

THE BISHOP BUDKA CASE IN CANADA.

Ruthenian Prelate And Priest Unjustly Charged With Sedition. Secular Press Exploited Case But Took Only Slight Notice Of Vindication.

An incident involving religious bigotry, misrepresentation of fact, yellow journalism, and a distortion of patriotism made to serve an improper end, is the case of the Ruthenian Catholic Bishop of Canada, Mgr. N. Budka, and the Rev. Father Bossche, C. S. S. R., recently arrested at Hafford, Saskatchewan, Canada, on a charge of sedition. The Canadian secular press printed columns of news on the occurrence, but gave very little space to the notice of the subsequent vindication of the accused. The case is typical of many others in which aspersions are wantonly cast on the character of the innocent, and no adequate redress offered for the wrong thus committed. The incident was reported also in the press of this country, the "Christian Science Monitor" being among the papers which gave it publicity.

The facts in the case, according to the Northwest Review (of Winnipeg, Canada, issue of July 27), the Catholic Register and Canadian Extension (Toronto, July, 25) and the Catholic Record (London, Ont., Aug. 3), are these:

"Bishop Budka, the Ruthenian Bishop of Canada, and Father Bossche, of Yorkton, were arrested in Hafford, Sask., on Monday morning (July 8th) on a charge of sedition. They were conducting a mission at Hafford when a man named George Worobetz created a disturbance and persisted in interrupting the service. Bishop Budka had the offender arrested and the case was brought before the justice of the peace on Saturday (July 6). Adjudgment was made until Monday, when counsel for the Bishop objected to having the case heard by a justice of the peace whose law partner was the defendant's attorney. As a sequel to this episode a warrant for sedition was sworn out by Worobetz, and the Bishop and Father Bossche were placed under arrest." (Cath. Reg. & Can. Extension).

Some Things The Press Did Not Mention.

The secular papers, which paid but slight attention to the episode which preceded the issuance of the warrant for sedition, gave the latter event a large measure of publicity. The charge, as set forth in the document, and as quoted in the "Northwest Review," states "that Father Bossche said that anyone who sends his children to the public school will go to hell; that every Ruthenian who sends his children to the P. Mohyla Ukrainian Institute at Saskatoon will go to hell. That Father Bossche during his sermon on 'Hell' drew a book out of his pocket and shouted: 'This is a book written by God Himself and contains the seven commands of God.' Thus even in the charge, sedition is not made a direct issue, although by inference the words of the priest might have been made to imply opposition to Canadian State or National institutions. Still the sedition charge was exploited to the fullest extent, but the same papers which gave it prominence, did not state that the Bishop was involved in the charge merely for having been present in the church at the time Father Bossche is supposed to have made the alleged statement; nor did they herald abroad a most remarkable spontaneous expression of loyalty to the Bishop on the part of the people. Bail for the accused had been fixed at \$3,000 each, yet 'within a few minutes of the arrest the Ruthenian farmers of the district offered to provide bail to the amount of \$160,000.' Such an expression of fidelity should have sufficed to disarm even the most unscrupulous bigot, if, indeed, he had a basis for an attack. But the charge was a distortion of fact on the face of it. According to the Northwest Review, 'Father Bossche, when seen, stated that what he had said was: 'Everyone who buys, sells, or corrupts the soul of a child, and that in a school—the school may be a public school, on institute or an academy—shall go to hell because our Lord says in Matth. XVIII, 6: 'But he that shall scandalize one of these ones that believe in Me, it were better for him that a millstone should be hanged about his neck, and that he should be drowned in the depths of the sea.' 'On the basis of this statement the charge was preferred!

As will readily be realized, the attack on the Bishop and Father Bossche was premeditated. Rev. Vachon, O. M. I., rector of Notre Dame de Lourdes parish in North Battleford, calls the attack "the outcropping of religious bigotry and intolerance." And Mr. Joseph Dyck, a law student, prominent among the younger Ruthenians of Winnipeg, states that the "prosecution of Bishop Budka is a direct outcome of a feud which has developed within the past year... among a limited number of Ruthenian people and which had for its purpose the undermining of the very strong attachment formed among the Ruthenian people, as a whole, for Bishop Budka." The Ukrainian Institute at Saskatoon, mentioned in the accusation, was formed by a group of Ruthenians for the education and training of young men of that nationality. The Bishop believed, said Dyck, that the men in control were not the right sort of men to be in charge of the education of young people, and expressed himself accordingly. Hence the animosity towards the Bishop and the reference to the institution in the warrant.

Moreover, a certain group of Ruthenians carried their opposition against the bishop so far as to have him followed by detectives, who sought to secure evidence against him, showing disloyalty. The men even endeavored to erect an "independent" Ruthenian church. Besides, the bishop was obliged to take action against a paper with which a prominent Ruthenian was connected.

The Bishop And Father Bossche Exonerated.

Needless to say, the case against the Bishop and Father Bossche (to whom the papers referred as Father Bosky and who is a Belgian by birth), collapsed completely. In fact, Mr. Hargreaves, counsel for the prosecution, stated that he had not even desired the prosecution of the case. A committee of prominent Winnipeg Catholics prepared and gave to the press for publication a statement from which we glean that Mr. Hargreaves expressed himself in court as follows: "This charge was laid during my absence and contrary to my intention and instructions. The words for which Father Bosky is charged were not spoken by the Bishop. No warrant or summons was to have been issued; the information was simply to have been used in being sent to the department, asking whether or not any action should be taken. I have spoken to my client and he instructs me to withdraw the charge against His Grace Bishop Budka. I ask that the charge be formally withdrawn." The magistrate thereupon discharged the case and extended to the Bishop the "sympathy of the court."

C. B. of the C. V.

CATHOLIC SOLDIERS AND SAILORS ARE ALLOWED TO EAT MEAT ON FRIDAY.

Washington, Aug. 17.—The War Department has authorized the following statement from the Catholic chaplains of the army and navy:

"In order that all doubt as to the obligation of abstinence on Fridays might be removed from the minds of the Catholic soldiers and sailors of the United States forces, it is requested that the following announcement be brought to the attention of those whom it may concern:

"All Catholics in the army and navy of the United States, whether serving in America or abroad, are dispensed, as long as they remain in military service, from the obligation of abstaining from flesh meats on all Fridays throughout the year, with the sole exception of Good Friday.

"Catholic nurses also are dispensed.

"PATRICK J. HAYES, "Catholic Chaplain Bishop."

CATHOLIC PUBLISHERS ELECT WOMAN TO OFFICE.

Chicago.—Dr. Thomas P. Hart, editor of the Catholic Telegraph, Cincinnati, was rechosen president of the Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada last Saturday. In electing Mrs. Josephine Sullivan Conlin, Detroit, as a member of the association's executive committee the organization set a new precedent. No woman ever before had a place among the association's officers.

A resolution declared Irish, war and political problems must be determined by individual members.

Cincinnati will be the meeting place next year.

The association sent a telegram to President Wilson, pledging loyalty.

TWO MORE CHAPLAINS FROM THIS DIOCESE.

Rev. George T. Jones of Geneseo and Rev. Walter Donahue of Auburn Will Enter Army.

Geneseo, N. Y.—Rev. George T. Jones, pastor of St. Mary's church for the past five years, announced at the masses last Sunday morning that he expected to enter the government service in the capacity of chaplain and would leave for his preliminary training at once. The training period lasts about five or six weeks, after which Father Jones expects to receive his commission.

Father Jones has been prominent in all forms of war work in this village and town and on every possible occasion has preached the necessity of our doing our utmost to win the struggle against Prussianism. In his enlistment the government gains a recruit who will inspire the men who come into contact with him with the highest ideals for whose preservation we are now battling.

Father Jones has been pastor of St. Mary's Church for the past five years, coming here from Hammondport when Rev. A. A. Hughes, his predecessor, was appointed to Holy Rosary parish in Rochester. During his rectorship here he has endeared himself to the people of his own parish and has won the respect of the people of the village of all denominations. His announcement of his intended leaving was received by his congregation with surprise as no hint had been given of his going.

Victor, Aug. 20.—Rev. Walter Donahue, a Victor boy, who for the past two years has been Catholic chaplain of the state prison at Auburn, has also been appointed a chaplain in the United States army. He is given the rank of first lieutenant and will report at Camp Taylor, Kentucky, shortly.

Father Donahue is a graduate of the class of 1916, of St. Bernard's Seminary. Previous to his departure from Auburn he was tendered a reception by the Knights of Columbus.

Foreign Mission News

The Propagation of the Faith Society 315 Lexington Ave., New York City

HARVEST TIME.

So frequently do the letters from China chronicle loss of crops from one cause or another that it comes as a real shock to read of a good and abundant harvest.

The pleasing news comes from Mgr. Daems, B. F. M., of Tainchow, who says:

"We are now in the full stress of harvesting, which stress will last about a month. The yield this year is of an extraordinary richness—something we have not been accustomed to for several seasons. Times will therefore be less hard for our poor natives.

"As to the spiritual harvest, while it has not been so abundant the last twelve months as that of the fields, it shows an increase over the figures of former years. Altogether we have much cause for gratitude."

AMERICAN ARMY CAMP A BEAUTY SPOT IN THE PHILIPPINES.

To those who have once visited Baguio, it will seem no exaggeration to say that no other part of the Philippines presents so great a charm. The delicious climate, the landscapes which have few parallels in the extreme Orient, the picturesque and variegated character of its inhabitants: all these circumstances taken together make of Baguio a paradise for tourists. Entirely true are the words of Mgr. Hart, former Archbishop of Manila, spoke about Baguio: "It is a gift of Heaven for the Philippine Islands!"

Most of the public utilities common to the large cities of the civilized world are to be found at Baguio, comprising electric light plants, water and sewer-system, telephonic communications, market, hospital, ice-plant, and even a lot of cinemas of which the childish Igorots are very fond. Of course the American engineers did not forget to pay a special attention to athletic and sporting fields, and there is no lack of golf-links, baseball diamonds, polo grounds, etc.

The army contributed also efficaciously to the adornment of this chosen spot: the military camp "John Hay," thanks to its wonderful amphitheatre, its Italian and Japanese gardens, its avenues and bandstands, looks rather as a beautiful park than as a strategic point of great importance.

In one word, Baguio is a true oasis of modern civilization and comfort amidst its far-reaching surroundings of wild mountain: habitat of the savage and heathen Igorot tribes.

THE HOLY FATHER REMEMBERS JAPAN.

The general intention of the Apostleship of Prayer for the month of August was for the conversion of Japan.

There are some Christians in Japan, but they are few compared with the large number of its people who are pagans. St. Francis Xavier, son of St. Ignatius of Loyola, preached the gospel in Japan several centuries ago and made many converts, but his work there has been largely counteracted and Christianity has made little progress owing to the peculiar difficulties to be surmounted in establishing it firmly.

While there is a population of about 50,000,000 in Japan the number of Christians is so small that the entire country may be regarded as pagan and as offering an unlimited field for missionary zeal of all kinds. He says that the most urgent needs may be classed under three heads, namely, the needs of the churches and mission stations, the needs of Christian education, and the needs of charitable institutions and enterprises.

It may be pertinent to add that missionary literature is also much needed in Japan as the people are highly intelligent and fond of reading and study.

Interesting Notes Of Catholic Affairs.

Cardinal Gibbons has been informed by cable by the Holy See that during the duration of the war the theological course for ordination is three years. This because of the urgent need of priests.

At Colwich, Kas., the new Sacred Heart Church, 68x118 feet with two towers 120 and 80 feet high, has been dedicated. It is handsome and replaces the one destroyed by fire.

The translation into English of the "Summa" of St. Thomas Aquinas is progressing and approaching completion.

The blessing of God continues to rest on the Church in the United States.

Very recently two priests were killed in auto wrecks; one in Kentucky and one in New York state.

Mgr. Cornelius O'Keefe, who was chaplain of the United States Military Academy at West Point, N. Y., for twenty years, and died recently at Highland Falls, N. Y., was buried with full military honors. He was held in high esteem by the War Department.

In the service flags of the parishes of New Orleans are 5,327 stars.

The \$30,000 St. Theresa House for Working Girls, in Boston, was dedicated by Cardinal O'Connell in connection with the golden jubilee celebration of Mgr. Teelign of Lynn.

Rev. John F. Swirth, of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, has been attached to the new American Foreign Missionary Society, and is now at Maryknoll, preparing for the foreign mission.

The building opened by the Catholic women of Washington for lodging girls in Government positions is well appointed and furnished.

In Denver, the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart will build and furnish this year a large, four-story orphanage, with a tower.

Mary Anderson (Mrs. de Navarro), Louisville's famed Catholic actress, living in retirement in England, will in the cause of charity once more appear in public to deliver an address in London for a working boys' home under the auspices of the Jesuit Fathers.

In a letter to the Bishops of Lombardy His Holiness the Pope calls attention to the ignoble "campaign of calumny and hatred" against himself—a campaign of misrepresentation of his motives, actions and words, and his efforts to bring about peace.

Devotion to the Blessed Joan of Arc is increasing in Italy.

The city of Sligo, Ireland, conferred its freedom on Rev. M. O'Flanagan, C. C., in recognition of services.

The German Governor General in occupied Belgium has expelled to Holland Canon Bootsma, the private secretary of the Bishop of Namur. The Canon is of Dutch extraction.

In Argentine, the St. Vincent de Paul Society is found everywhere. Catholic life is more highly developed in Argentina, South America, than in any other country of the American or Western world.

On the site of the once great shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham there is now a handsome Catholic church, where every year the faithful assemble to pray for the conversion of England. The late King Edward enriched it by a number of offerings.

Late News of Ireland

A coroner's jury found that the death of Timothy Cronin, following a collision with Major General Doran's motor car near Carrigrohane, County Cork, was purely accidental.

Cork Guardians expressed sympathy with the Engineer, Mr. O'Flynn, on the death of his brother.

Fermoy U.C. sympathized with the relatives of Dennis Creedon, who died in New York, and who was son of the late D. Creedon, builder, Fermoy.

The premises, 23 and 24 Merchants' quay, Dublin, owned by Messrs. G. Smith & Co., wholesale smallware company, and Messrs. Carroll & Co., who carry on a large wicker work and earthenware business, were completely destroyed by fire, the damage, which is only partly covered by insurance, being estimated at £50,000.

Married—June 12, at Pro-Cathedral, by the Rev. Father Flanagan, C. C., Laurence P. Molloy, eldest son of Laurence Molloy, Dublin, to Ellen Mary, daughter of the late Edward O'Connor.—At St. Michael's Church, Kingstown, by the Very Rev. Canon Murphy, Valentine, son of Daniel O'Connell Miley, of 8 Ailesbury road, Dublin, to Millicent Maureen, only daughter of James A. Curran, of Highborn, Kingstown.—Recently, at the Church of Our Lady of Refuge, Rathmines, by the Rev. T. F. O'Loughlin, C. C., Hugh Patrick, son of the late Hugh O'Donnell, of Queen Street and Dalkey, to Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Williams, 91 Rathmines road.

Died—June 25, at 2 Connaught street, Phibaboro, Thomas Murphy, an old member of the Freeman composing staff, and trustee of the Dublin Typographical Society.—At 3 Armstrong street, Harold's cross, Cecilia May, wife of Thomas Doran.

Maurice Kelliher, J. P., has been unanimously elected Chairman of Trades and Fairs Harbor Commissioners.

Lord Emly and T. Hayes, J. P. Callon, have been re-elected chairman and vice chairman of Limerick County Committee.

Died—June 28, at Cloggan, Claremorris, Bridget, wife of James O'Donnell. Interment at Kileolman.—June 20, John McEvoy, proprietor of Bath Hotel, Westport, aged 67. Interment at Aghaval. At Charlestown, Agnes, wife of Daniel McAuliffe.

John Hogan, forty, carpenter, Quarry street, Thurles, died suddenly.—A little boy named Delehanty was killed at West Gate, Thurles, when at play, by a tree-trunk rolling over him.

The Directors of the Roscrea Bacon factory have decided to close down the factory "owing to the continued interference of the Transport Workers Union."

Tipperary Guardians passed a resolution calling attention to the fact that there was only one representative for Ireland, as against two for England, on the committee which would deal with the export of Irish sheep.

Lismore Guardians expressed sympathy with Thomas Allen on the death of his brother.

The expenditure of Waterford Infirmary for the year (£3,433) exceeded the income by £384. An appeal for increased subscriptions was made, and it was decided to open a special fund to wipe out the building account overdraft (£527).

The services of about 100 employees of the Neptune Iron Works, Waterford, have been discontinued, owing, it is stated, to the impending termination of a contract with the Ministry of Munitions. Several reductions made by the Ministry, it is reported, have brought the price of the turn-out to a figure that is not workable at the concern.