residence, Rathmore, Tullow, County Carlow, John Coates; aged 85 years.

Died—August 22, at his residence, Drumderg, Virginia, County Cavan, Daniel Brady.

Very Rev. Canon McMahon, P. P., Kilmihill, County Clare, who has passed away in his ninety-second year, was a native of Kilrush and was ordained in the forties. He took a prominent part in the peoples' battle in the fifties. He had ministered in Kilmihill for close on forty years. Most Rev. Dr. Fogarty presided at requiem Mass.

T. Burke, Kilrush, has died at the age of 70 years.

Died—August 17, at his residence, Ennistymon, John, husband of Catharine Marrinan.

A ladies' committee has been formed to make a presentation to the Presentation Brothers, Kinsale, on the occasion of their silver jubilee, which occurs next month.

The death has taken place at Middleton of Mrs. M. A. O'Flynn, hotel proprietress. She was the mother of D. O'Flynn, B. A., B. E., assistant county surveyor, Cork.

Donegal.

D. Doherty, sub-superintendent for the Pearl Assurance Company in Donegal, was on his transfer to Belfast, presented with a handsome souvenir by the Donegal staff.

Down.

Rev. Brother Berchan, Christian schools, Downpatrick, has been transferred to Kilmacow, Waterford. Before leaving he was the recipient of a complimentary address and handsome presentation by the local Hurling and Dramatic clubs.

J. Cunningham has caught near Ardglais, a monster skate, measuring eight feet (tip to tip of wings) and weighing ten stones.

Derry.

First place at the recent St. Columba's College, Derry, entrance examination was taken by Neil Collins, Swatragh, N. S. His two elder brothers distinguished themselves similarly. The scholarship is £70.

Kerry.

Sister Magdalen Murphy, of the Presentation Convent, Kilmarnock, whose death is intimated, celebrated her golden jubilee as a member of the order in 1913. She was a daughter of the late John Murphy, Tralee, and sister of the late F. Murphy, of the same town.

Rt. Rev. Dr. J. T. Murphy, Bishop of Mauritius, celebrated his first pontifical high Mass in the church of his native parish, Knocknagoshel, Kerry. His Lordship also delivered a touching sermon.

Kildare.

Married—August 16, at Golden Bridge chapel, Dublin, Andrew, youngest son of Thomas Begley, Athlone, to Mary, oldest daughter of Thomas Fleming, Salinas, County Kildare.

Limerick.

Regret is felt in Limerick at the death of Michael O'Shaughnessy, son of the late librarian, Catholic Literary Institute.

Louth.

A new A. O. H. hall was opened at Lissan, Tyrone, by J. McGarvey, M. McGarvey, J. P., presiding, the opening address being given by J. Skeffington, Dunganannon.

Died—August 22 at Kilsaran, Louth, Rev. T. Fagan, C. C.

Subscribe for The Journal.