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## Mission Work Among British Hop-pickers

Engaged In By Franciscan Friars and Lay-folk.

Opportunities for Similar Endeavors in Our Country Apparent.

The London "Universe," in its issue of Sept. 27th, prints the following item, referring to a field of home missions which for some time has attracted the attention and care of Catholic social workers, lay-folk and clerical, in England: "The hop-picking season, which has just closed, will be remembered by hop-pickers as one of the worst for many years. Most of the farms had a very short picking, and the weather was mostly wet and cheerless. Under these circumstances the work of the Franciscan Mission amongst the Catholic hop-pickers was one of unusual difficulty. But it also proved spiritually consoling. To attend Mass in an open field with the ground sodden by continuous rains and the rain actually falling, must be a trial of faith; yet on two Sundays the faith and devotion of a large number of hop pickers stood the test. Hundreds of them were present at the Masses said at the various centres. Most of these Catholic hop-pickers came from the East End of London—Whitechapel, Wapping, Poplar, Tower Hill, Bermondsey, and so forth; and the general feeling of those who witnessed these Sunday Masses in the wet fields was that the East End clergy may well be proud of many of their parishioners."

The missionary work among hop-pickers in England is an interesting illustration of combined lay and clerical effort in behalf of seasonal laborers. Bertrand W. Devas, in a pamphlet entitled "Work in the Hop-Gardens," published by the Catholic Truth Society (England), prefaces his treatise with the following sentences: "In the year 1904 the Bishop of Southwark visited Maidstone during the hopping season and became personally acquainted with the conditions under which the pickers live and work in that part of Kent. The Anglican locum tenens of a neighboring parish took the opportunity of writing to the Bishop to inform him of the number of Catholics engaged in the gardens, and to suggest that the Franciscans—whom, as a High-Churchman, he seems to have known well—should undertake an annual mission. The vicar was not very pleased with the action of his subordinate, but the Bishop made the suggested application to the Provincial and received the promise that a mission would be sent out in the following year." Thus Mr. Devas sketches the beginnings of the work, to the latest evidence of which the "Universe" refers in the item quoted.

The friars were greatly assisted at that time by the laity, particularly the tertiary. In 1905, a small band of priests, nuns, ladies and laymen established themselves in Kent at the beginning of the hop-picking season. The mission was made a permanent institution and was extended outside the boundaries of Kent. At a Provincial Chapter of the Franciscan Friars of the Capuchin, Reform held on Sep. 8th, 1905 it was decided that an annual mission to hop-pickers should form part of the regular work of the Order in that country; and by the end of the same season, those who had personally engaged on the Mission, determined that an essential part of their work should be to follow up in London, as far as possible, the cases of lapsed or negligent Catholics whom they had met in Kent.

In 1906 it was discovered, largely through the efforts of lay-helpers termed "Scouts," that a large number of the hop-pickers were Catholics. These were canvassed and told when and where mass would next be celebrated. This work of the men was supplemented by that of the ladies, whom the pickers termed "Ladies of the Mass" and who conducted a hospital-tent or hospital-cottage, sold milk in the evenings, provided and superintended reading-rooms and rooms for letter-writing, and, through a so-called St. Clare's fund and by friendly advice, aided in the protection of girls who lived amid difficult home-surroundings. Ladies and men-workers supplied entertainments, and, under careful supervision, aided the poor in a material way. All of these undertakings assisted the mission-work of the Friars, who, as we have seen above, have continued the beneficent spiritual labors begun thirteen years ago.

The suggestion offers itself, that similar work should be taken up more energetically in our own country. The hop-fields of Washington, the pea-fields, the sugar-beet fields, the strawberry-patches and peach orchards,—all of these offer splendid opportunities for religious and social endeavor by the American clergy and laity. Many canneries, quarries, and section camps on railroads supply another problem of a similar nature, as do also other sorts of seasonal labor which involve migration of the workers. Surely we should not neglect such excellent opportunities for wholesome constructive effort.

C. B. of the C. V.

The New World, of Chicago, in a recent editorial under the caption For Church and Country refers as follows to the recent departure for China of the first Maryknoll missionaries:

A notable ceremony took place a few weeks ago when the first band of American missionaries departed from the seminary home to begin labors in a corner of China, which had lately been turned over to its jurisdiction by the ecclesiastical authorities. It took many years of preparatory labor, but the expectation now is that band upon band will follow these pioneers. Nor will China long remain the only mission country that will be supplied from America. The difficult start once accomplished, we can look to the day when every land of a pagan population will receive the ministry of American missionaries.

## National Catholic War Council.

Important Work of the National Committee on Historical Records.

The National Committee on Historical Records has been directed by the Administrative Committee of Bishops to use every means possible for the purpose of securing an accurate and complete record of all Catholic American activity in the present war. This aspect of the National Catholic War Council can not be too strongly emphasized. Unless we make provision for the history of Catholic patriotism and effort in this war we shall be guilty of a neglect which can never be remedied and of a mistake which can never be retrieved. If we fail to establish authentic records of our civic and religious activities, and if we fail to record all the noble work being done by American Catholics we are robbing the Church of the future of inspiration, of example and interpretation. History can not be written on the day on which it is made, and the object of the National Committee on Historical Records is to collect for careful preservation every record and document which tell the story of Catholic activity.

The National Committee on Historical Records has adopted the slogan that every Catholic should make his contribution to the history of the Church's activity in the war.

The Committee is desirous of obtaining letters from the parents and relatives of the soldiers, photographs of all those connected with local war activities, clippings from the local newspapers, accounts of meetings held for war purposes in which Catholics have taken a part, and all other material and information which will one day be of value in furnishing to the historian of the war the documents which will tell of the noble effort of the Catholic Church in the United States. Every bit of help in compiling the National Catholic War Records will count for the honor of Church and country, and for the glory of the men who are offering their life's blood and of the women, who, in their husbands, sons, and brothers, are giving of their heart's blood for God and Right.

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary, Reverend Doctor Peter Guilday, 932 14th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

## New Liberty Bell Rings For Nations Of Middle Europe.

A new born democracy was proclaimed in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, a few days ago, when representatives of eighteen subject nations comprising the Democratic Mid-European Union met and adopted a constitution of independence for the 65,000,000 people of the oppressed nations of Middle Europe.

To fittingly proclaim their independence and union, a new Liberty Bell was secured, as well as a new national flag, which was unfurled alongside the Stars and Stripes flying on the roof of Independence Hall.

The bell was made by the Meneely Bell Co. of Troy, N. Y., which in 1876 cast the bell for the tower of Independence Hall in celebration of the 100th anniversary of American Independence.

"He who defers his charities till his death is rather liberal of another man's than his own."  
—Cardinal Farley.

## Foreign Mission News

The Propagation of the Faith Society, 343 Lexington Ave., New York City.

It is a contemptible thing to be a physical shirker. A spiritual shirker is infinitely worse. You have need of the Lord all the day long, and in return it is your bounden duty to do something for Him, something for a cause so dear to His Sacred Heart—the bringing to His Feet of the entire pagan world. Do not forget that if you only will you can do great things for the Lord, and that He hath need of you.

## THE COMFORT OF HOLY WRIT.

Sister Symphoriana has charge of an orphan asylum in Chefoo, China, and recently she was the happy recipient of a gift. Her pastor, Rev. Fr. Gaeng, O. F. M., acknowledged the alms, and says: "I note with special pleasure that our good Sr. Symphoriana with her poor orphans has gained the sympathies of the mission friends—over there in America. The support of the said orphanage is quite providential, because without it I doubt whether it would have been possible to keep it up."

"As long as this war lasts it will have a hard time to pull through, but I hope that Providence will not abandon those poor little ones, whose prayers, according to Holy Writ, are so powerful; and they do not lack in gratitude towards their benefactors. "May Our Divine Lord bless all our helpers."

A lay writer gives this picture of an African scene, in the midst of which a mission station of the White Fathers lies snugly nestled: "The landscape is lovelier than any artist in stained glass could depict. Here the deep, pure blue sky and water meet, there an escarpment of rich earth contrasts with the bright green leaves of a banana plantation and rippling field of maize and millet in which, half concealed, the low, neatly-thatched straw huts are gleaming pale gold in the afternoon sun."

As background to this scene is a line of dark green forest, in which are conspicuous, by reason of their white bark, the towering incense trees, contrasting in their massive girth with the tall, slender palms, whose straight trunks when felled serve, unhewn, as ready-made pillars to the church; and in the far distance are Ruwenzori's foothills—blue-green, with purple blotches cast by the clouds that almost perpetually shroud that giant's hoary head, which only once in a day is bared to the rosy light of the setting sun—a vision of beauty which once seen is never forgotten.

Henry Calmonson, aged 28 years, 11 St. Kevin's road, died in the Mater Hospital. He was knocked down by a motor lorry in Lower Dorset street. The accident occurred about 6 o'clock and he succumbed to his injuries two hours later.

His Grace the Archbishop has appointed the Rev. John Fennelly, C. C., Ballybrack, to be parish priest of Lusk.

Most Rev. Dr. O'Sullivan has made the following changes in Kerry diocese: Rev. W. Byrne, C. C., Newtownsandes to be P. P., Glenbeigh; Rev. T. D. O'Sullivan, C. C., Rathmore, C. C., Causeway; Rev. C. J. Fitzgerald, St. Brendan's Seminary, Killarney, C. C., Rathmore; Rev. W. Ferris, C. C., Fries, C. C., Tralee, and Rev. J. O'Donoghue, C. C., Snem, C. C., Fries.

Killorglin Total Abstinence Committee passed a resolution of sympathy with T. O'Donnell, M. P., on his recent bereavement, and Messrs. D. and P. Clufford on the death of their sister.

Tipperary  
Nenagh P. S. Court adjourned as a tribute to the late Sol. Wolfe, J. P.

P. McDonagh, Christian Schools, Tipperary, has won a University scholarship.

## Late News of Ireland

Carlow

F. Thompson, Carlow and Waterford, has purchased Messrs. Richards' foundry, Carlow, Cork.

Hy. O'Donovan, son of the late D. O'Donovan, Bank street, Clonakilty, has died in his 22nd year, when completing his philosophy course at Mount Melleray.

Kanturk Rural School Attendance Committee (newly constituted) elected Canon O'Connell, P. P., V. F., chairman, and T. O'Leary, J. P., vice chairman.

Rev. James O'Callaghan has been appointed head master of the Cork branch of the Munster Training College of Irish. Financial report showed a balance of £90 on hand.

Most Rev. Dr. Browne presided at the ceremonies connected with the celebration of the centenary of the Doneraile Presentation Convent, an occasion which was marked by the profession of Miss M. E. Heffernan, Liverpool (Sr. M. Imelda). The high mass was celebrated by Canon Barry, P. P., Doneraile. The town was enfeete and there were many beautiful decorations, while in the evening illuminations and a band performance—opposite the Convent were features.

The death of Benjamin O'Connor, J. P., Bantry, occurred recently after a short illness. The deceased gentleman was for many years managing director of Messrs. Murphy & O'Connor, Bantry.

Mr. O'Mahony informed the Cork Trades and Labor Council with regard to the deputation that waited on Most Rev. Dr. Cohalan in connection with forwarding 10 per cent. of the Cork collection for the National Defence Fund to the Mansion House Conference, that from the standpoint of labor the matter had been satisfactorily settled. The money had not yet been sent, but he hoped it would, when the negotiations would be concluded.

Died—September 7, at Gortnagraig, Mallow, Ellen, wife of James Barry.—September 8, at Louth Abbey, Youghal, Michael Curran, M. A., M. B.

Dublin  
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## SIMPLY STATED EXACT TRUTH

Only Wounded Soldier Had Not Formed Sergeant of Disability That Had Previously Existed.

This story is by an English soldier who was in a hospital for the blind:

A sergeant came to my bedside with the inevitable form to fill up and I am afraid I did not answer interrogations with that solemn "The Ball," which his official tone and Romanism expect:

battery of a new Catholic organization, context of a circular distributed by "Free Press Defense League."

Miss Katherine Connelly, an army nurse, contracted in a military hospital on Ellis Island, meningitis and died and was buried with full military honors.

The Government has taken over Fordham University for the training of 3,500 army men.

In the parish schools of the Archdiocese of Boston are enrolled nearly 70,000 pupils.

The Washington sculptor, Jerome Connor, has been commissioned to design the memorial to the Nuns of the Battlefield.

The service flag of the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Roxbury, Mass., has 937 stars.

The Emmitsburg Mt. St. Mary's College has a "Student Army Training Corps."

The old-time shrines of England and Scotland are again becoming popular.

Eighteen American soldiers were confirmed by the Bishop of Limoges, at Aix, France.

In Rome, the sculptor Galli, on order of Pope Benedict XV, has sculptured a Madonna of Peace. This devotion or cult is growing fast in Italy.

The long exiled Polish Archbishop, Mgr. Symon, died recently at Cracow.

Poland, since the beginning of the war, has decreased in population from 14,000,000 to 10,500,000.

Advices from Rome contradict the report that the relics of St. Anthony of Padua were removed to Rome from Padua for greater safety.

In Uruguay the Church is in a trammled condition. There it is absolutely prohibited to receive boarders in colleges controlled by religious associations or by members of religious orders.

Church and State are reconciled in Portugal, to the great consolation of all, and in particular, of the Holy Father Benedict XV.

In the Motherhouse of the Benedictine Sisters at St. Joseph, Minn., 72 members recently made their solemn profession, of whom 34 took final vows.

Catholic soldiers in the Army and Navy, and Catholic war nurses, while serving in America or abroad, are dispensed from flesh meat on all Fridays throughout the year, with the sole exception of Good Friday.

## PHELPS

Phelps, Nov. 5:—Rev. Charles Muckle has been appointed temporary pastor of St. Francis Church, this village, by Bishop Hickey, pending the appointment of a permanent pastor, a matter which at the present time is said to be quite uncertain owing to the scarcity of priests in this diocese. Father Muckle has been looking after the interests of the parish for several weeks.