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Friday, March 8, 1917

## Dr. Meehan Honored.

According to the secular cable dispatch of the United Press from Rome, Rt. Rev. Dr. A. B. Meehan, of St. Bernard's Seminary faculty, has been selected to be Bishop of Trenton, N. J., which is in the Province of New York where is also located the Diocese of Rochester sb. if the report be correct, there will be two Rochester priests wearing miters in the Province of New York and three in the American Hierarchy. Most Rev. Edward J. Hanna, archbishop of San Francisco; Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Hickey, Bishop of Rochester and Rt. Rev. A. B. Meehan, Bishop of Trenton, N. J. Two of these are members of the faculty of St. Bernard's and also won their doctor's cap in open competition in the theological universities in the Eternal City.

Dr. Meehan is a Scottsville boy and was educated here, finishing his theological studies in Rome where he achieved an enviable record. Upon his return from Rome he was appointed to St. Bernard's faculty when that institution was inaugurated by the late Bishop McQuaid and has remained in that capacity since winning new honors and distinction as an administrator and authority on canon law. Few occupants of an episcopal see would bring to it a more thorough or fitting equipment.

## Death Claims.

Death has collected toll in the person of several eminent prelates of Holy Church. Included in the list are: first, the saintly but vigorous worker for Holy Church, Most Rev. Edward F. Prendergast, archbishop of Philadelphia who had presided over that important see since 1911 and had attained the age of 75 years. He had been pastor of important parishes in Philadelphia, vicar-general, diocesan consultant, head of many important church societies, auxiliary bishop and the archbishop. He was a learned man and a tireless worker in many ways, not alone as a cleric but also in civic and moral movements.

Not at home in his own country but in Switzerland did death call Rev. Father Gannon, American assistant general of the Jesuits. Father Gannon had lived in Switzerland ever since the outbreak of the war, which forced the General of the Jesuits, who is an Austrian, to leave Rome. Father Gannon was well known in the United States and his death is a loss to his order and to Holy Mother Church. Cable despatches record the death at an advanced age of

Archbishop Lazzareschi, Canon of St. Peter's, Rome, and of Monsignor Riggi, prefect of pontifical ceremonies. Both prelates had served as priest under Popes Pius IX, Leo XIII, Pius X and Benedict XV.

## Mr. Wilson Testifies.

Surely no one will accuse Henry Lane Wilson, ex-Ambassador to Mexico, of being ultra-Catholic in his sympathies and all will bear witness to his fairness in discussing Mexican matters. Mr. Wilson denies that the Catholic Church has mixed in Mexican politics as the Carranza press sense will yet prevail in some circles in Washington. Here is what Mr. Wilson says:

"During the time of my service in Mexico I cannot recall a single instance of interference in the politics of the country by the Roman Catholic Church. There, it is true, a Roman Catholic political party, but it was not formidable nor well organized. Usually, the clergy favored this organization, but not actively. As a rule, the Roman Catholic clergy of Mexico were quite content if they were left alone and permitted to peacefully pursue their religious duties.

"The Madero administration was hostile to the Roman Catholic Church, though I believe there was no persecution by the government during his time. The present Carranza government, inheriting all of the evil and none of the good of the Madero administration, has opened a pitiless war on the Roman Catholic Church which amounts to a practical denial of the practice of religious liberty. So far as my observation goes, the Roman Catholic Church in Mexico desires nothing more than religious liberty and equality before the law."

## Deserves Censure.

If what is reported by the Catholic Press Association from Washington is true, and we have no reason to doubt its authenticity, there is an understatement in the Federal Department of the Interior who deserves a severe call-down if not absolute separation from the United States roll. The incident is reported as follows: The employees of the interior department were invited by the executive committee of the Rev. Billy Sunday's jazz band religious services at his "tabernacle" on Tuesday night. E. J. Evers, in spite of the scarcity of print paper and the pressure of official work, sent to every employee of that department a printed notice of the invitation and added:

"Secretary Lane has accepted this invitation on behalf of the employees of the department and it is expected that each employee will make an earnest effort to attend the meeting. There are many Catholics, Episcopalians, Jews, Lutherans and others in that department, of whom the secretary had no authority to accept the invitation."

Doubtless because of the fact that Father Haig, his brother, is a convert to the Catholic faith, General Haig has been incorrectly credited to the Catholic Church. But we have our representation in war circles. Admiral Kerr, of the British Navy, and Admiral Benson, of the American Navy are Catholics as is Edward R. Stettinius, surveyor-general of the United States army purchases.

The "Catholic Advance" remarks that while big feet may continue to linger along as usual, Cardinal Gibbons is not at all sure that prohibition will prohibit it.

John F. Nugent, appointed United States senator for Idaho is a Catholic.

The late Archbishop Prendergast came from a family given to the church. An uncle on his father's side, was a priest in Ireland. His brother, Rev. Peter J. died a priest of New York several years ago; another brother, Rev. Francis J. is a priest at Dunbar, Ireland; a sister, Mother Mary Peter, of the Presentation Convent, Lismore, Ireland and another sister died a nun in Ireland.

Those profiteers will reap their just reward, rest assured of that. There is a grievous wrong to their fellows.

It is to be hoped that common sense will yet prevail in some circles in Washington.

Many conversions and returns to the Church are reported from the army camps. This is exemplified the truth of the saying that every cloud has a silver lining.

"As anything less than liberty is inadequate to Ireland," said Grattan "so it is dangerous to Great Britain."

Irishmen may be loyal fighters in the war for world's freedom, and still cherish the hope that Ireland yet will be free from English domination.

The brother of General Rosecrans, to whom the survivors of the Army of the Cumberland will erect a monument, was bishop of Columbus.

## Catholic Notes of Interest

The Reiss family of Sheboygan, Wis., will erect a \$60,000 home for the Aged.

The late Bishop Foley entered St. Mary's College, Baltimore, in 1844, St. Mary's Seminary in 1851, and was the first American student to enter the Apollinaris, Rome, in 1855.

The parish of the Cathedral of Altoona, Pa., has 605 families. Last year's receipts were \$16,344.93. Outlays were \$16,138.70. The school has 755 pupils.

During Archbishop Ireland's recent illness the Holy Father sent him a fatherly message and assured him of his prayers.

The Jesuit Father Suchesi, of Alaska, has sent the Indian Bureau a fine collection of miniature canoes, pouches, dresses and other handiwork of Alaskan Eskimos.

Father Casey, of the Cathedral of Dubuque, has raised \$13,811.50 from his parishioners for the endowment of Dubuque College.

The diocese of Denver, comprising the State of Colorado, is projecting an ecclesiastico-historical museum.

At Englewood, N. J., the new and very handsome priory of the Carmelite Fathers, which is their novitiate, has been completed and is now occupied by them. In it are over 50 individual rooms.

Service flags with their manifold Catholic stars are waving all over this broad country.

In County Mayo, Ireland, there died a few weeks ago, Thomas Murphy, of Milltown, Killasser, at the age of 105 years.

Last year the four gold medals which Benedict XV presents every year to the four most distinguished students of the Propaganda were conferred on two Spanish, an Italian and a Portuguese student.

The Royal Academy of Fine Arts in San Fernando, Spain, has elected the Franciscan Father L. A. Rodriguez a member of the Academy. He is widely known for distinguished labors in the field of arts and letters.

At Rheims the Sisters of the Assumption have taken refuge in a large cellar.

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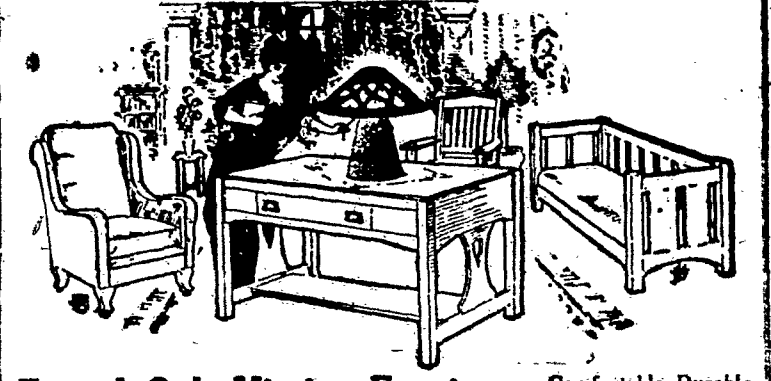
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