

Federal Control of Schools.

Far-Reaching Demands of National Education Association and American Federation of Labor.

Centralization of School System in Hands of State Fraught With Danger.

Under the heading: "Guard the Schools" we recently directed attention to the danger threatening our parochial school system as well as higher institutions of learning. We spoke of a two-fold source of danger menacing the rights of parents and the freedom of education; the one being hostile legislation of individual states, the other the movement directed toward the establishment of federal control of the entire school system of the country.

Clear-sighted Americans look upon this movement, advocated by the National Education Association, and recently endorsed in the resolutions of the American Federation of Labor, and promoted by the feverish activity of the Bureau of Education, as an unwise plan, fraught with grave perils to the spirit of American liberty. The National Education Association opens its War Platform for the Schools with the following rather pompous declaration, which ignores all the work done so generously, with no expense to the Government, by the many private agencies of education, and especially by the thousands of Catholic schools of all grades for a million and a half of present pupils who have proved their patriotism in glorious deeds, and whose former pupils have earned well-deserved praise for their staunch loyalty:

"At this fatal hour in the life of our Nation the association reaffirms its faith in the American common-school system as the only safe and sure foundation for a democracy either in peace or in war. It asserts its belief that the three quarters of a century of free public instruction was the main factor in preparing our people for that quick and right understanding of the real meaning of this world conflict, and in making possible that hearty concord of thought and action which placed the material and human resources of the Republic on the side of righteousness, humanity and civilization. With peculiar satisfaction the association points to the fact that 750,000 teachers and 22,000,000 pupils have supported loyally every plan and purpose of President Wilson and Congress in their masterful leadership in honorable warfare for a just cause and a decisive victory."

Taking this statement on its own merits, one cannot but wonder why the resolutions of the N. E. A. and also those of the American Federation of Labor are printed in the official publication "School Life," published by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Education, while this same publication completely ignores the work of private school systems. The Catholic Educational Association held a very successful meeting, in July, in the city of San Francisco. Among their staunch resolutions we read the following:

"The Catholic Educational Association of the United States gives whole-hearted support to the Chief Executive of our country President Wilson, in his supreme moment of trial. It pledges unswerving fidelity and devotion to him in the prosecution of the war for the complete attainment of the high aims and moral ideals set forth by him."

It always appears to be in bad taste for one to claim the exclusive credit for a certain achievement, when there are others who have worked industriously and with marked success in the same line. Does not this bad taste manifest itself especially in claims referring to the sphere of education, above all in our country, where all enjoy civil, religious, and also educational freedom? Can one think of the pronouncement of the N. E. A. and its publication in the above mentioned bulletin in any other light?

But the resolutions of the American Federation of Labor go further in their un-American demands. The Labor Federation wants not only the establishment of a Federal department of education, headed by a cabinet officer, a minimum school-leaving age of sixteen years, the extension of free textbooks to all schools, an increase of revenues for the public schools, but even the expansion of both State and Federal educational facilities, so that we will be decreasingly dependent on private endowments in the educational field. Evidently in order to pool their strength, the A. F. L. endorsed the resolutions offered by Charles B. Stillman of the American Federation of Teachers, viz. "that the President and executive council of the American Federation of Labor be instructed by this convention to take measures to secure the creation of a federal department of Education headed by a cabinet officer."

The whole matter deserves to be viewed also from a wider angle. If this principle of stopping private activities can be applied to education it can be carried out with regard to all activities. Then we shall have not only a most unjust State monopoly of schools, but the full development of despotic Socialism, a centralization and paternalism that will be the grave of all our highly-prized liberties.—C. B. of the C. V.

Louvain University Will Be Restored by Citizens of 24 Nations.

An organization has been formed in this country of a national committee, for the restoration of the University of Louvain, this committee to co-operate with citizens of twenty-three other nations, in rebuilding the Louvain University halls and restoring, as far as possible, the shelves of the great library burned with its 300,000 volumes by the German invaders of Belgium in 1914.

In its announcement the American committee declares that the restoration will serve as a public condemnation of the German policy of terrorization "by which it was planned that Kultur be substituted for European culture."

Among the members of the national committee are former Presidents Roosevelt and Taft; His Eminence, Cardinal Gibbons; Elihu Root; college presidents; authors; artists; clergymen, and leaders of commerce and industry.

AMERICA LOOKED TO

For the Rebuilding of Belgium, Declares Mgr. de Wiart.

"Belgium looks to America for everything," declared Mgr. Carton de Wiart, referring to his country's reconstruction. He has come to this country to thank the American people for their assistance and as a representative of Belgium at Cardinal Gibbons' golden jubilee.

"If a new Belgium is to be built upon the ashes of the old," said the Monsignor, "America must do it, and it will take generations to rebuild the physical Belgium. There is no reconstruction program in Belgium. There are no resources; no funds. All the industries and plants of production were blown up by Belgians, so that Germany could not utilize them to strengthen her war machine. Education has been disorganized; tuberculosis is rife; men and women are suffering from malnutrition, and all children born since the war began are under weight."

Sergeant Matthew T. Cleary of Avon Killed in France.

Avon, N. Y.—Word was received last week by Mr. James Cleary of Avon that his son, Sergeant Matthew T. Cleary, Co. D, 105th Machine Gun Battalion was killed in action in France, on October 17th.

Sergeant Cleary was born in Lima, Sept. 24th, 1893. Later he moved with his parents to Rochester where he attended the Cathedral school. Still later he moved to Avon, where he attended the St. Agnes school and Avon High graduating from both places with high honors.

On the 8th of February, 1916, he joined Troop "M" 1st New York Cavalry, serving with that Troop ten months on the Mexican Border. When it was called out in July 1917, he responded again to the call of his country and was sent to Spartanburg where the First Cavalry was dismantled and made into the 104th Machine Gun Battalion, later changed into the 105th Machine Gun Battalion.

In May of the same year it was moved to Camp Stewart, Newport News, Va., from which port he sailed with his battalion for France. Since June he has seen active service constantly in the vicinity of St. Quentin and Cambrai. During the last big drive his battalion took a prominent part in breaking the Hindenburg line at a point which was considered impregnable.

Sergeant Cleary was one of the most popular young men of Avon and his death has cast a gloom on the entire community. He was a faithful member of St. Agnes' Church and Rochester Council, Knights of Columbus.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Cleary, two brothers, John and Raymond; one sister Marie, all of this village.

A requiem mass was celebrated Monday, Dec. 2nd.

The Devotion of the "Forty Hours" Will Be Held in the Churches of the Diocese of Rochester As Follows:

Dec. 1, 1918—Cathedral, Rochester; St. Mary's, Auburn. 8—Nazareth Normal School. 13—SS. Peter and Paul, Rochester.

Jan. 12, 1919—St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester.

Mar. 9—First Sunday in Lent; St. Monica, Rochester; Holy Family, Auburn. 16—Mount Morris. 23—Fairport; Penn Yan; Retsof. 30—Holy Rosary, Rochester; St. Stephen's, Geneva; Lyons.

April 6—Holy Apostles, Rochester; Mumford; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Rochester; 27—Palmyra; East Rush; Waterloo; Itasca; St. Anthony, Elmira; Spencerport; Victor.

May 4—St. Bridget's, Rochester; Clyde; Waverly; St. Lucy, Rochester; Caledonia; East Bloomfield. 11—Corpus Christi, Rochester; Hornell; Weedsport; St. Francis, Geneva; St. Anthony, Rochester; Groveland. 18—St. Mary's, Rochester; Avon; Seneca Falls; St. Mary's, Corning; St. Aloysius, Auburn; Assumption B. V.M., Mt. Morris; Mendon. 25—Immaculate Conception, Rochester; Holy Family, Rochester; St. Patrick's, Elmira; Ovid; Honeyoe Flats; Port Byron; Newark Valley; Leicester.

June 1—Sacred Heart, Rochester; Nunda; Clifton Springs; West Bloomfield; Trumansburg; Moravia; Hammondsport; Elmira Heights. 8—Stanley; Shortsville; Bath; Cayuga; St. Francis, Auburn; Livonia Station; Cato; Pittsford. 15—St. Hyacinth's, Auburn; Chili; Henrietta; Owassco.

Aug. 3—Romulus. 10—Sea Breeze.

Sept. 7—St. Stanislaus, Rochester; Macedon; Rexville; Scipio; Brockport. 12—Holy Redeemer, Rochester; Cohocton. 14—Addison; Livonia Center; Aurora; Perkinsville; SS. Peter and Paul, Elmira. 21—Groton; Watkins; St. Mary's, Danville; Penfield; Churchville; Mt. Read. 26—St. Michael's, Rochester. 28—Scottsville; St. George, Lithuanian, Rochester; Kings Ferry; St. Vincent's, Corning.

Oct. 3—Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Rochester. 5—Ontario; Horseheads; Rushville; Honeyoe Falls; St. John the Evangelist, Rochester; Montezuma; St. Casimir's, Elmira; Genoa. 10—St. Andrew's, Rochester. 12—St. Joseph's, Blessed Sacrament, Rochester; Newark; Dundee; Genesee; St. Alphonsus, Auburn; St. Patrick's, Corning; Savannah. 17—St. Francis Xavier, Rochester. 19—St. Augustine's, Rochester; Webster; Lima; Owego; Interlaken; St. John's, Elmira; McLean; Red Creek; Coldwater; Union Springs. 24—St. Boniface, Rochester; Wayland. 26—Holy Cross, Rochester; St. Cecilia's, Elmira; Canandaigua; Conesus.

Nov. 9—Our Lady of Victory, Rochester; St. Mary's, Elmira. 16—St. Patrick's, Dansville; Sacred Heart Convent, Rochester; St. John's, Greece; Phelps. 21—Naples. 23—East Rochester.

From Paris comes intelligence that all but six of the famous St. Bernard dogs in the Alpine monastery have been killed to "save meat supply."

Mgr. Gilmartin, the new Archbishop of Tuam, Ireland, has taken possession of his unbroken fifteen hundred year old see, founded by St. Jarlath.

Catholic Short Notes.

In Denver, Colo., the ladies of the Cathedral Altar Society have appointed a "courtesy committee" to attend to strangers assisting at Mass in the Cathedral.

A scholastic and major seminary for Jesuit novices has been established at Loyola University in New Orleans.

At St. Benedict, Md., the Church has been totally destroyed by fire.

Bishop Cunningham of Concordia, Kan., has presented the orphanage at Abilene, Kan., with 20 acres of land and the improvements thereon.

The late Bishop Chatard of Indianapolis, in his will devises from his inherited estate \$20,000 toward the erection of a cathedral in his diocese.

The church in Oklahoma is flourishing.

St. Vincent's Infirmary, in Little Rock, is both a hospital and a Nurses' Training School. Nearly twenty of Nazareth's Sisters, under Sister Bathilde, the Sister Servant, care for its 3,980 patients during the year.

The Hungarian Church of St. Stephan, at Allentown, Pa., has been dedicated.

Mt. St. Mary's Seminary of the West, near Cincinnati, opened this year with 215 students, an increase of 35 over last year.

Bishop Glass of Salt Lake City, is under 45 years of age, wherefore he registered for service.

It is announced that a committee of American priests have undertaken to build an American church in Rome, and to be served by them. Thus will the United States have a representative church, like other countries, in Rome.

Ruined Amiens is now being repaired; 5,000 or 6,000 people constitute its inhabitants. The children play in its streets. Its miraculous statue of the Blessed Virgin dating from the eleventh century has been placed in the Cathedral. Business is reviving and its shell-broken streets are being repaired.

Poland, the suffering land, is great in her saints and statesmen.

The Academy of Catholic Theology at Petrograd will be removed to Poland.

The Cistercian Monastery on the summit of Mont des Cats in France is said to be a war-ruin. The cloister is demolished; the church floor is a heap of debris. The monks' cells are shattered. Outside there is hardly a square foot not struck by shells, but the great crucifix on the outside with its outstretched, inviting arms, is untouched.

Recently, deep in the recesses of the Vatican Gardens, where is now the Shrine of Our Lady della Guardia, surrounded by distinguished ecclesiastics with the birds chirping overhead and round about, the Holy Father celebrated Mass in the open and gave Holy Communion to many. Two hundred pilgrims from Genoa were also there.

A handsome cruciform church has been dedicated at Spearville, Kan.

Late News of Ireland

Carlow

Rev. P. Carey, son of Denis Carey, Templeberry, was lately ordained at Carlow and will shortly leave for Texas. U. S. A.

Cork

J. Murphy, who has died, was brother of the late Canon Murphy, Macroom and father of Rev. J. Murphy, P. P., Portsmouth.

The funeral of Rev. M. Kane, C. C., Mallow, took place at Fermoy. The deceased clergyman, who was 62 years of age, was ordained at Carlow in 1883, and was a popular favorite. Most Rev. Dr. Browne presided at the solemn office and requiem Mass, which was celebrated by Rev. W. Walsh, C. C., Conna; deacon, Rev. P. Casey, C. C., Mallow, and subdeacon, Rev. E. Fitzgerald, C. C., Fermoy, with Rev. J. O'Donnoghue, Adm., as master of ceremonies.

Dublin

The Irish Geographical Association was founded at a meeting in the College of Science, Rev. T. A. Finlay, S. J., presiding. A committee, representing Dublin, Cork, Belfast and Galway Colleges, was appointed. Prof. B. F. Shields, Univ. Coll., Dublin, was elected treasurer, and Miss F. M. Berry, Alexandra Coll., secretary.

Kerry

Killorglin schools closed as a mark of sympathy with T. O'Donnell, M. P., and Mrs. O'Donnell, on the death of their daughter Nora.

Died—October 10, lost on the steamer "Lainster," Mary, eldest daughter of the late Thomas Gibson, Listowel.—October 11, Eugene, second son of John Downey, Derryruah, Kenmare.

Rev. Mother Evangelist McCarthy, Superiora of the Mercy Convent, Killarney, recently paid a visit to Causeway to see her brother, Rev. Florence McCarthy, P. P., who was then thought to be dying. He is now recovering. Rev. Mother Evangelist was accompanied by Sister Mary Bonaventure. Father McCarthy is a nephew of Father Owen McCarthy, who was pastor of Causeway in the early part of the last century.

Mayo

Miss Kate McHale, daughter of Walter McHale of Louisburgh, died at Dublin.

Claremorris D. C. expressed sympathy with their colleague, John Eaton, and Rev. Malachi Eaton, president St. Jarlath's College, Tuam, and the Rev. Alex. Eaton, dean Maynooth College, and the Rev. Father Eaton, B. A. At the Nationalist Conference in the Town Hall, Tuam, a vote of condolence was passed with Rev. A. Eaton.

Tipperary

Married—September 14, at the Chapel of Euse, Fahen, Carrick-on-Suir, by the Very Rev. Canon Sheehy, Charles Stewart Wyse Power, Barrister-at-Law, only son of John Wyse Power, of 28 Henry street, Dublin, to Miss daughter of Joseph K. Quirk, Solicitor, Carrick-on-Cuir.

Mgr. Innocent Ryan, P. P., V. G., was unanimously re-elected chairman of the Committee of Management of the County Tipperary Infirmary, Cashel.

Limerick

Patrick Molloy, builder, Limerick, has died in his 79th year.

In the appeal taken by the fisherman of the Shannon against the imposition of seal licenses the County Court Judge last month decided against the Fishery Commissioners.