

## What a Captain Thinks of the "K. of C."

Knights of Columbus War News Service.

No better evidence of the great usefulness of war service organizations in general, and that of the Knights of Columbus in particular, than is contained in an extract from a letter written by a company commander of the A. E. F. to his wife back home in America, could be furnished.

The letter was sent back to France by the lady to a mutual friend of herself and the captain. For obvious reasons the name of the officer is withheld but the absolute authenticity of the letters is proven by a copy which found its way into the headquarters of the Knights of Columbus. The last few paragraphs of the letter are quoted as a single example of the efficient service of the organization. The captain wrote:

"Of course, we give the men a good meal when they come off patrol about 11, but even at that a sandwich at supper, especially when it is a bacon sandwich, is not very appetizing, nor yet as filling as it might be. I became rather desperate thinking about that first night until finally it occurred to me that the Knights of Columbus might help me out. And sure enough! I hustled around there and got enough chocolate bars to go around, and in addition thereto, cigarettes. So that first night they had a sandwich, a chocolate bar and a pack of cigarettes.

"But the second night I was confronted with the same problem (I know I am going to be from this time on). I solved it this time by going over to another hut and buying enough Hershey bars for that occasion. They cost me 44 francs but I can't afford to be putting out money like that every day or so. And I can't ask the K. of C. to practically furnish my company one meal a day.

"Tonight the mess sergeant supplied a jam sandwich in addition to that of bacon and it was a bit of a change anyhow. Of course, we are getting our rations all right, but it isn't a ration that is adaptable, readily and conveniently to sandwich making.

"But I haven't told you all about that Knights of Columbus yet. Yesterday I went back again at the kindly and earnest solicitation of the amiable secretary with whom I had my dealings before. On this occasion I went 'loaded' so to speak. That is to say, instead of going in the side-car I commandeered a Ford touring car and drove up to the door of the Knights of Columbus warehouse.

"When I drove away I had a case of coffee, which entirely filled the rear seat, two cases of condensed milk, one case of toilet soap, more cigarettes, writing paper and envelopes. The only reason I didn't take a supply of towels was that my conscience was beginning to trouble me just a bit and I backed off with the excuse that I didn't know just how many I would require. I'll get them the next time. Gee! I almost forgot the six cans of Stero bouillon cubes.

"Attention! If at any time in the future, you feel come over you an irresistible desire to contribute something towards making the 'Poor Soldiers' happy, just drop it into the Knights of Columbus hat in appreciation of what they have done for my boys."

### New Feature Inaugurated by K. of C.

The Knights of Columbus "Missing or Negligent Soldiers' Bureau" is having extraordinary success in locating or getting definite information regarding soldiers sought by relatives. In a great many instances, happily, the Knights of Columbus have been able to inform anxious relatives that supposed "missing" men were only negligent about writing.

A certain percentage of the men sought were located in hospitals abroad and had been loath to inform friends and relatives about injuries which may leave a permanent effect.

The Knights of Columbus Bureau is conducted from New York Headquarters, 461 Fourth Avenue, but co-operates with a similar department at Knights of Columbus Headquarters, 16 Place de la Madeleine, Paris.

Hundreds of appreciative letters from relatives received by the Knights bear testimony to the efficiency of this "lost soldier department."

Paris, (By Mail). - Throughout France, England and in occupied Germany George Washington's birthday anniversary was observed with appropriate ceremonies by Knights of Columbus in their camp buildings, recreation buildings, service clubs and at many Churches.

The Knights, through William J. Mulligan, Chairman of K. of C. Committee on War Activities, placed a floral wreath on Washington's monument here. Five thousand Americans and visitors from other countries as well as many citizens of France heard Mr. Mulligan describe the appreciation felt by Washington for LaFayette's service during the revolutionary war.

All the newspapers here dwell at length on the ceremonies of Mr. Mulligan's remarks and the Knights of Columbus patriotic attitude.

Here's a letter that tells its own story: Headquarters 17th Division Camp Beauregard, La. February 11th, 1919.

"Dear Sir: - Before the complete demobilization of this Division, I want to personally thank you for the excellent work of your organization at this camp.

"Both before and since the armistice was signed, it has been a great fact in maintaining the morale of the men. Upon the occasion of each of my visits to the Knights of Columbus Hall I found a great many men present, either reading or writing. I consider the size of the attendance at each of your four services on Sunday remarkable. These facts speak for themselves.

"I have observed the work of the Knights of Columbus at this camp, in various parts of the United States, and in many parts of France, I have heard nothing but good of it. They can justly be proud of this record.

"Harding Polk, Major, General Staff, 17th Division."

## FEDERATION OF ALUMNAE NAMES CONVENTION PLACES

Third Biennial Session Will Take Place in St. Louis May 30-June 4th.

Announcement has just been made that the third biennial convention of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae, postponed from October last on account of the country's then existent state of war, will be held in St. Louis, Mo., in the early days of the approaching summer. The dates decided upon are May 30 to June 4th, inclusive. Convention headquarters will be the Hotel Statler. Plans for the transportation, entertainment and accommodation of thousands of visitors from all sections of the United States and Canada, which were perfected in October under the able leadership of Miss Stella R. Gillick, governor of the Missouri State chapter, and Miss Pauline Boisliniere, trustee of the I. F. C. A., have been adapted to the change of time and conditions. As member of the executive board resident in St. Louis, Miss Boisliniere has been given plenary powers by the president, Clare I. Cogan, A. M., to make arrangements for the convention pursuant to the original plans of October, and subject to any changes required by the exigencies of local conditions.

Archbishop Glennon, of St. Louis; the Mayor of that city, officials and local dignitaries, both secular and religious, have extended a cordial welcome to delegates and visiting members and all signs point the way to a great convention. Committees in charge of the various convention activities, composed of local and State convent alumnae associations, have devoted their energies for more than a year to the successful planning of convention programmes. These will be given to the press at an early date.

The third biennial convention of the I. F. C. A. marks a tremendous advance in the growth and scope of this widely known organization. Hundreds of alumnae associations, aggregating an individual membership of 50,000 graduates of Catholic colleges, universities, academies and high schools, and representing the flower of educated Catholic American womanhood, have organized into a splendid army of workers in the cause of Catholic education, Catholic social service and Catholic literature. In the midst of the reconstruction and reshaping of world ideals which mark the present hour, religion as a factor both human and divine looms more brilliantly than ever, and the purposes, aims and accomplishments of the Federation of Catholic Alumnae assume a greater and more potential significance.

New York, March 3. - Pope Benedict will be visited by a commission of Protestant clergymen and asked to lend his great influence to a union of all Christian churches in the world. Announcement of this definite plan, the culmination of nine years steady and labor, was made to-day at the church of St. Mary the Virgin by Bishop Reginald Weller of the diocese of Fond du Lac, Wis., the High Church party leader in the United States.

Officially the commission will represent the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States. Unofficially, however, the petition to Pope Benedict will have the sanction of leaders among the clergy of a number of other Protestant denominations.

## Foreign Mission New

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

### LENT IS A GOOD TIME TO THINK ABOUT THAT PERPETUAL MEMBERSHIP.

Lent is upon us; let us during this holy season join the Propagation of the Faith Society. The offering for a perpetual membership is forty dollars. It entitles the individual enrolled to all the spiritual privileges of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, in life and death. The plenary and partial indulgences granted to the benefactors are many. More than fifteen thousand Masses are annually celebrated for the living and deceased members of the Society.

The offering for a perpetual membership may be made at one time or should, otherwise, be made within one year, at the convenience of the donor. This is the best investment that can be made, because it insures for life and eternity.

### OUR DUTY TOWARD THE NEAR EAST.

The Procurator of the missions of the Assumptionists in the Orient is Rev. Victor Bossu. He writes from Paris, regarding the desperate condition of the distressed missionaries in the East.

"It was hoped that reconstruction could soon begin there, under the more favorable conditions brought about by the world peace, and at the request of the Government the Superior of the Assumptionists with two priests and three nuns set out from Marseilles for Constantinople for the purpose of infusing new life into the expiring works of the apostolate.

"In a very material, as well as a spiritual manner were they to do this, for they took with them large quantities of vegetables and other food stuffs, for the necessities of life had almost disappeared from Constantinople, and the priests were starving. Happy was the little company on leaving France, because they were about to resume their missionary activities and to bring much-needed assistance to their fellow Oblates.

"But they never reached their destination. In the Straits of Messina their steamer struck a floating mine and sank in a few minutes—in four minutes according to newspaper reports.

"A terrible loss. The Superior was a most valuable man and cannot be easily replaced. The other religious were full of zeal. What will sustain the afflicted Assumptionists now trying to grapple with new conditions? The East has come into new prominence lately, and it is the duty of Catholics to lend their support to the members of their own Faith laboring there."

The acting Superior of the Mill Hill Fathers in Iloilo, Philippine Islands, is Rev. James Mansfield. Here is the latest word received from him in acknowledgment of an offering:

"Our work out here in the Philippines is hard and in many respects discouraging, because we have to deal with thousands of neglected souls, who, stricken by that worst of vices, religious indifference, either work against us or keep aloof from those who are sent out to seek their eternal salvation. But the knowledge that there are so many good and kind souls in far-off America, who take such great and constant interests in our work, acts upon us as an incentive to "carry on" and greatly alleviates our trials."

## Late News of Ireland

Carlow

The death has taken place of Mrs. Hogan at her residence, 7 Main street, Ragenalstown, Cork.

Cork United Trades Council, on the invitation of the Sinn Fein Executive, appointed Messrs. Marsh and Good as representatives to join a deputation to wait on Most Rev. Dr. Cohalan in connection with the disposal of the Anti-Conscription Fund.

T. Barry, Glanworth, was elected Master of Fermoy Union by 41 votes to 38, for J. Tapley, Fermoy, who was first in the examination.

Ven. Mother M. de Pazzi, Middleton Presentation Convent, has just celebrated her Diamond Jubilee. She entered the Order in 1858. She is now 85 years of age. Mother M. de Pazzi is a native of Kanturk.

Dublin

The remains were interred at Glasnevin Cemetery of the late John Devlin, Up. Stephen street, brother of Rev. Father Devlin, O. C. C.; Rev. H. Devlin, Tarrytown, New York, and Councillor Joseph Devlin. The attendants included Very Rev. Father Cogan, O. C. C., Provincial and other members of the Carmelite Order.

Some half dozen large German guns, captured last November by a New Zealand division, have arrived in Dublin per North Wall steamer.

Kerry

Married at St. John's Parish Church, Tralee, by Rev. Maurice Slattery, President Gloughballymore College, Galway, (cousin of the bride), assisted by Rev. W. Ferris, C. O., Tralee, (cousin to the bride), and Very Rev. David O'Leary, P. P., G. V., Dean of Kerry, John J. O'Sullivan, second son of the late D. E. O'Sullivan, High street, Killarney, to Ellen, daughter of the late Lawrence Quinlan, Bridge street, and Bay View, Ballyard, Tralee.

Commodore Heard, one of a well-known Kerry family, who has been in command at Berehaven for the last two years, has left to take command of a capital ship in one of the battle fleet.

Limerick

Lieut.-Col. Rev. J. Stack, Drumcollogher, was mentioned for gallantry and devotion to duty in Sir Douglass Haig's last despatch, this being the third time he has had the distinction.

Mayo

Charles James Griffin, K. C., Attorney-General for Gibraltar, has been appointed Chief Justice of Leeward Islands. He is a son of the late John Griffin, C. C. P. for Mayo.

Tipperary

Mrs. M. Morrissey, mother of Dr. P. Morrissey, district coroner, Tipperary, has died, aged 82.

The profession took place, on January 4, at the Convent of Mercy, Endaleigh, Hull, England, of Miss Mary Finane (in religion Sister Mary Teresa), daughter of James Finane, Garryard, Berrisokane.

Died - At his residence, Toomevara, John O'Donovan, aged 64. Wexford

Gorey Temperance Club decided to make a presentation to Rev. E. Wheeler, C. C., president, on his transfer to Cushinstown.

Wicklow

Rev. W. H. A. Truell, Clonmanne, Rathnew, has been appointed High Sheriff of Wicklow. Rev. James Breen, C. C., St. Laurence O'Toole's for 26 years, has been appointed P. P., of Ballynagar, Wicklow.

## Catholic Short Notes.

Five Marist Sisters from Tours, France, were in Chicago recently enroute to the leper colonies in the Fiji Islands, as teachers and nurses.

Very soon now a great tide of travel, ecclesiastical and otherwise, to Rome will set in.

The Bishops of Japan, Corea, China, Indo-China and other Far East countries are appealing to us in America for aid, as their missions have suffered grievously by the world war.

Sisters of St. Francis have been appointed teachers in some of the public schools in New Mexico.

The Governor of Minnesota has appointed Rev. William Busch, professor of Church History in St. Paul Seminary, a member of the War Records Commission.

Cardinal Lucon, Archbishop of Rheims, writes: "By her generous devotion, the United States is giving to the world an example such as it has never seen. She is showing that she is not only the land of big enterprises and large fortunes, but also of great hearts and noble sentiments. The bonds of friendship forged between her and France in 1778 are being drawn closer and will be indelible after the war of 1914-18."

A New York park has been named by that city Jean of Arc Park.

Publishers Kennedy & Sons, New York, are simultaneously with the Vatican press engaged in preparing type matter for the newly revised *Missa Romano*. The volume will be exact duplicates and of simultaneous issue.

Bishop Hickey Asks Wilson's Aid For Irish Liberty.

Bishop Thomas F. Hickey gave out the following telegram which he had forwarded Monday, March 4th, to the President of the United States in behalf of self-determination for Ireland.

Mr. Woodrow Wilson, President of United States, Washington, D. C.

Independent of any organization, general or particular, and speaking as American citizen, representing in our birthplace of ancestry twelve nationalities—moved by regard for a country loved by us all, I ask in my name and in the name of the clergy and laity of this diocese, your interest and influence in securing self-determination for Ireland.

(Signed) THOMAS F. HICKRY, Bishop of Rochester.

## CHARLES HILBERT, ONCE CITY'S BEST SPRINTER

To the Editor:

Surely you will find space for a paragraph in regard to Mr. Charles L. Hilbert, whose funeral was held from Blessed Sacrament Church Monday morning. He was for many years, a member of St. Boniface church. There are a good many Rochesterians who remember him in his palmy days. Champion sprinter of the city and a great lover of the national game; pitched for the amateur champion baseball team of the city; also a great indoor ball pitcher. Many an exciting indoor game did he pitch at the old armory on Clinton Avenue south. He always played the game square; a gentleman always. He never could be bought. He was sincere in everything he did. Many of your readers will remember him, for he never was a cleaner sport than Hilbert. Give him just a paragraph and oblige one who wishes him to be on the square.

Yours truly, C. W. ...