

Mexico.

By Eber Cole Byam

Part V. Continued From Last Week

Cortes The Conqueror.

For sheer audacity no adventure in the annals of men can equal the bold enterprise of Cortes and his followers in the Conquest of Mexico. The conquering Alexander set forth to find victory for himself alone, acknowledging allegiance to none. His trained and disciplined forces penetrated regions not unknown, and subdued a people not greatly dissimilar to themselves. Caesar cared little about the powers of his home government as he led his invincible legions over Gaul, strength lay in the severe drill and discipline of the Roman military organization, and the tribes which they conquered were much like their own. Cortes, on the other hand, had always hanging over his head the threatening power of the Spanish monarch, to whom all owed strict allegiance, and to whom none failed to report every act in which jealousy could find pretext for complaint.

Cortes landed upon the Mexican coast upon another planet, unknown and unknown. That the land might hold warlike millions made him only the more determined as he destroyed his ships that they might not be a means of escape for the faint hearted. To increase the difficulties of his position, some of the friends of his enemy, the Governor of Cuba, were ever in the midst of his camp plotting his ruin. Yet he plunged boldly into the unknown and his courage and his wisdom served to carry him through ever snatching victory from defeat, until by his nerve, his wit and his good sword, he laid the glittering prize at the feet of his sovereign master. Of all the heroes of fiction, for bravery, sound sense and misadventure, he is nearest approached by that fearless creation of Du-mas—the fearless D'Artagnan. And it may be said with truth that no tale of fiction has ever equalled the story of the Conquest of Mexico.

How The Conquest Was Effected. Had the Mexican Indians possessed the faintest conception of a national spirit, the Spanish Conquest would have been remotely postponed, if not made impossible altogether. As it was, the fighting abilities of the Spaniards challenged the admiration of the war-worshipping natives, and they eagerly joined them against the Aztecs for purposes of robbery and revenge. The siege and capture of the island pueblo of the Aztecs was repeated at intervals, on a smaller scale, throughout the country, and in this work the native tribes continued to assist, so it may be said that the Conquest was continued and concluded as it had begun.

Following closely upon the fall of the Aztec stronghold, the Spaniards scattered through the interior, in bands, under leaders now trained to ways of Indian fighting, and with the large bodies of Indian auxiliaries, their success was assured. Their primary purpose was booty, of which they found pitifully little for the aborigines did not produce much beyond what was necessary for their own subsistence and to permit them to war upon their neighbors. The sack of towns yielded little more than was needed to satisfy the demands of the Indian allies, who were content with having killed some of their red brethren, and the appropriation of their supplies of food and the destruction of their homes.

sive tracts of fertile land with the native peasantry to work them.

LONELINESS A SOURCE OF DANGER TO THE SOLDIER.

A Practical Means of Effective Welfare Work For Our Boys.

But a very short time remains till the process of drafting our young men for the army will be begun. It is evident that a large proportion of these new soldiers will be Catholics. It is, or should be, evident that there is urgent need of mobilizing at once, effectively and efficiently whatever resources we have to meet the many problems arising from a serious need of soldier welfare work on the part of Catholics.

That there is such a need is evidenced by the study of conditions which obtained in the recent mobilization of our forces on the Mexican border. A detailed and careful study of these conditions was made by Dr. M. J. Exner, the results of which have just appeared in a pamphlet published by the Amer. Social Hygiene Association and entitled "Prostitution in its Relation to the Army on the Mexican Border." The facts produced are such as justify and call for immediate concerted action to safeguard our Catholic boys from the appalling danger which threatens their morals, their own health and that of those with whom they come in contact, in fact the whole social body. It is a problem vitally affecting from a religious, moral, social and hygienic point of view.

We must find means to reduce to a minimum the danger from this evil. And to attack the problem we must get at the sources. One of these is detailed by Dr. Exner when he says: "Loneliness also contributes to the cause of immorality in the soldier. Nothing on the border impressed me more forcefully than the loneliness-in-the-crowd of many of the soldiers. I have seen hundreds of them walking the streets of border towns at night, with the restlessness and gnawing of loneliness expressed in face and manner. Many have told me that they visited immoral houses not because of any strong craving for immoral relations but because of their desire for sympathetic companionship with the opposite sex, which desire is strengthened by absence from home."

Now right here is the key to a most timely and effective means of combating the forces of immorality. We can all of us, attack immorality by attacking and minimizing this loneliness. In all the cities and communities where our soldiers will be mobilized or stationed our Catholic clubs and societies should make it a point to throw open the privileges and social and recreational facilities of their club rooms or meeting quarters. A little judicious advertising of the fact that their rooms are at the disposal of soldier visitors will bring a goodly stream of the boys.

Again regular evenings, particularly the evenings of pay-days, when the danger of spending their newly acquired money for drink and immoral purposes is greatest, should be set aside for special feature entertainments by the various Catholic clubs and societies. Movies could be provided, entertainments, card parties, decently regulated dances, smokers should be arranged and the soldiers rounded up and invited. It might even be good to detail a committee to make special effort to get the soldiers to come, and even personally conduct them to the meeting place.

These special feature evenings could be made the occasion of giving a short, pithy, effective talk to the boys on their religious duties, on saving their earnings for their dependents and to provide for the time of return to civil life, on the dangers of immorality and kindred topics. Were the priest in charge of the society to mingle companionably with the boys he might make many a splendid spiritual conquest. Or again the same societies might secure from the commandant of the barracks or station the permission to give some year to year mission in the social affairs as alluded to in the large mess tents or mess rooms of the barracks.

of the barracks or station sends more than three hundred a year to heaven. Although our mission is young, we have three orphan asylums, Here, besides a rescued children, are placed young Christian girls who wish to receive instruction in religion so that they may spread the Faith in their own neighborhoods."

From The South Sea Islands.

From Samoa, belonging to the Vicariate of the Navigator Islands, comes a letter written by Bishop P. Broyer, S. M. He announces some good news, namely, that last year he was able to send a catechist to the Manu Islands, sixty miles distant from Tutuila, which island, it seems, belongs to the United States and should therefore have a special interest for us.

Foreign Mission News

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

To work as a promoter for the "Propagation of the Faith" is to give direct service to the Sacred Heart.

From Japan comes the sad news of the death of Mgr. Jules A. Chatron, P. F. M., one of the veteran workers in the missionary army. Mgr. Chatron was seventy-four years of age, and had been forty-eight years a priest and twenty-one years a bishop. The Osaka mission owes much to his untiring efforts, and during his long period of labor he had seen many changes take place in Japan.

About fifteen years ago, Bishop Chatron came to the United States, where he remained a few months in the interests of the diocese. He has also written frequently to American Catholics who cannot but feel they had a real acquaintance with this zealous and faithful apostle.

Relative to his transfer from North Shensi to Central Shensi, Bishop Eugene Massi, O. F. M., says of the latter district:

"The poverty of this vicariate is extreme. Famine and blackest misery are everywhere. The missionaries have only Mass offerings upon which to rely and without them can give little help to the unfortunates who come to their doors begging for bread."

The hope of the Weihstien mission, Shantung, this year, is destroyed by the drought. The population, already poor, will soon be plunged in dire necessity. Other food beside rice has gone up in price and is beyond the reach of them. Fr. Irene-Marie Frederic, who sends this sad report, is a Franciscan apostle whom we already know from frequent letters.

Before the great cyclone of last November, conditions were hard enough, but since then, with many houses destroyed that should be rebuilt, and living expenses higher than ever, we missionaries have a hard task to make ends meet. Rev. J. Bastide, Wandivarts, N. Arcot, India.

Situated twenty miles from the railway station, the mission centre at Viriyour, Kalkajurchy, India, needs a dispensary. Rev. L. M. Arul, who sends the communication, is a native priest. He adds: "The future dispensary is to be dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Let the faithful children of the Blessed Mother come forward and help."

One Woman Baptizes Three Hundred Infants A Year.

Not long ago someone sent Fr. C. Daems, P. F. M., of Tainchow, China, a chalice. Commenting upon this gift, he says: "The chalice was welcome, and we are grateful to the donor. Just before the war, 'White Wolf,' the well-known brigand, pillaged five of our largest churches and took away almost all the ornaments. Since then such offerings are much needed.

"Our work among the little ones is progressing favorably. We have one old native woman, now over seventy years old, who gives her time to baptizing infants at the point of death. She

receives more than three hundred a year to heaven. Although our mission is young, we have three orphan asylums, Here, besides a rescued children, are placed young Christian girls who wish to receive instruction in religion so that they may spread the Faith in their own neighborhoods."

Knights of St. John To Hold Field Mass.

The following order for next Sunday has been issued to the Knights of St. John in this city by Colonel Joseph H. Weis, of the First Fraternal Regiment: The officers and knights of this command are hereby ordered to appear in full dress uniform for parade on Sunday, June 17th, at 9:15 A.M., to escort our bishop, Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, to the cemetery, where memorial field mass will be said for the repose of the souls of our deceased members.

A. O. H. Patriotic Field Day.

The Hibernians of Monroe County are inaugurating a campaign to raise their quota of the \$1,000,000 fund for the relief of the families of those who enlisted in the service of Uncle Sam. A "Field Day" will be held at Exposition Park on July 4th, which will have many attractive features. President Sharkey of the Gaelic Athletic Association has determined that the athletic sports will be about the best ever witnessed in Rochester, he has made arrangements for visiting teams from Buffalo and Syracuse will produce a game of Gaelic football and a Gaelic Hurling match in which the "Camans" used will be the exact replica of those welded over the hills and valleys of Tipperary. A baseball game will also be played.

"O'Connell's Own" band will provide plenty of good old Irish music and an Irish piper will inspire those present who hail from the "Ould Sod" to lumber their feet in the mazes of the Kerry Dance.

The County Board forwarded a telegram to President Wilson pledging unqualified loyalty and support and received the following reply:

White House Washington June 5th, 1917.

My dear Sir: Allow me to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of June 4, and to say that it will be brought to the attention of the President, in whose behalf I beg to thank you and all those concerned for your patriotic assurances.

Sincerely Yours, J. P. Tumulty, Secretary to the President.

Many of the members of the Rochester divisions of the A. O. H., have already joined the colors including two members of the County Board, Frank Mulcahy, County Secretary and George Clancy, President of Division No. 12.

JUNE ORDINATIONS

As announced in last week's Journal twelve students of St. Bernard's Seminary were ordained to the priesthood on last Saturday morning. The ordaining prelate was Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, D. D., bishop of this diocese. He was assisted by Rt. Rev. Monsignor James J. Hartley, pro-rector of St. Bernard's Seminary, and by Rev. J. F. Goggin, D. D. Rt. Rev. Monsignor Andrew B. Meehan, D. D., was master of ceremonies.

The three newly-ordained priests, who reside in Rochester, celebrated their first masses Sunday morning. Father Doerbesker

sang the 10:30 mass at St. Monica's Church, and was assisted by a cousin, Rev. William Benignus, C. R., of St. Jerome's College, Kitchener, Ont., Rev. John Ball, of the Cathedral, as deacon, and Rev. Francis Moffett, assistant pastor of St. Monica's Church as sub-deacon. Rev. John P. Brophy, pastor of the church, preached the sermon. Father Kalb sang his first high mass at 10:30 o'clock at St. Boniface's Church, and Father Luddy celebrated his first mass at 10:30 o'clock at the Blessed Sacrament Church. Father Bergan and Father Grady celebrated their first masses in their respective cities of Auburn and Corning.

The newly ordained priests will be given their assignments by Bishop Hickey in about two weeks' time.

Late News of Ireland

Louis Walsh, solicitor, Ballycastle, was one of the Republican speakers at the South Longford election.

A veteran of the American Civil War, John Peacock, J. P., draper, died recently at his home in Ballymonee in his seventy-eighth year.

The late Major-General Sir Alexander N. Rochford of Clongrangan, Carlow, left £10,728.

After a long illness, the death took place of Maurice M. Reilly, late of Tulloy.

Mr. and Mrs. James Sheridan of Drumculin died within a few days of each other.

The reception took place in the Convent of Mercy, Derby, of Miss Eileen Harrington, a pupil of the Convent of Mercy, Killaroe.

County Court Judge Bodkin was presented with white gloves at Ennis Quarter Sessions.

Amongst those who were received at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Roxhampton, London, was Miss Isobell Campbell, daughter of J. H. Campbell, J. P., town clerk, Queenstown.

At the Presentation Convent, Listowel, Catherine Boyce, in religion, Sister Mary Terecia of Cork, received the white veil.

Lifford Quarter Sessions were adjourned owing to the death of the infant son of Judge Cook, county court judge for Donegal.

Delegates from Clonlough A. O. H. were present at the Plunkett conference.

At St. Eunan's Cathedral, Letterkenny, by the Rev. J. McCafferty, Adm., Edmund A. Corr, Trim, County Meath, eldest son of R. A. Corr, "Carradine," Rocoomon, and formerly of Farragher House, Rocoomon, was married to Rose, daughter of the late Patrick Murray, Port View House, Letterkenny.

Anniversary Masses were celebrated in every section of the country for the martyrs of Easter week.

The late A. S. French, D. L., Monivea, Galway, left £8,683.

Listowel Guardians adjourned their meeting as a mark of respect to Rev. C. O'Sullivan, C. C., chaplain, on the death of his sister who was a nun in France.

Mrs. Barker, Eyre street, Newbridge, collapsed suddenly in her home and died.

At the parish church, Mount Bolis, Kings county, with nuptial Mass, by the Rev. John Corcoran, P. P., Castletown, County Meath, brother of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. Ed. O'Reilly, P. P., Joseph, youngest son of Joseph Corcoran, Field House, Hughabonagh, Rahan, was married to Rose Annie, only daughter of Patrick and Mrs. Scully of Kilmore.

The death took place at his residence, Cumberland street, Birr, of James F. Power, solicitor.

T. A. Daly To Appear at Convention Hall.

Rochesterians are to have an opportunity again to hear T. A. Daly, famous poet-humorist, who will appear jointly with John Finnegan, the popular New York tenor, on the program to be given in Convention Hall on the evening of June 19, under the auspices of the men of St. Monica's Church. Mr. Daly has won a success which is not limited to this country by his humorous lectures and his poems, the latter being of a character which stamps him as a master in his own particular field. His coming to Rochester assures those who will make up the Convention Hall audience of an evening of more than ordinary pleasure.

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