

Foreign Mission News

Propagation of the Faith Society, 348 Lexington Ave., New York City

OF SUCH IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

We know that India is a poverty-stricken country. The natives suffer from almost chronic starvation, the missionaries are accustomed to wretched little chapels and miserable presbyteries.

Fr. Blasius, a Carmelite of the Archdiocese of Verapoly, seems to be experiencing the extreme of apostolic misery. He speaks with childlike simplicity of the stress which is surely great indeed.

"When I get hold of an offering," he writes, "I accomplish great things. With it I go to Cotytan and return home more joyful than a boy of ten, with a few loaves of bread, some shoes, and other necessities.

"There are times, however, when the Superior gives me good advice, but no money, simply because he has none. Then back I go to my gloomy residence at Amanayur and there murmur a little. But, half an hour's meditation sets me all right. Is not the Master with me? He who has Him lacks nothing.

"Also, why should I complain when I see my Lord in a poorer house than myself? I must explain that the church under my charge blew away two years ago. It withstood the winds for three years and five months; but then it was carried off. And now my Lord remains in a provisional sanctuary of bamboo and leaves.

"How long will He remain there? Perhaps not very long. Someone, I hope, will be moved to pity Him.

"Do not pity me, rather have pity on Him Who is in a poorer condition than myself.

HIGHER EDUCATION IN CHINA.

Brother Aimar, Director of the Christian Brothers of St. Joseph's English College, Hongkong, China, directs to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, an appeal in favor of his important institution of learning. It is the only Catholic College in Hongkong, a city of some 400,000 inhabitants and has an attendance of about six hundred students, not more than half of whom are Christians.

The Chinese Christians in the Lazarist mission of Kiang Si have adapted themselves with enthusiasm to the idea of making pilgrimages to the shrine of the Blessed Virgin and show great fervor in this form of devotion. Mgr. Fatiguet says that a pilgrimage inaugurated to the sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes at Chesan was of such solemn dignity and beauty that the pagan observers were deeply impressed.

Colored Missionary Work

Rt. Rev. Monsignor John E. Burke, Director General of the Mission Work among the Colored People in the United States, was pleasantly surprised last month by the receipt of a letter from a Nebraska lawyer informing him that the Board had been remembered in the will of a former client, Bernard Clarke, of Spaulding, Nebraska, dying without direct heirs or close relatives, had bequeathed \$1600 to the Director General for use in the Negro mission field.

Four new schools were opened during September. Part of the salary of the teachers is supplied by the Board of which Monsignor Burke has charge. At present the priests engaged in the work are collecting in the diocese of Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Indianapolis. One of the fathers, the Rev. William Gibson of the Scranton diocese, who has been connected with the work for two years has gone as a chaplain with the Soldiers encamped in Alabama.

Another good friend of the Negro missions passed away this month in the person of W. D. Richards of Boston. It was Mr. Richards, who with his sisters donated the funds for the erection of the school in Father Massey's parish of which announcement was recently made by Monsignor Burke. The Director General at his office, One Madison Ave., New York, has been the recipient of most encouraging letters from the Bishops whom he approaches with a petition for collections in their dioceses. The Negro work seems to make a particular appeal to the churchmen of the country at this moment when the loyalty of the colored troops, who are marching to the front, is so widely advertised.

Kansas City Triples K. of C. Allotment.

"The farthest reaching of any campaign ever held in Kansas City," was the characterization made by Bishop Lillis at the dinner given by him to the workers in the campaign for the Knights of Columbus Recreation Fund at the Baltimore Hotel. On the basis of \$10 per member, Kansas City's share was \$16,000. Instead of that amount the Knights raised a fraction less than \$46,000. The campaign was filled, from beginning to end, with stirring, as well as affecting incidents. Contributions running into the hundreds of dollars were made by individuals, while school children sent in their pennies and nickels and dimes. One lad went about from room to room in his school and turned in \$1.75 to the fund. Assumption parish, the smallest territorially in the city and consisting of but sixty-three families, averaged \$19 to a family. A troop of Catholic Boy Scouts made a contribution of \$30.

Gaelic Books Presented To Pope Benedict.

That great Gaelic writer, Canon Peter O'Leary, has placed his works in the hands of trustees, who will bring out a complete edition of them after the war. Meanwhile the announcement has been made that the collected works of "Athair Peadar" will be taken to Rome soon and presented to the Holy Father. This interesting presentation will be made by another well known Gaelic scholar, the editor of "Seadhna," the kinswoman of Adhda Ruadh Ua Domhnaill, who is buried on the Janiculum, near Tasso's oak. It is intended to ask a blessing on the work of the restoration of the national language to Ireland.

Late News of Ireland

Died—At Ballymacward, Michael, third son of the late Patrick Kyne, Clonbur. At Ricketstown, Bathilly, after a long illness, Patrick Dowling. At his residence, 19 Dublin street, Carlow, Benjamin Coleman, in his 89th year. At Ouragh, Tullow, Lewis Dempsey, aged 76.

Married—Liam O'Keane, Mitchelstown, to Kathleen M. Lyons, Kiltankin, Mitchelstown. Daniel O'Donoghue, Pollardstown, Mitchelstown to Marion Alcock, Skibbereen. Johanna (Babe) O'Donovan, Maulbrack, Enniskeane, to Thomas O'Driscoll, Farnacloagh, Newcestown. Robert E. Starmore, Bedford, to Cissie Connolly, Castletownroche.

Died—Rev. Andrew Forrest, P. P., Ennisheannon. Captain Sutton, harbormaster, Cork. Mrs. Ellen Hegarty, ex-teacher, Barrack street, Clonakilly.

Died—Thomas A. Delahunty, The Pharmacy, Saggart. Dr. Frederick Kidd, Lower Fitzwilliam street, Dublin. Rev. William Egan, P. P., Stillorgan. John Ronan, Dardistown, Clogh-ran.

Very Rev. Canon Keane, Athlone, has been appointed on the Committee of Ballinasloe Asylum.

Died—At the Hospital, Mullingar, Margaret, wife of Patrick Bennett, Aughamore, Tinnagad.

Rev. John Everard, P. P., Clogh-ran, who died recently, was brother of Rev. Father Everard, P. P., Ardmore.

Dr. D. Kennedy has been appointed Deputy Coroner for the city and eastern portion of Co. Waterford.

Died—J. J. Harty, Tramore. Mrs. H. Bell, Waterford. Mrs. A. Scanlon (nee Young), Michael street, Waterford.

Miss Mary Smyth died recently in Birr Union Hospital. She was admitted to the workhouse in March, 1864, being then 12 years old, and for forty years has been in the hospital.

Buldagen priests and people made a presentation to J. C. Hanly on his promotion from the management of the local creamery to that of Grange Co-operative Society.

Miss A. K. Burke (in religion Sister M. Cecilia), who has been professed in the Presentation Convent, Kilkenny, is a daughter of J. H. Burke and the late Mrs. Burke, N. T., Knock Claremorris, and a sister of Rev. J. A. Burke, Diocesan inspector, Tuam.

Died—Patrick Duffy, Clogh-ran, Ballaghaderreen, aged 90 years. M. O'Gara, cashier, Ulster Bank, Ballyhannis.

The proprietors of the "Clonmel Chronicle" have suspended publication owing to labor troubles and the increased cost of materials.

Rev. C. Culligan, C. B., Silvermines, was chosen president of the N. Tipperary S. F. Executive, James McKeogh, Co. C., Ballina, v. p.; E. O'Leary, sec.; and M. J. Mackey, C. E., treasurer. A resolution was passed calling on Captain Esmonds, M. P., to resign. The rev. chairman said the resolution would do no good, as the M. P. would stick to their £400 as long as possible.

Married—At the R. C. Church, Ballybricken, Waterford, by the Rev. J. J. Moynihan, S. T. L., Professor St. Brendan's Seminary, Killarney, with nuptial Mass, assisted by the Rev. T. Coghlan, C. C., Ballybricken, Thomas, only son of Mr. and Mrs. C. McGillcuddy, Main street, Killarney, to Julia M. O'Meara, third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas O'Meara, Bantiss, Cloughjordan.

Died—Sister M. Albinus, Convent of Mercy, Kingstown, the daughter of Thomas O'Rourke, victualler, Rowe street.

IN HONOR OF ST. ROSE.

Cable dispatches from Rome announce that Pope Benedict has granted a plenary indulgence to all American Catholics who during the year ending August 30, 1918, make a novena in honor of St. Rose of Lima, the first American saint, the third centenary of whose death closes on that day. In addition, a partial indulgence of 300 days may be gained on each day of the novena. This great and unusual privilege is extended to American Catholics only, since St. Rose of Lima is not only the first American saint but also the special protectress of America, declared such by Pope Clement XI in 1671. The novena may be made privately, although it is anticipated that the American hierarchy, seconding the wishes of the Holy Father, will order a public celebration of this auspicious event in every parish of their respective dioceses.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GIVE RINGS TO SOLDIERS.

The Jerseyville, Illinois, Knights of Columbus has arranged to give gold rings, with the red, white and blue emblem of the order, to all the members of the council who have enlisted and who are going into the draft army. The rings are given as a token of esteem from the lodge to the soldier boys who are to fight for principles of liberty and democracy. A ring is the only piece of jewelry a soldier is allowed to wear, and the K. of C. emblem rings will serve, not only as a reminder that the council members "back home" appreciate what the boys are doing, but will also be a means of recognition to other members of the order in service and to army chaplains who may administer the sacraments to the wounded and dying on the field.

A SAINT OF SWEDEN.

Saint Bridget of Sweden, another October Saint, was the daughter of Birger, a prince of the royal house of Sweden and of Ingelburgis, also a descendant of kings. At an early age Bridget married Ulpho, prince of Nericia in Sweden. Their family numbered eight. Two of the children died in infancy, but the others lived as model Christians.

Ulpho died in the year 1344. After his death Saint Bridget devoted herself even more than before to good works. She built the monastery of Wastena, in the diocese of Lineopen, in Sweden. She arranged for the support of thirteen priests, four deacons, and eight lay brothers.

She also founded a house for nuns and supported sixty nuns. After a life full of good works St. Bridget of Sweden died in the year 1373, being then seventy-one years old. She was then a woman of learning as shown by her writings—not published until after her death.

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA IN 38 STATES.

The National Order of the Daughters of Isabella was founded in Utica, N. Y., May 16, 1903. It was incorporated June 24, 1903. Each branch of the order is called a court, of which there are now 320 in the United States with a total membership of over 27,000 in 38 states of the Union. The order owns its own national home, a substantial building on the main thoroughfare of Utica, N. Y.

Knights of Columbus.

A Halloween party will be held on Wednesday evening, October 31st at the Club rooms. The dancing class for the children, which has proven so successful in the past, is to be started on November 3rd and run for six consecutive Saturday afternoons.

At the Vatican it was announced that Russia has abrogated the restrictive measures of the old autocratic regime against the Catholic faith.

RECONCILIATION OF THE RUSSIAN CHURCH OFFERED AS A PRICE OF PETER I. DIVORCE.

The Church Unyielding to Royal Whims and Absolutism.

That the Church because of her uncompromising attitude on the question of divorce incurred the reforming fury of Henry VIII. and suffered the loss of England from her fold is a matter of common knowledge. But that a similar unyielding attitude on the same question frustrated a projected reconciliation of the Orthodox Russian Church will come as a new and most interesting fact to most people.

To Saint Simon, a noted French nobleman, we owe the interesting account of this little known fact. In his Complete and Authentic Memoirs published in Paris in 1842, in 40 vols., he tells us what we also find confirmed in the Secret Memoirs of the reign of Louis XIV. and XV. by Du-Lois, published in Paris in 1791 in two volumes, that Peter I. of Russia wished to undertake seriously not only a personal reconciliation with the Roman Church but contemplated an attempt to force his subjects to follow him in such a course. His motives for such a project were as the author tells us "on the one hand his vaulting ambition burned with eagerness to establish family connections with the first ruling houses of the world, such as the houses of Hapsburg and Bourbon, and to secure for his own dynasty, till then scarcely known in civilized Europe, a position of equality with them. In this he was hindered by the fact that no other ruling house belonged to the Greek orthodox religion. Besides this Peter I. hoped to find the Apostolic See more compliant than the Russian clergy who stubbornly refused to legally and finally divorce him from his first wife Eudoxia Lapuchin, from whom he passionately desired to be separated. This they refused because there was not even the semblance of a reason for doing so."

To encompass this his desire the Czar sent his most astute and accomplished diplomat, Count Kurakin, to Rome to conduct negotiations towards realizing his scheme. It is this same Count Kurakin whom Saint Simon gives as his personal source of information in the matter. Our author continues his interesting revelation by telling us that "Still the negotiations conducted in greatest secrecy for over three years yielded no result, for the reason that in the first place, the Pope without a shadow of a doubt absolutely refused to lend himself to divorcing the Sole Lord of all Russians from poor Eudoxia, and then especially because Kurakin's report convinced him (Peter) that from his own and the conversion of his people there would arise such an obstacle to the establishment of that absolutism which he so desired that even the most brilliant family alliance would be too great a price to pay. Peter therefore gave up the project and allowed the Greek Church to remain in Russia."

Thus we have here again a most telling example of the unyielding attitude of the Church on so fundamental a principle as divorce, a matter of such vital social importance in our day of neo-pagan laxity. So too we have here again, out of the mouth of what we here in America have come to regard as one of the classical examples of Absolutism, a strong confirmation of the Church's championship of the rights of nations and peoples. The fact that at all times she has stood against absolutism of every form should be strongly impressed on our minds today, when there is such a bewilderment of opinions on different forms of government.

C. B. of C. V.

There are 333 religious newspapers published in the United States, with an average circulation of 19,000. The total annual circulation is 291,000,000 copies.

CATHOLIC NEWS NOTES.

Domestic About 8,000 volumes have been so far collected in the United States and England for the Louvain University library.

Kentucky is the cradle of the now great Holy Name Society in the United States. One hundred and nine years ago that cradle was rocked in the parish of St. Charles in Marion County, diocese of Louisville. The registers of the Society at St. Charles, dated second Sunday in Lent, 1808, is preserved in the archives of the See of Louisville.

In Seattle, the Franciscan Fathers have been given charge of a parish.

In Chicago the new Church of St. Clement, costing \$250,000, will be strictly Byzantine in architectural design, and will be very handsome. Its design is by the architect of the St. Louis Cathedral.

In Iowa the Catholic women are federating.

The Carmelite Fathers are building a new Priory, as a novitiate and seminary, at Englewood, N. J.

The Dominican Father Thomas A. Keempis Kelly, of Columbus, O., has been appointed professor of Sacred Scripture at the Dominican International College in Rome.

In the course of the last seven years New York City has had six Catholic Mayors.

The Benedictine Sisters of the American-Casinese Congregation held a convention at St. Scholastica's Convent, Chicago. Twelve of the mother houses representing more than 2,500 Sisters, took part in the convention.

Foreign

The New Zealand Protestant surgeon, Dr. A. A. Martin, is loud in his praises of the work of the Sisters and priests in the care of the wounded and suffering.

Lightning struck a pinnacle of the tower of the Cathedral of Kingston, Ont., knocked off a 200lb. stone which fell on the roof and then fell into the Archbishop's yard.

At Shan-Tung, China, the Fathers of the Divine Word have a seminary with native Chinese students of theology.

In Warsaw, the Polish language is now being taught for the first time in all the schools. This was not the case when Poland was under Russia.

Apostolic Visitor Mgr. Brown presages the creation of new Bishops in Scotland; the faith is returning there by leaps and bounds.

The establishment of an Australasian national college in Rome, is now under consideration. At present there are sixteen national seminaries in Rome.

Under Benedict XV, the re-established Pontifical School of Tapestry, was most successful last year. Recently several Cardinals visited it and officially cut the first threads from the frame of finished tapestries.

Through the intervention of King Alfonso, Count D'Oultremont, a Belgian official, deported to Germany and sentenced to death, has been pardoned.

The Sisters of St. Dominic have a convent in Caracas. They are seven Sisters.

Ever since 1843 the Fathers of the Holy Ghost have labored in the African missions.

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