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Friday, Sept. 28, 1917.

Must Heed Pope

Whether they will or not, the warring nations will have to listen to Pope Benedict. The answer sent by Emperor Charles of Austria to the Pope's first peace plea, breathes an earnest desire for peace and indicates a basis for peace negotiations. The reply of the German Chancellor is less satisfactory but it also indicates that the Germans desire peace. There is defiance in the German note but that has been a characteristic of the Kaiser and bluff and bluster have always accompanied the stage of negotiation in European diplomacy. To use a familiar illustration, the diplomats even offer a higher price than they expect to give or receive.

Now is a time to be cool and refrain from superlatives either in favor of too hasty or ill-considered peace, or to incite military lust or ardor, or revenge to the point that we in America will emulate the Prussian militarism we have stated we are fighting to destroy root and branch. There is absolutely no doubt that an overwhelming majority of the American people detest militarism and that no Congress ever can be elected on the issue of raising or maintaining a huge standing army and navy in time of peace. Military training for the boys and young men we may have not alone as a preparedness measure but to promote proper physical development and to instill discipline and respect for authority but the American people never will consent to be taxed to maintain a huge army in idleness. Military training for a few years is a good thing, but military life in time of peace breeds laziness or a feeling of arrogant superiority. Neither can have a permanent place in American civil society or business life. We are and will continue to be a nation of producers and America is no hive for drones.

There is another point. We as Catholics have a right to demand that our country at least must disregard the reported compact between England, France and Italy that the Vatican must not and shall not be consulted or listened to when the time arrives for peace negotiations. There is none, be it nation, country or people who have more at stake in the success or failure of the war. If militarism is triumphant, the Church is likely to suffer. If a blatant Socialism or a radical atheism is brought into power in Germany, Austria, France and Italy then we are likely to have repetitions of intolerant bigotry such as have been seen in France and only the other day in Portugal when a Catholic Bishop was exiled from his see because he granted permission to a few novices to take their final vows as nuns!

When peace terms are decided upon they must include guaran-

tees of religious freedom else the last state of Europe and the world at large will be far worse than the first of the present day. Then why should the chosen representative of the greatest force for law and order in existence not be represented in the forthcoming peace conference?

What Peace Means.

Our old friend Archbishop Hanna succinctly and forcefully told upon what terms world-wide lasting peace can be attained in his eloquent sermon preached at the opening of the Catholic Federation in Kansas City.
 "There will be neither freedom nor peace," said Dr. Hanna, "until men are willing to make sacrifice even of life that they may serve the greater good of mankind. There will be no permanent abiding concord of princes and of rulers until the men who sway the destinies of nations recognize the great moral sanctions of life, recognize that the human being is more valuable than all earth's possessions, recognize that mercy must season justice, recognize the higher code taught by Christ in accordance with which men are ruled by moral force, recognize, yea, and listen as the ages of faith listened, to him who in the ways of Providence represents Christ upon the earth and who by his very place in the world's economy is, by divine appointment, 'mediator of peace.'"

The Pity of It!

While one may profess amazement at Secretary Lansing's revelation that Count Von Bernstorff had spent large sums of money to influence Congressional action, no well-informed American should be surprised. Too long have we all known that there are men in public life in nation, state and municipality who are responsive to the clink of the almighty dollar to wonder that some of these men were willing for a price to expose the cause of Germany against England before the United States entered the war—for Mr. Lansing's revelations date back to 1916.

But we must hang our head in shame that such men are in public life and that there are men in professional and business life who possess such lack of decency that they will try to influence public men with proffers of dollars.
 If there be any way to whip out of American public and business life the bribe givers and the bribe takers, by all means let it be put into force and that at once.

Viviani Rampant.

The wisdom of the American Catholic hierarchy and laity in refraining from any participation in the welcome extended to ex-Premier Viviani while in this country is apparent. It was felt that notwithstanding the patriotism displayed since the war began by the French Catholics, both cleric and lay, M. Viviani had not lost one jot of his hatred for the Cross, for Catholicity and Religion in general.

And that opinion was right because since Viviani's return to France he has been pushing in the House of Deputies a fiendish bill the object of which is plainly the absolute extirpation of all love for Religion from the orphaned left helpless by the devastations of the War! Just think of it! A Catholic soldier dies for the faith and his poor children are to be taught to despise the Faith which made them offer up their lives for their country and to ignore the Pater who eased the last moments of their father!

Such is Viviani, arch-hater of Religion and professed unbeliever!

"Train your auto to come to church" was the theme of a talk by a Protestant clergyman at Paso.

The Difference.

Did you ever think of the different way Catholic writers speak of Protestants? asks the "Monthly Church Calendar," Chicago. Do you find Catholics vilifying them? There are in all churches men who are a scandal to their creed. Do you find Catholics vilifying the belief because of the immorality of some of the believers?

"In the whole Catholic Encyclopedia (of sixteen volumes) you will not find the least semblance of vilification or misrepresentation. On the contrary, even the Protestant press has given unstinted praise of the treatment of Protestant men and doctrine therein." The Methodist Zion Herald says: "Inevitable, unconscious, ignorance, rather than positive ill-will, has been at the basis of the most of the errors on Catholic subjects which have so unhappily pervaded English literature."

Why So?

If the following paragraph in an exchange be true, why should the War Department refuse permission for a chapel to be erected by private funds to serve the religious welfare of United States soldiers?

Rev. Edward F. Brophy, U. S. Chaplain Coast Artillery Corps, now located at Fort Rosecrans, near San Diego, collected funds for a number of years, with a view to erecting a chapel building for the soldiers under his care. Permission for this has been denied by the war department and Father Brophy now has returned to all the donors the amounts subscribed by them.

What is the reason, Mr. Secretary Baker?

Here and there in this country and "somewhere in France" Rochester soldier boys are to be found and they will be found doing their full duty.

Peace with honor should be welcome at any time. Only the "profiteers" shout out for war to continue for war's own sake.

Advice, nowadays, is about all you get as prices have advanced from 50 to 400 per cent.

"Eat fish" cries out the food conservator. We do eat fish and the price doubles. "Eat corn and save wheat". We do eat corn and the price jumps. Even the plebeian bean costs 36 cents per quart for which we used to pay 3 to 5 cents. "The farmer says 'I don't get it.' The retailer says 'I don't get it.' The railroad claims it did not get it. Meanwhile the poor consumer he pays, he pays, he pays."

Out in Bricefield, Mo., 19 young Poles entered the national army and their leave-taking was in the form of special services in the local Catholic Church. No lack of patriotism, there!

What has become of General Miles "Guardians of Liberty"? We supposed these intense patriots would have led the van in the volunteering to serve in the new National Army! But perhaps Jay Forrest and William Sulzer were not ready?

The Knights of Columbus buildings at the army camps are to be open to all soldiers irrespective of religious affiliations.

Very Rev. Dean McNulty, "the Grand old man of Paterson, N. J.," recently celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of his ordination to the Catholic priesthood.

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Changes Announced By Bishop

Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Hickey has announced several appointments and transfers in the diocese of Rochester. The following changes were made:

Rev. J. W. E. Kelly, of Spencerport, appointed to take charge of St. Patrick's Church, Victor.
 Rev. Michael J. Krieg, of Ontario, to take charge of Our Lady of Nativity, Brockport.

Rev. James F. Winters, of Horseheads, to take charge of the parishes of Horseheads and Elmira Heights.

Rev. John Killeen, for several years professor of St. Andrew's Seminary, to take charge of the parishes of Horseheads and Elmira Heights.

Rev. William Byrne assistant at Corpus Christi Church, to take charge of the parish of Ontario.

RESIGNATION OF PASTOR

Brockport, N. Y., Sept. 27.—The resignation of Rev. James B. Keenan, pastor of the Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, has been announced. Right Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, bishop of Rochester writes as follows:

Dear Father Keenan—I beg to acknowledge your favor of the 18th inst., in which for reasons of health you offer your resignation as pastor of the Church of the Nativity, Brockport, and to state that while I regret the necessity of this act on your part, the reason given causes me to accept the same to take effect at your convenience.

I take occasion to express to you my gratitude for the splendid work which as a pastor of the church of Brockport you have accomplished. In fact, you have far exceeded my most sanguine hopes in what you have done and it will be a great consolation to you on retiring from a work for which you now feel unequal to know that you have earned the respect and love of your people and the warm appreciation of your bishop. If you will indicate to me the date when you will be ready to come to Rochester, I will plan to make an assignment to take up the work which you are now laying down with much credit.

Yours sincerely in Christ,
 Thomas F. Hickey,
 Bishop of Rochester.
 Father Keenan's pastorate in the Brockport church began on January 5, 1915.

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