

Motor Car Mechanic's Needed.

K. of C. to Give Preference to Men Who Have Experience.

Knights of Columbus will, for the present, give preference to applicants for overseas secretaryships to men having a knowledge of motor cars and experience in driving and repairing them. There is urgent need for this class of men in Knights of Columbus service abroad, and applicants are requested to communicate with K. of C. Headquarters, 461 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

Knights of Columbus maintain a big fleet of motor trucks, light cars and motorcycles to ensure an uninterrupted flow of Knights of Columbus supplies with which to supply Pershing's Army of Occupation.

One of the largest fleets of motor trucks ever assembled in Paris, left here recently, loaded to capacity with Knights of Columbus supplies, bound for Coblenz and accompanied by sixty Knights of Columbus field secretaries. These supplies are intended for Pershing's Army of Occupation.

Now that the transportation problem between Paris and Coblenz is eased a bit, Knights of Columbus have been given permission to substantially increase the number of their secretaries and quantity of supplies intended for Coblenz, where, in a big building, formerly occupied by a German Army Officers' club, the Knights have established a supply depot and a Club building.

Chairman William J. Mulligan, of New York K. of C. Headquarters, accompanied the motor-truck fleet.

William P. Larkin, Director of K. of C. Overseas Activities, said he had been requested by Mr. Mulligan to especially increase shipments of playing cards, chocolate and gum drops.

Paris—General Pershing dispatched to Knights of Columbus Headquarters here a message conveying his thanks and the thanks of the American Army for the splendid services rendered the men by the Knights. The tenor of General Pershing's message indicated a high appreciation of Knights of Columbus service in behalf of American troops. General Pershing did not forget to particularly mention that a large part of this service was rendered by Knights of Columbus secretaries while American troops were engaged in actual fighting on the several battle fronts.

The following letter, printed in The Chronicle, of Augusta, Ga., is self-explanatory and needs no comment:
"Brooklyn, N. Y., Jan., 1919.

"Editor Chronicle:
"I came across an old copy of your paper on board ship and noted an article protesting against contributing funds to the combined war service fund, uttered by the Baptist congregation, for the reason that the Knights of Columbus were sharers in the fund.

"That is the church on the corner of Eighth Street, where the kindly old gentleman used to stand inviting us soldiers in to have refreshments. That old gentleman cannot be of such disposition. It was so unlike him.

"Now I am not eligible to belong to the Knights of Columbus, nor have I any desire to, but if the people of America knew what the soldiers in France know they would want the Knights of Columbus to administer the whole United War Fund and keep out all other organizations, which only get on the soldiers' nerves. Hold on, just a minute: all except the Salvation Army, the poor, neglected 'Sals'. You can bet the soldiers will never let the tambourine pass without dropping a dime into it.

"The Knights and the 'Sal' Army were on the job every minute, though not quite as thick as some others. They treated the soldiers decently, not as if they were inferior creatures hired to do a nasty job. They tended to the business at hand and didn't go snooping around to the military police with suspicions that there was evil in this or that that the soldiers should be kept away from.

"The Knights of Columbus didn't go around shaking hands and warning the fellows that hell was wide open for him and if he didn't repent he would likely be in torment inside 24 hours.

"The Knights of Columbus saw to it that the boys had smokes and chocolate as long as they lasted and the fellows who had just one pay day since going over were not denied because they were broke.

"The Knights of Columbus were man's men, every one of them, good, wholesome, likeable fellows. I hope some day to again visit Augusta. Thousands of the Pennsylvania boys will never come back. I got nicked in Argonne Forest October 2nd, machine gun bullets in right shoulder and arm. Learning to write left-handed.

"Give my best to Big Leo at 'Home Folks'.
"Yours truly, "(Sergt.) Samuel J. Titus, Co. B, 109th Inf."

General Pershing's announcement that the A. E. F. would conduct Olympic Games in Paris in May or June and that he had invited commanders of all the Allied armies to send contestants to compete with American soldier athletes appear to have stimulated interest in sports amongst the soldiers.

Although the Knights of Columbus have shipped immense quantities of athletic outfits, the supply of certain articles appears to be running short, and Knights of Columbus headquarters here this week received by cable an urgent call for basket, medicine, volley and soccer balls, also punching bags and indoor baseball equipment. All this will go forward immediately.

Knights of Columbus secretaries overseas are equipping gymnasiums for the benefit of soldiers intending to compete in the Olympic Games.

The People's Champion.

Incidents from the Struggles of the Church Against Absolutism.

Data From The Writings Of Cardinal Manning.

Recently writers in the "Atlantic Monthly", the "New Republic" and the "Open Court," in articles referring partly to the need of a sort of reconstruction on the part of the churches, and partly to "Religion and Democracy" (Open Court), have preferred the charge against the churches (including the Catholic Church) that they have been remiss in their duty as protectors of religious authority against the domination of political authority, and in their obligations towards the people as against the encroachments of secular power and secular thought.

We have previously pointed out that the Catholic Church did not silently and passively submit to the overbearing policies of Absolutism as against the rights of religion and the rights of the people. The Russian Anarchist Prince Kropotkin was quoted to show in what manner and to what degree Bishops of the Church championed, when they were not bound hand and foot, the cause of the liberties of the Church and of the people. Cardinal Manning also supplies arguments and data on this same subject. He also discusses in his able manner and style the long struggle between "Caesarism and Ultramontaniam", and between Caesarism, or Absolutism, and the people's rights. In his "Miscellaneous" we find various references to this subject, which it might be well for some of the critics of the Church to peruse.

The discussion of principles in "Caesarism and Ultramontaniam" is both interesting and valuable. For the present, however, a reference to Manning's essay on "The Pope and the Magna Charta" may suffice. In this essay Manning defends the position of the Pope regarding this document, and, in doing so, prefaces his remarks by some illustrations from history, showing the generous support given by the Church to the cause of the people. In this connection he quotes, from Stubb's Documents (p. 33.) Oxford 1874: "From the beginning of the thirteenth century the struggle (in England) is between the Barons, clergy, and people on one side, and the King and his personal partisans, English and foreign, on the other. The Barons and prelates who drew up the charter were the sons of the ministerial nobles of Henry II., the imitators of S. Anselm and S. Hugh, of Henry of Winchester and Thomas of Canterbury." And again, quoting from Stubb's (ibid. p. 32) he says: "...No division of the clergy ever sympathized with the feudal party," i. e., against the interests of the people.

The Cardinal, to illustrate the attitude of the representatives of the Church towards the people, goes back to the days before the Magna Charta, and points out that the coronation oath of the rulers, which was pledged to a representative of the Church, contained guarantees of popular rights and the rights of the Church. "The laws and liberties of England, we read, (Miscellaneous, p. 190), "were guaranteed by the coronation oaths of every sovereign, Saxon and Dane alike sworn to preserve them. William the Conqueror and his successors, in like manner, bound themselves by their coronation oath to respect them."

The fact that the Kings did not live up to their oath provoked opposition by the Church and the people. "The conflict, Manning continues, "between traditional liberties and royal customs, which began before the Conquest, became sharper and less tolerable after the Conquest. The rule of our foreign Kings was especially despotic, and under them the conflict between legal rights and royal usages brought on the conflict of S. Anselm with Henry I., and the martyrdom of S. Thomas of Canterbury under Henry II." And lest it be thought that the liberties for which these churchmen fought against despotic rulers were purely secular or purely ecclesiastical, we append Card. Manning's classification of them. "These laws and liberties, he writes, "may be divided and classed under two heads: first the liberties of the Church, in its tribunals, goods, appeals, and elections; and secondly, the liberties of the people in respect to inheritance, taxation, military service, and the like."

These facts serve well to show the position of the Church towards undue encroachments of the political authority upon the domain of her rights and those of the people. If to-day she is less able to effectively resist such encroachments, it is surely not the province of those who have consistently striven to weaken her influence, to accuse her of not opposing with sufficient strength the "concentration of power" in the hands of certain men and classes, and the subordination of religious to political authority. Fairness should prompt these critics, if they are well-intentioned, rather to take the other side of the argument.

C. B. of the C. V.

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA.

Knights of Columbus Graduate Scholarships.

Competitive examinations for the Knights of Columbus Scholarships will be held April 26, 1919. Applications for admission to the examination should be filed not later than April first.

Examination centers will be designated to meet, as far as possible, the convenience of candidates.

Eligible Candidates.—Only laymen are admitted to the examination.

Applicants must be, preferably, Knights of Columbus or sons of members of the Order.

The examination is open to students who have already received the degree Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Laws, or an equivalent academic degree, and to students who will complete a baccalaureate course at the close of the current academic year. In any case the candidate must have received the Bachelor's degree before July 1, 1919.

Conditions of Tenure.—The scholarship provides board, lodging and tuition during the time prescribed for the degree which the candidate desires to obtain. All other expenses, laboratory fees and athletic fees are at the charge of the student.

Holder of Scholarships are not allowed to pursue simultaneously courses of study in any other institution or to engage in any occupation which would interfere with their work as candidates for advanced degrees in the University.

All communications in reference to the Scholarships should be addressed to Very Rev. Edw. A. Pace, Ph. D., Director of Studies, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C.

Foreign Mission News

The Propagation of the Faith Society, 318 Lexington Ave., New York City

THE S. P. F. LEARNS HOW WIDE SPREAD ARE THE RAVAGES OF THE "FLU."

Nothing could show better how widespread have been the ravages of the influenza than the letters from the missionaries. Naturally these come from the four quarters of the globe, but in each is a reference to the dread scourge. The wretched Indians in the huts in northern Canada, the natives of Japan, the poor people of India—all are laid low, with of course, the priests who look after their spiritual and physical welfare.

Bishop Roy, P. F. M., of Coimbatore, India, writes to the S. P. F.:

"The influenza has made more victims here than our most dreaded enemies, the cholera or the plague. Eleven of my priests are sick and our natives are dying by thousands. It is hard for me to find Fathers enough to give Extreme Unction to those demanding it. I recently sent the Superior of our Seminary seventy-two miles to administer a parish, but before he reached the place many were dead.

"The people from the mountains, who were dying by hundreds, fled in terror to the plains thinking to escape; but they fell sick in the woods and fields on their way down. I asked permission from the planters to establish a temporary hospital for these sufferers, and ten days later received word that the epidemic had passed. Many perished.

The children in our orphan asylums were attacked, but owing to good care we have had no deaths as yet."

VENERABLE MARGIL, THE APOSTLE OF TEXAS.

We are all acquainted with the name and saintly virtues of Fr. Junipero Serra, the apostle of California; but we are not so familiar with the great Franciscan of Texas, the Venerable Antonio Margil.

Born in Spain in 1657, this child early evinced extreme piety and became a son of St. Francis at the age of sixteen. Hearing of the scarcity of priests in distant America, and how, for that reason, countless immortal souls among the savages would never know their Creator, he resolved to offer himself for the work of preaching the Gospel to the pagans of America.

He labored first in Guatemala, coming to Texas in 1716. Great trials awaited him there, but he worked valiantly for the Texas missions and he was greatly beloved. His cause was introduced at Rome, and the examinations resulted in the declaration by Pope Gregory XVI, in 1836, that Fr. Margil had practiced the theological and cardinal, as well as other virtues, in a heroic degree. That entitled him to be styled "Venerable." On the proof of two miracles, Fr. Margil can be solemnly beatified.

On November 12, 1918, the Sacred Congregation of Rites favorably considered the cause of a group of martyrs who gave up their lives for the Faith in Corea and Cochin China, the clergy being all members of the Paris Foreign Mission Society. Among these are two bishops, Mgr. Berneux and Mgr. Verrolles, and the heroic missionary, Fr. Just de Bretenieres. Many of those included in the group were native lay persons.

Catholic Short Notes.

The coming year will most probably witness the Rome-going of many prelates and priests.

The great bell in the cathedral church at Vincennes, Ind., cast nearly one and a half centuries ago in France, and which rang in Vincennes in 1779 for victory, pealed out the tidings of the armistice in November, the Bishop, Dr. Chartrand, presiding.

The interior of the original San Fernando Church in San Antonio, Texas, built in 1734, now forms the sanctuary of the Cathedral of San Antonio.

A number of new priests will shortly arrive from Ireland for the diocese of Sacramento, Cal.

Silently but effectually the great Franciscan Order of priests, Sisters and Brothers are doing marvelous work in the Church in the United States.

Marquette University will provide a \$100,000 gymnasium.

The Supreme Board of Directors of the Knights of Columbus has announced that the Order will continue its war-relief work and will carry it into civil life, retaining the slogan "Everybody Welcome." The Knights will establish night schools, teach trades, and the like work.

The Sisters of Charity of New-areth will open in Louisville a college for the higher education of women.

Up to last year, St. Petersburg, Russia, now named Petrograd, was an imperial city of 2,019,000 inhabitants—an opulent city with magnificent palaces. Today it is a desolate, deserted city, a city in the sleep as it were of death, with famine and starvation lurking at its thresholds.

It is very probable that, on the return of the world to its normal condition next year, a number of beatifications and canonizations will take place in Rome. His Holiness, the Pope, has indicated this.

In the Argonne forest, France, is a Marian Shrine. Everything about it—altar, pedestals, vases, statues, candles, was demolished by shells; the statue of the Blessed Virgin, with extended arms holding a rose, is absolutely untouched and intact.

When the influenza raged in Montreal, Canada, and the churches were closed, the Blessed Sacrament was borne in solemn procession through the streets.

When the King of Belgium reentered his regained capital city, Brussels, followed by a line of Allied troops ten miles long, headed by our American soldiers, he entered the Parliament building, crossing before and shaking by the hand, Cardinal Mercier, Mayor Max and General Lemaitre. Flowers were strewn along the path of the King and Queen.

It is reported in Naples that the Vatican White Book is in course of preparation to be very shortly issued. It will, it is said, momentarily detail the efforts of Pius X to prevent the world war and will include the period of the reign of Benedict XV, in particular the Peace Note, as also other State letters and documents bearing on the war.