

Our War Profiteers.

War is another name for destruction. It destroys lives and property. At one and the same time it diminishes population and wealth. It makes of men food for powder and converts the products of labor into ashes. In France, in Roumania and every country where the dogs of war have been let loose, there are shell-torn, desolate, unplanted fields that once produced plentiful harvests. Blackened ruins are all that is left of what were formerly happy homes. Strange to say, there are persons who become enormously rich from this state of things. Out of human misery they have piled up vast fortunes. In our own country the number of millionaires have been greatly increased. According to statistics based on the 1917 report of the United States Commissioner of Internal Revenue, which were recently published by the Brooklyn Eagle, there are now in the United States 22,000 millionaires, nearly 8,000 more than last year.

The part some of these millionaires are enacting during the present war is described in a very interesting article from the pen of Mr. Amos Pinchot, Chairman of the American Committee on Finance. The article in question was written mainly for the purpose of calling the attention of Congress and of the public to the vital importance of safeguarding the country against the unscrupulous rapaciousness of greedy profiteers who become, or are becoming, millionaires by preying upon their fellow countrymen. In their mad pursuit of the dollar, they have made themselves the most dangerous element in the country. Mr. Pinchot does not employ the language of exaggeration when he says of them:

"Neither the United States nor any other country can carry on a war which will make the world safe for Democracy and for plutocracy at the same time. If the war is to serve God, it cannot serve Mammon. And any man who tries to make it do both is not merely attempting the impossible; he is fighting his own country in the most effective way. As St. Paul says, 'There is a natural body and there is a spiritual body.' All the natural resources of the country, all the armies, navies, ammunition, food and other physical assets we can muster, will not make the war a success, unless there is also a sound-spiritual body of popular faith, to carry the nation through these times of unparalleled suffering and sacrifice. It is this spiritual side of the situation which is being very unfortunately and needlessly weakened, because Congress is refusing to protect the war from the hungry profiteers, who are daily tearing at it."

This is a stinging indictment at men, who, while masquerading as patriots, are heartlessly availing themselves of the war to amass great fortunes by compelling their countrymen to pay an exorbitant price for the necessities of life. In our days they take the place of the forestallers the Catholic Church held in check in the past by visiting them with her severest penalties. If the example she set be not followed by our Government, the country will face a condition of things fraught with the gravest consequences.

Already the rumblings of discontent over a situation created by greedy profiteers are audible. The American people are beginning to feel the pinch of artificially created economic conditions. When they purchase the necessities of life, they find that the dollar which in 1914 had the purchasing power of 100 cents, has shrunk to 57 cents. In other words: the American people find that their incomes have been diminished almost fifty per cent. These incomes may be the same in dollars, but they are far from being the same in their purchasing power.

Whilst the incomes of the American people are thus diminished, the profiteers by increasing prices are becoming millionaires. Whatever their professions may be, they are veritable enemies

within the gates. In their frenzied pursuit of wealth they are doing their best to create conditions that sooner or later will hamper the Government in the prosecution of the war. Mr. Pinchot in fact, in this connection, sounds the following note of warning: "Intelligent people all over the world understand this. They know that a nation may have all the machinery of Democracy, and not, in fact, be a Democracy, but an oligarchy, if the economic power is narrowly concentrated in a minority of the people. What is most to be feared, in the domestic changes now being brought about by the war, is that the drift of wealth from the people to the exploiters will, if unchecked, leave the former in an extremely unfortunate position. If they are not careful, they may well emerge from this war for democracy themselves economically impotent; their future mortgaged to the wealthy classes, and with the two undesirable alternatives of bondage and resolution staring them in the face."

"The above considerations, together with those I have mentioned on preceding pages, would seem to be argument enough for protecting the body and the spirit of the war from the assault of its enemies—not alien. It is not too late."

It would be well for the people of this country not to ignore the danger here outlined. The war we are now waging will demand great sacrifices on our part. While making them we should not lose sight of the need for safeguarding the Republic against a plutocracy that at this very moment is extorting from the American people a forced tribute of millions of dollars. The Monitor.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

- January, Holy Name of Jesus
- 1st Sunday after Epiphany
- 13 S—St. Veronica V.
 - 14 M—St. Hilary Bp. D.
 - 15 T—St. Paul First Hermit C.
 - 16 W—St. Marcellus I. P. M.
 - 17 T—St. Anthony Ab.
 - 18 F—St. Peter's Chair at Rome
 - 19 S—St. Kanute R. M.

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FOOD ORDERS ARE OBSERVED

Meatless and Wheatless Menu in Connection With Lord Mayor's Annual Banquet at Mansion House

At last the gaunt figure of famine has stalked into the Mansion House and edited the menu of the lord mayor's banquet. There, everybody who knows anything about English history or about good eating, knows that the center, the very palate, of gourmandise is situated, according to a London correspondent.

The British empire is ransacked for edibles and potables to furnish forth this aldermanic holiday. And when the occasion's star guest, the premier, rises to shake the pillars of the world with his address, the guests are often in such a state of torpor that they have to scan the morning papers to find out what he really said. But war has changed all that. When the time for this year's banquet approached, London's sensational press began to shout for a war menu so loudly that his lordship had to come out and assure the reporters of the meatlessness and wheatlessness of the coming feast. Another of England's glories vanished!

Sewing Machines in Arabia. The sale of sewing machines in Arabia has increased since the war began, owing in part to the demand of Red Cross organizations. A recent shipment of 600 American machines, according to a correspondent, will be disposed of as follows: One hundred in Aden, 200 in Abyssinia, 100 in Red Sea ports and 200 in the Persian Gulf district. There is also an increased demand on the part of the natives. Germany formerly supplied the territory with cheap machines, but the stocks of these are low, and American products now lead. Foot-power sewing machines are in growing preference over the hand-operated type, but electrically-driven machines cannot be sold, as there is no general electric service plant in Aden. Dust and rust are difficulties experienced in the use of the machines in the Arabian climate, they are veritable enemies

Fourth Son of Family to Become a Priest.

Rev. William D. Muckle Celebrates First Solemn High Mass at Geneva.

A congregation that completely filled St. Francis de Sales church Geneva, was present on New Year's morning to assist at the solemn high mass at which the celebrant Rev. William D. Muckle, was assisted by his four brothers. Father Muckle was ordained in Toronto Thursday, December 27, 1917, by Most Rev. Niel McNeil, archbishop of Toronto, and celebrated his first solemn high mass at St. Teresa's church Stanley on Sunday, December 30. The officers of the mass at Geneva were: Rev. William D. Muckle, celebrant; Rev. John F. Muckle, assistant priest; Rev. Charles F. Muckle, deacon; Rev. Joseph T. Muckle, sub-deacon; Monsignor Joseph W. Hendrick, master of ceremonies; Andrew G. Muckle, censor bearer; William Toole, second master of ceremonies. Rev. S. V. McPaden was in the sanctuary.

Monsignor Hendrick took occasion to congratulate the young priest for the attainment of his high station and the congregation for the extraordinary honor of assisting at the celebration of the mass by four brothers who are priests and one who is studying for that office. He said Father Muckle comes from a family noted for its priestly line, some of whom have attained the rank of bishop.

Rev. John Muckle, assistant at St. Francis de Sales church, also spoke, giving a brief history of the Muckle family in their efforts to reach the goal, which they started out to attain twenty years ago. He impressed upon the congregation that no sacrifice is too great to be made for such a purpose.

In the congregation were the parents of the four priests, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Muckle, of Stanley; Sister Mary Charles of Elmira; and Sister Catherine Charlotte of Wayland, sister and cousin, respectively of the priests. After the mass dinner was served to the relatives and friends at the Seneca Hotel. After a short vacation, Father Muckle will return to Toronto to take up parish work.

THE CHURCH MAY BAN SINN FEIN.

The unequivocal denunciation of Sinn Fein by the Primate of all Ireland, Cardinal Logue, Archbishop of Armagh, places the Catholic Church in opposition to the movement, as far as the Irish hierarchy are concerned. The Cardinal's rebuke to Mr. de Valera and his followers was made in a pastoral ordering prayers for peace throughout his diocese. It does not mention Sinn Fein by name, but runs:

"Whether due to the demoralization of the world by war, or to a fate hanging over unhappy Ireland, blasting her hopes when they seem to brighten, an agitation is spreading here which is ill-considered and Utopian, and can not fail to entail suffering, disorganization, and danger, to the end of disaster, defeat, and collapse; and all in pursuit of a dream no sober man can hope to see realized, namely, the establishment of an Irish Republic, either by an appeal to the potentates of Europe at the peace conference, or hurling an unarmed people against an Empire of five millions under arms—a thing which would be ridiculous if it were not so mischievous and fraught with such danger to an ardent, generous, and patriotic people."

The London Morning Post, Dec. 29, gives prominence to a statement that in the very near future there probably will be a direct collision between the Sinn Feiners and the Catholic Church—a collision that may involve some of the clergy. It is insistently asserted that the bishops have received, or are about to receive, definite instructions from the Vatican on the Sinn Fein problem.

Late News of Ireland

Cork Corporation by 20 votes to 7, on a renewed application, decided to let Blackrock Castle to the S. F. Club.

J. O'Driscoll, Monkstown, was presented with a testimonial and £1 from the Humane Society at Passage West Petty Sessions for saving Master J. Cade, son of W. F. Cade, J. P., from drowning at Monkstown.

The first communal kitchen in Cork has been opened by the Lord Mayor in Grattan street. It is to be managed by a number of ladies voluntarily, and many promises of gifts of vegetables have been made. Very Rev. Canon O'Leary, P. P., wishes the undertaking God speed. B. Haughton, J. P., also spoke.

Messrs. T. O'Brien, Hermitage, Aghada; H. J. Garde, Ballycotton; Thomas F. MacCarthy and Randall MacCarthy, both of Berehaven; and P. O'Brien, Co. C. Balvedyehub, have been appointed J. P.'s.

J. V. Sullivan, a native of Cork, has been unanimously elected president of the Launceston (Tasmania) Chamber of Commerce.

Dublin. In Ireland, which produces much more food than she consumes—for she is able to export £48,000,000 worth a year—many people will die this winter for lack of the bare necessities of life," says A. M. Drysdale, the special correspondent of the "Daily News."

There is no Labor Party to speak of in Ireland, he says. Even the Council of Agriculture, has no Labor member. To get a decent wage the Irish agricultural laborer has to go to Great Britain.

Rev. H. C. Farrell, C. S. Sp., ordained at Langonnel, France, is youngest son of D. J. Farrell, Booterstown.

The returns of subscription and sale of flags for the St. Vincent de Paul Society is estimated at £2,900.

Mgr. O'Donnell, Booterstown, presided at requiem Mass at St. Peter's, Phippsboro, for the late Rev. L. Cahill, C. M., whose funeral took place from St. Joseph's, Blackrock. The celebrant of the Mass was Rev. Father Kelly, C. M., Cork; deacon, Rev. Father Gallagher, C. M.; subdeacon, Rev. Father Gilmartin, C. M., M. C. G.; Rev. Father Gorman, C. M. There was a large attendance of regular and secular clergy.

A meeting of Tralee parishioners opened a subscription for a testimonial to Dean O'Sullivan, Bishop-Elect, and over £400 was handed in.

An illuminated address and a gold monstrance and chalice have been presented to Rev. Father O'Riordan, C. C., Athes, by the parishioners of Abbeyfeale.

Sister M. DePazzi Greene, eighth daughter of Thomas Greene, D. G., Glengare, Tipperary, passed to her reward at the Convent of Mercy, Mafeking, on the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy. Although only in her 24th year, she had already spent eight years in the Community. Three of her sisters are professed members of the Mafeking Community, and a fourth is a novice at the Mother House of the Sisters of Mercy, Carysfort, Dublin, while two of her brothers are scholastics at the Novitiate House of the Oblate Fathers, Stillorgan Co. Dublin.

During the year ended 31st of October last the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Nenagh, spent \$104.15. 6d on luncheons for poor school children.

At St. Michael's Church, Tipperary, [with nuptial Mass], by the Rev. M. Keogh, C. C., John B. Coughlin, G. S. and W. R. Templemore, eldest son of Patrick Coughlin, Ballybeg, Mitchels-town, was married to Josephine B. [Josie], eldest daughter of the late William Kinane, Kilross, Tipperary.

Died—At his residence, Rivers-town Mills, Nenagh, Thomas Ryan, J. P., M. C. C., C. U.

Foreign Mission News

The Propagation of the Faith Society

118 Lexington Ave., New York City

There are in the world 900 millions of men and women who have never heard that a Saviour was born to them! Will you help to send the good tidings?

Leper Sufferers in Africa.

Father de Hovre, who is chaplain of the leper asylum near Pretoria cites some cases of edifying resignation which come to his notice in the course of his ministrations to the unfortunate lepers, among whom may be found persons of all ages and nationalities:

"In one of the little cottages lives a young African girl, once most attractive but now a living corpse. Her sight is gone, her limbs are wasted away to the bone; one would scarcely recognize her as a human being. And yet this poor child is bearing her sufferings like a saint. She became a Catholic and since her baptism has never been heard to complain of her sufferings."

"She said once to me, 'Father, I think if we could look even for a moment into Eternity and behold the happiness and glory of Heaven, I really believe all our sufferings and misery would appear as nothing, we would be so willing to endure them as a means of winning our eternal reward.'

"In the very next house is to be found a little girl not yet fifteen years of age, whose face is never seen except by the nurse who visits her every day and washes and dresses her wounds. Then we have a Jewess born in Konovo, Russia, who is said to have contracted the disease through the bite of a dog. This poor woman is heartbroken at the thought of her seven little children from whom she is separated. Among our male patients is a talented Irishman, who is bravely bearing his own affliction and doing much to make the other patients forget theirs."

GOOD WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR.

The mission of Tumba is in the Belgian Congo, and writing from there Father Heintz, C. S. S. R., says: "May all blessings rest upon the generous Catholics of great and glorious America, who in these times of general distress do not forget their poor brothers in the Faith."

"Here in Africa the missionary must spend a large part of his time traveling from one post to another. The dry season lasts from May until November, and then he must take advantage of the rivers, which are so swollen in the rainy season as to make them dangerous. He must carry with him everything he needs for a two months' absence from headquarters, and this means his camp bed, portable chapel and personal necessities. He stays two, three or even six hours in a village and then pushes on. Happily, conversions multiply, and our schools are well fitted with little folk, and this in spite of the fact that the Lower Congo is a Protestant territory."

The Bahnar are among the most savage tribes of Annam, and even after baptism need a great deal of direction and care to keep them in the ways of Christianity. Schools for the young are the best means of civilizing them" writes Fr. T. Tour, P. F. M. One for boys at Kontum, dedicated to The Blessed Cuenot, is having much success, and the next thing is to open a similar one for girls. A community of native nuns is ready and waiting to take charge of it. The only thing lacking, therefore, is that indispensable article, money. Who would like to become a benefactress?

The Holy Father declined to accept the Peter's Pence collection taken up in the diocese of Arles, France, on the grounds that it was more needed in that devastated diocese.

CATHOLIC NEWS

NOTES

Mrs. Bellamy Storer is president of the Middle West League of Catholic Women, and Mrs. Admiral Dewey is president of the women's section of the Navy League.

The Bishop of Buffalo, Mgr. Dougherty, has appointed the Rev. Luke F. Sharkey, late rector of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Jamestown, N. Y., to be editor-in-chief of Buffalo's diocesan paper, the "Catholic Union and Times."

The corner-stone of a St. Ann's new church for Italians has been laid in Omaha, Nebr., by the Bishop of that See.

The new St. Vincent Ferrer Church of the Dominicans in New York will cost approximately one million dollars.

The million dollar Cathedral in Richmond, Va., was the gift of the late Mrs. Thomas F. Ryan.

The Cincinnati Federation of Catholic Societies is forming a staff of lecturers for various Catholic organizations and charities.

In the American flotilla of destroyers the confessions of Catholic sailors are heard on the bridges of the vessels in places usually occupied by the destroyers' commanders.

The rector of the Catholic University, Bishop Shehan, has donated to the future Shrine of the Immaculate Conception two precious chalices—one is his personal consecration chalice, the other is a Dublin 1804 chalice.

First Lieutenant Rev. Francis Kulinski is chaplain at Camp Grant, Rockford, Ill.

The United States Catholic Historical Society, of New York, elected its Treasurer to subscribe \$5,000 to the second of the Liberty Loan. The Society will shortly publish a History of the Sisters of Charity of New York 1867-1917.

The Sisters of Loretto, who conduct Loretto Heights Academy at Denver, Mo., will next year open a union college department for students who have completed their academic studies.

The late Elizabeth Newman, of Brooklyn, devised \$1,000 to each of about twelve Catholic charitable institutions.

The Bishop of the new diocese of El Paso has directed his Chancery Office to collect all reports, newspaper articles, advertisements, pamphlets, etc., which throw in any way, light upon the history of his diocese and its affairs.

The Choctaw Indians have adopted the Bishop of Natchez, Mgr. Gunn, as a brother chief.

A collection was taken up in the Church of the Assumption at Evansville, Ind., for the St. Vincent de Paul Society, amounting to \$950.

Father C. S. Sheehan, an Irish chaplain, has been decorated with the Military Cross for gallant conduct on the Somme.

The sculptor's Astor's statue of the late Pope Pius X will be sculptured out of a solid block of marble weighing 24 tons.

In the belligerent countries the Papacy is growing in prestige.

In the British Army at the front there is a military conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. It organized with 400 members last year; now it has over fifty-eight.

In the Canary Islands, at Laguna, a community of Franciscan friars was installed last summer.