

Foreign Mission News

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

A WORD ABOUT CONDITIONAL GIFTS FOR THE S.P.F.

Perhaps not enough people know about the possibility of helping our Society by conditional gifts. The plan is very simple. The Society receives gifts, large or small, entering into an agreement to pay the donors or life beneficiaries, so long as they shall live, an amount equivalent to a fair rate of interest. What that amount shall be fixed at the outset by mutual agreement.

The character and standing of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith give abundant assurance that its Conditional Gifts Fund will be safely and wisely managed. The Society is now (1917) over 95 years old, and in all its history every payment has been promptly made and every agreement faithfully kept. References on this point will be gladly furnished to prospective benefactors. Moreover, the rates of interest which it is possible to obtain on good investments frequently fluctuate and often decrease, while the rate of income paid by the Society will remain the same to the end of the beneficiary's life.

MANY ANIMALS HAVE BETTER SHELTER.

The Reverend Mother Louise, Superior-General of the Belgian Missionary Sisters at Srivilliputtur, Trichinopoly, writes a piteous description of the convent there, which has, she says, "no roof, when it rains, we do not know where to place our beds. The only room we have is given up for the chapel." As for the school, where the Sisters educate little Paria orphans, "it is of mud, covered with grass, nearly a ruin." But it is not for themselves that the Sisters plead it is for the neglected Paria children, who, often destitute even of rags to cover their shivering little bodies, have to sleep in that ruinous dormitory, which the snakes constantly invade, and the rains render absolutely unfit for human habitation. One thousand dollars would provide the new school the Sisters need, we hear, "for," adds the Mother, as she thinks of her little proteges, "whilst animals have splendid stables in so many lands, our orphans have not even a shelter! And the nuns are not better off. Every evening they go round their miserable convent building, looking at the cracks in the ceiling, searching for a place where they will not be soaked if it rains during the night."

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith and a few other similar organizations send the missionaries occasionally some paltry alms, hardly sufficient to keep body and soul together, and collected from a few generous people who are interested in this work of works. These alms are altogether inadequate to enable them to make much advance in the battlefield of infidelity, and yet there are some who, instead of admiring their devotion and imitating their generosity, wonder why the cause of the missions does not progress faster.

In Malabar the Carmelite Fathers are training priests with much success, for Father Bruno O. C. D., gives encouraging figures of the ordinations at Puthenpally, where the mothers and sisters of the newly ordained cast their jewels at the feet of the young priests in characteristic Oriental fashion, as fitting offerings to Christ's ambassadors.

Twenty native Sisterhoods are now in existence in the Indian Field. Religious vocations are quite common among the Telugu girls under Indian nuns. Two new Tamil Schools in Madras have been placed under Indian Sisters, whilst Burmese maidens are already entering the Novitiate of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary.

Late News of Ireland

Astron.

Belfast Gaels are delighted with the decision of the Coiste Gnotha to hold next year's Oireachtas in Belfast. This will be the first Oireachtas held in the northern province.

David Currie, recently arrived from Australia, died at his residence, Castlegore, Ballymena, from injuries inflicted by a restive horse.

Ulster.

Miss Kitty Ryan, A. R. C. M., London, a native of Kilmurrough, delighted her friends and fellow townspeople by her vocal contributions to the support in aid of the Christian Brothers' Schools, Kilmurrough.

F. W. Gore Hickman Kilmore, Ennis, has been appointed a D. L. for Clare.

Conn.

George Hale, manager, Kinross Gas Works since 1909, has been appointed manager, Netley Gas Works.

E. Burke, Castle street, Bandon is now a J. P.

Derry.

Derry No. 2 School Attendance Committee expressed deep sorrow and regret at the death of the Very Rev. Canon Sleavin, P. P., a former chairman.

The death has taken place of George F. Phillips, Derry, brother of H. B. Phillips, well known in the musical world. He was the youngest son of the late Henry St. John Phillips of Kilkenny.

Donegal.

Rev. J. Boyle, C. C., Cloughaneely, paid an eloquent tribute to the late Patrick McGinley, J. P., Falcarragh, whose funeral was largely attended.

Dublin.

Alderman O'Connor has been appointed a representative of the Dublin Corporation on the Board of the Meath Hospital and Co. Dublin Infirmary.

Rev. James Bede Taylor, C. M., died recently at St. Vincent's College, Castleknock, aged 37 years.

Fermanagh.

W. H. West, secretary of the Fermanagh Co. Committee of Agriculture, states that the new village scheme will be rigorously enforced.

Galway.

F. J. McDonnell, Dunmore, Galway, has been called to the Bar.

Rev. T. D. Cleary, Dalby, Queensland, who has died, aged 45, was educated in St. Jarlath's, Tuam, and ordained in St. Patrick's, Carlow, 1898, when he went on the Australian mission.

Kerry.

Listowel U. C. adjourned as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. E. Buckley, wife of L. Buckley.

The death took place at a private nursing home, Dublin, of John J. Galvin, auctioneer, Listowel.

Kildare.

A special meeting of the Athy U. C. decided to present an address to Mr. DeValera on the occasion of his visit.

Kildare Co. Infirmary Committee expressed sympathy with Patrick Phelan, Co. C., on the death of his brother, Murty Phelan, late of Dublin.

Mayo.

A little girl named Hannon was accidentally burned to death in her home at Boleghelly, Monasteraden, a short time ago.

Michael Ruane, Foxford, has died at the age of 100.

The death occurred recently of Dr. J. A. Hanrahan of Hollymount.

Meath.

Mr. Brophy, auctioneer, Ardee, disposed of plots of land in the town for J. McKeever, Stickillins, at prices from £53 to £60 per acre, subjects to rents of £2.

Gladys M. Lowery, Preston College, Navan, won a prize of £6 in connection with the recent Intermediate Examinations.

Kells Guardians extended sympathy to the relatives of the late Terence Reilly, a former member.

NEED SOUND TEACHERS.

All reflecting men, whether Catholic or Protestant, are agreed that unless the will is trained, developed and strengthened in youth we cannot look for vigorous manhood or blameless womanhood, properly trained in the practice of the fundamental principles of Christian civilization, says Rt. Rev. Denis J. Dougherty. We must not forget the importance of having the mind trained by those teachers whose philosophy of life rests for its intellectual basis, upon the teachings which have the unqualified approval of moral leaders who are especially commissioned by God to safeguard the spiritual life.

The noble character of a St. Louis of France cannot be built upon the vagaries of a Tom Paine, the deep faith of a Louis Pasteur cannot rest upon the teachings of a flippant Ingersoll, and the sterling virtues of a Blessed Thomas More cannot spring from the ravings of a Voltaire.

LOVE OF OUR LADY.

Devotion to the Mother of God is ingrained in Catholic hearts. From earliest infancy the Catholic child is trained to turn with love to the Blessed Mother in Heaven whose help was never known to fail. The wonder of it is that all who profess Christianity do not share in this regard for the Mother of the Creator and Redeemer of the World.

"We cannot separate the Son from the Mother," wrote Canon Sheehan, in one of his books, "and I would give very little indeed for the Christianity of the men, who, looking upon a picture of the Madonna and Child, could realize to himself that the Infant is God, and yet gaze with cold indifference on the face of the Mother who holds Him."

REDISTRIBUTING IRISH SEATS.

The Irish Parliamentary Commission have issued their first recommendation regarding membership of forty-two present parliamentary divisions, under the redistribution scheme. So far it is proposed to create 11 new constituencies, while 11 are abolished, the following being a summary:

	Now.	Future.	Inc.
Dublin City	4	7	3
Dublin County	2	4	2
Belfast	4	9	5
Down County	4	5	1

The additions are counter-balanced by the following abolitions—one seat in each—[the figures in brackets being present representations]:
Waterford City [1] Longford (2) Galway City (1) Louth (2) Kilkenny City (1) Queen's (2) Newry (1) Westmeath (2) Tyrone (4) Leitrim (2) King's County (2).

POPE'S INTEREST IN LOURDES.

Among the Papal audiences for November were those accorded to the bishops of Orleans and Tarbes (Lourdes). In the case of the latter, Msgr. Scheffer, Benedict XV. interested himself especially in the intense religious movement which, in spite of the war, continues to manifest itself at Lourdes. The Sovereign Pontiff, who still has a lively recollection of his own pilgrimage to the Grotto of Massabielle, listened with evident satisfaction to the particulars given him by the Bishop regarding the recent French national pilgrimage and retreat at Lourdes.

WHY WE LOVE THE SAINTS.

Our veneration of saints is a perpetual witness to our adoration of God, says "John Ascough." They are saints because He is God; if there were no God there would be no saints. Their light is perfect in its kind and degree, lovely and of ineffable beauty and serenity; but it is all reflection. In the wild night of sin and human imperfection it compels man to remember that there is a God. The world's bulk is between us and Him, but the sanctity of the saints insists on our keeping in mind the existence of God.

CATHOLIC NEWS

NOTES

The collected Gaelic works of "Athair Peadar" will soon be taken to Rome and presented to the Holy Father.

Rt. Rev. John J. Cantwell, Bishop of Los Angeles, is a native of Clonmel, in Tipperary. Two of his brothers are ecclesiastics.

In the Seminary of the Holy Cross at Notre Dame University are this year 115 seminarists.

The new St. Bernard combination church and school, 61x77 feet, of Tudor-Gothic architecture, at Wauwatosa, Wis., is in charge of the Dominican Sisters. It is a unique structure.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Philadelphia provided outings last summer for 1,982 poor children.

The Catholic Laymen's Association of Savannah, Ga., established by the Bishop of Savannah, Ga., has as its object the refutation of calumny against the Church.

The terrible persecution of the Church in Mexico, these past three years, has allied the Church there more closely with the Church in the United States.

This is the fiftieth year of St. Viator College, Bourbonnais, Ill.

Freedom, Wis., is to build a St. Nicholas Church costing about \$80,000.

His Holiness Pope Benedict XV. is already in the fourth year of his reign.

At the Benedictine monastery at Coquillada, near Saragossa, Spain, a church will be dedicated this month to Our Lady Queen of Peace. The Holy Father has appointed his Nuncio in Madrid to officiate at the ceremony.

In England, Scotland and Wales are upwards of 1,200 Catholic religious houses ranging from Abbeys to humble mission houses.

The Apostolic Process for the Beatification of the Ven. Don Bosco, was recently completed in the Archbishop's residence at Turin, and has been forwarded to the Sacred Congregation in Rome.

The tower of the magnificent Gothic Cathedral of Ulm, begun in 1337, is 55 feet high.

A few weeks ago the Church solemnly beatified the Ven. and now Blessed Anne Bartholomew, who was the companion of St. Teresa and in whose arms St. Teresa died. Her beatification was festively celebrated last month in Rome at the Church at St. Julian-des-Belges.

Shanghai, China, has about 25 hospitals in charge of native Catholic Sisters.

Pope Leo XIII during his Pontificate established in Rome the Bede College, which is a seminary for men of advanced years who desire to study for the priesthood.

The Bishop of Killaloe, Ireland, Mgr. Fogarty, writes to the Dublin United Trades' Council these words: "The world is sick of the accursed war, and of the hypocrisy that surrounds it. Rightly has the Holy Father called it a useless massacre."

Andrew Moore, of Athlone, Ireland, has bequeathed the Holy Father \$50,000.

In the Transvaal, Africa, a new church was dedicated for lepers, who also sang the Mass of dedication.

TRIBUTE PAID BY ECONOMIST TO THE MONKS OF OLD.

Advocate Of Efficiency-Arbitrarily Deplores Lack Of Leaders Among Clergy.

But Recognizes Even Economic Efficiency-among Priests past and present.

A notable book, recently published, "The Foundations of National Prosperity", contains four individual treatises by such authorities on economic questions as Richard T. Ely [University of Wisconsin], Ralph H. Hess, Charles K. Leith [both of the same University], and Thomas Nixon Carver [of the Harvard University]. The aim of the authors is to jointly place before the American people a series of studies in the "Conservation of Permanent National Resources." In the very last treatise Prof. Carver speaks of the "Conservation of Human Resources", and in this connection he writes as follows, following up the viewpoint of the economist pure and simple:

"Travelers in Southern Europe must have been impressed by the large numbers of priests and their high average ability. Except where this talent is employed in constructive leadership, it is a serious drain upon the human resources of those countries. If it were the stupid and inefficient who were thus withdrawn from productive work the loss would be vastly less. Every one of those countries is suffering from the lack of constructive talent in such fields as scientific agriculture, engineering, and business."

Prof. Carver then continues: "One must not be unmindful, however, of the splendid service performed by the monks of an earlier day in preserving the learning of the ancient world and handing it down to the newer civilization of modern Europe and America. Their part in the civilizing of the rude barbarians of northern Europe entitles them to the respect of all mankind. The laboring monks especially call for our admiration. The clearing of the land, the draining of the swamps, the preservation of the arts of horticulture and agriculture, and the further development of both, was constructive work of the very highest order. Moreover, it was performed at a time when constructive industry was all but submerged by the general brutality and violence which prevailed over the whole of Europe. In those countries where the priests are still doing that kind of work, they deserve the highest commendation. The countries with the largest numbers of such priests are the countries which are advancing most rapidly, not only in the arts of civilization, but in wealth and power as well. The way in which they are using their influence to decrease the number of holidays is of the highest utility and must have a profound influence upon the national efficiency. One cannot help being impressed also with the fact that much of the co-operative work among the farmers of Ireland, Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Germany is fostered by the priests in Catholic communities and by the pastors in protestant communities. The president of the local co-operative society is usually the priest or the pastor." [pp. 306 and 307.]

Recognition of the economic and civilizing achievements of the monks of old is particularly gratifying when coming from such a source. Yet a word of correction, lest a false impression be permitted to spread along with this avowal of merit, will surely be opportune.

It must be remembered, that when Prof. Carver speaks of the economic duties of present-day priests and the achievements of those who lived centuries ago, he ignores the fact that these endeavors are not the first and principal duties of the priest. His first and foremost obligation is that of spreading the Kingdom of Christ upon earth. While efforts on the part of the priests directed towards social and economic betterment of the masses are desirable when circumstances both de-

mand and permit their execution, yet they still remain, and always must remain, works of supererogation. And in the last analysis it will be found, that as a teacher of the Gospel he becomes also a true social leader.

The economic achievements of the monks in ages past are, wholesome as their effect has been, essentially secondary to their initial vocation and pursuit. Their work was a missionary work primarily. Even in their code the "ora" came before the "labora"—prayer and spiritual duties the manual labor and the teaching of the useful arts of civilization to the barbarians. Civilization itself is not a product of their wholesome example of work, but primarily of their teaching of the Faith and the tenets of morality. The result is all the more gratifying because the useful arts were taught the barbarians at the same time at which they received the moral teachings of the monks. But the success is primarily due to the higher influences, and only secondarily to the more material improvement.

Just one word in reference to Prof. Carver's criticism of the number of holidays in some countries. It may be granted—that in some instances the number of holidays was so great as to impair the efficiency of the people. Yet it is equally true that the later utilitarian movement seriously overstepped the mark when its promoters sought to abolish practically all holidays. Today we note a return as in evidence of reaction against this movement, to the mediaeval half-Saturday holiday and, moreover we have, by and by, instituted no less than 7 Bank-Holidays, besides election days. Furthermore we must not forget that enforced occasional rest is the portion of many workers who are employed in our factories. Hence, a demand for a reduction of holidays in certain other countries should at least be qualified.

In spite of these minor points of disagreement, we must welcome Prof. Carver's frank recognition of the cultural achievements of the monks of the past and many present-day priests. Such an avowal is especially gratifying in view of the many unscrupulous attacks to which the clergy is constantly exposed.

C. B. of the C. V.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

January, Holy Name of Jesus

- 1 Tues.—Circumcision—of Our Lord
- 2 Wed.—Most Holy Name of Jesus
- 3 Thurs.—St. Genevieve V.
- 4 Fri.—St. Titus Bp. C.
- 5 Sat.—St. Telesphorus P. M.

Hold On.

Hold on to your hand when you are about to do an unkind act. Hold on to your tongue when you are just ready to speak harshly. Hold on to your heart when evil passions invite you to join their ranks. Hold on to your virtue—it is above all price to you in all times and places. Hold on to your foot when you are on the point of forsaking the path of right and duty. Hold on to the truth, for it will serve you well and do you good throughout eternity. Hold on to your temper when you are excited or angry, or others are angry with you.

R. R. I. Winter Term

Opens Wednesday, January 2, for the day school and Monday, January 7, for the evening school. Students may start any course or subjects on these dates. There are still twenty weeks of evening school before the closing on May 23. This is a good time to start preparation, as you should be ready for positions in the summer or early fall.

You may register any week day from now on until January 2, the day of opening. On New Year's Day the office will be open till 12 o'clock only. Rochester Business Institute.—Adv.