

JOBS FOR GOBS THROUGH THE K. OF C.

By John B. Kennedy.

Exclusive to The Catholic Journal.

Columbus discovered America for everybody. His followers, the Knights of Columbus, are now doing the most important topical job of discovering—jobs for soldiers and sailors discharged from Uncle Sam's service. Through their seventeen hundred and more Councils scattered over the country the K. of C. have organized a comprehensive machine for job-hunting; keen-eyed business and professional men and men of all the unions, holding membership in the organization have enlisted under the get-a-job-for-a-job and a dough-boy banner, and the army has marched forward under the leadership of William J. McGinley, supreme secretary of the K. of C. and the various State Deputies of the society, until, by latest reports, over five thousand jobs have been attacked and captured by the Knights, and in these jobs contented ex-sailors and soldiers are working hard, with coats peeled and minds intent on climbing up the ladder of life just as they went over the top of the trench ladder and the fighting deck to victory.

Many there are, and not always those who contributed most generously to the war funds of the various relief organizations, who seem to think that the end of the war entailed a cessation of war relief agency activities. That idea should have been dispelled by this time. Now, in the first flush of peace, we are just learning to what great national use the war organizations, built up with all the energy and enthusiasm attending a great national crisis, can be directed.

The Knights are a case in point. Always a large and powerful and growing organization, they reached out, before the war, in not much more than an educational way—although that, forsooth, was a big and necessary undertaking. By sending expert lecturers through the country the Knights did much, in the ante-war period, to combat the socialistic move. They are continuing that work in their council activities. But their other activities before the war—their social and fraternal activities were more or less restricted.

The war has aroused the Knights. Bearing the name of Columbus they have, in a big new way, set about doing the job he would most certainly command them to do if he reappeared in the country he discovered. They are in the field to help every man who sought to help his country by donning its uniform and fighting its battles on land and sea. They have been rather conspicuous in that field since the war started.

Now their big effort is to get jobs. Any and every kind of job, so long as it is honest labor that a man worthy of honor (and what man who risked life and limb for the flag will not—barring bolsheviks—lift our hats to isn't worthy of honor?) can accept. Jobs at a good, living wage; jobs that offer prospects to the man whose industry and ambition have been stimulated by the healthy discipline of army or navy life. Jobs for good, clean-blooded American men who have proved their right to the glorious adjective. That is what the Knights are hunting for—and, as the tiger in the Jungle Book would mutter—Hunting is good!

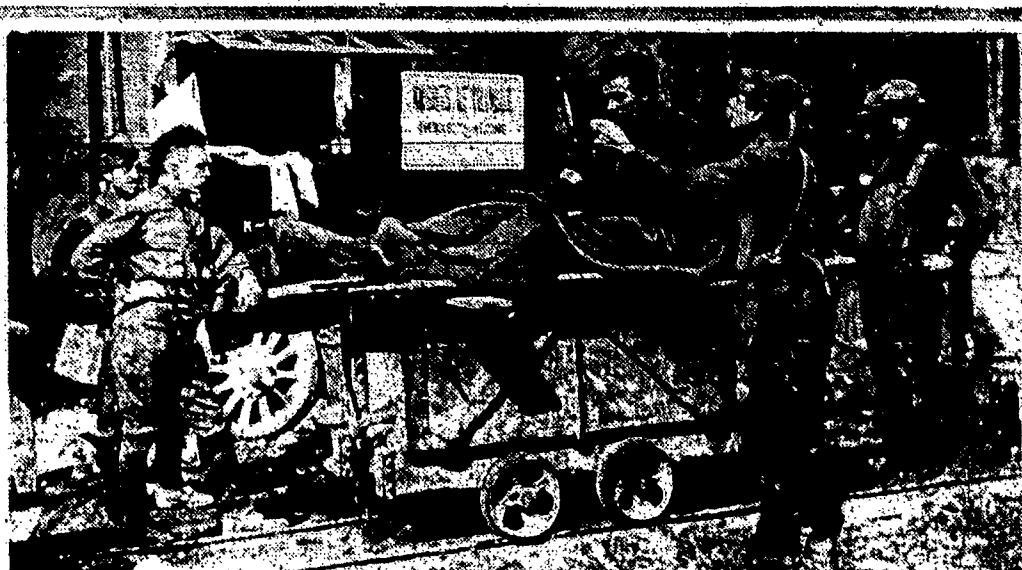
In greater New York alone the Knights have secured approximately two thousand five hundred jobs for returned men. And the Knights, with due justice, emphasize the urgent necessity of getting the job for the boy who returns from overseas. He has been away from America, out of touch with everybody and everything but the enemy, whom he has touched, it will be admitted, most severely and successfully. The man at home has, naturally, had an advantage in the hunt for a job, for the simple reason that he has been at home. Hence the Knights have a peculiarly and particularly keen nose out for a good job when it is requested by a boy overseas or on his way back home, or a boy just discharged on his return home.

The K-C commence hunting the job right in France, even in Germany. Here is the prescription. The Knights have special job cards—neat, efficient, little cards carrying in a small space all necessary information regarding the applicant, even to the detail of color. The soldier is asked to state his preference for a particular kind of job, in a particular locality, and, of course, his experience is briefly rendered. The big work is accomplished on the transports homeward bound. Over fifty K. of C. secretaries are engaged in the transport service. They pass the cards out to the boys; interview them individually—they have time to do this in the ten-day to two-weeks trip across the ocean, and, where their judgment urges them, they make helpful remarks on the blank back of the job-card.

On arriving at the port of debarkation the cards are parcelled and sent to K-C headquarters at New Haven, Conn., where they are distributed according to the places where the soldiers or sailors desire employment, and there taken up by the local K-C committee and a canvass made of available jobs in the particular line for which the soldier or sailor is eligible.

And all manner of men have been returned to the employments of peace. Butchers, bakers, candle-stick makers, jacks of all trades and masters of many have applied to the Knights for jobs and been accorded work within a week. Out in San Francisco the job-getting game is especially brisk. Latest reports from the coast indicate that the Knights have succeeded in finding upwards of five thousand vacancies in that territory. And still the list grows.

If you are in a city where there is a K-C Council or hut, it might be well to peek in and ask the secretary to demonstrate the job-finding machinery. It is simpler than A-B-C because there is no dispute as to how to pronounce the final letter in the alphabet—Z or Zed, which, according to this simile, is the question of doing the job and earning the wage. The employer and employed agree fraternally in this respect.



THE K. OF C. HELPED HIM 'OVER THERE' IN THE ARGENTINE.



NOW THE K. OF C. HELP HIM TO A JOB OVER HERE.

There are instances where a boy has gone to work on the very day he applied to the Knights for a job. One of these happened in Indianapolis, where a very capable young lady named Frances Fox handles the heavy end of the job-getting. The soldier, discharged, applied for work at nine a. m., he was seated at his own little desk in an accounting department at two p. m. Speed!

Of course, not all the boys can get exactly what they're after. They have learned many things abroad; some of them have much sharper minds now than when they marched away under the battle-banners of the Republic. But, let this be said promptly and effectively for their spirit—they are always willing to tackle, and right earnestly, any job they can get.

One of them figured it this way: We can't loaf. We've been taught, in the army, to use every minute of our time in doing something, even if it's only to amuse ourselves. A lot of us have learned that while pool and crap may be amusing, it isn't always profitable; whereas a good job, even if it is at five or ten bucks a week less than a feller thinks he's worth, is, after all, a good job. And one lesson a soldier has learned if he's been allowed to remain in the army, and that is that a good job is always worth doing.

And they go to the Knights by the hundred when they arrive in New York or Boston or some other Eastern port. The Knights make them all welcome. They have been with them under fire at the front and they are now ready to get back of them at home. It's all a matter of energetic endeavor, fostered by the right American spirit.

Statistics to date show that over a third of the men who apply through the K-C for jobs are placed within two weeks of applying. In fact, the record has been so good, that the head of the United States Employment Service, in the official bulletin issued by the Department of Labor in

connection with that service, gave the Knights credit for having cooperated most effectively with the department, of all the organizations giving their good right shoulders to the task of budging the unemployment wheel.

Therefore, if a K-C man should brisk into your office one of these fine spring days and ask if you have employment for men who are entitled to it, look over your outfit, see if there isn't some niche in which a deserving son of the Republic can't be placed to his advantage and your own. In every case you'll find that the boy will be punctual, obedient, full of pep and initiative and not, as some who are rather querulous in all matters have complained, inclined to run your works successfully because he has assisted in running the Germans out of France successfully.

Listen to the K. of C. They know. They have found thousands of jobs for gobs and dough-boys, none better on earth they say.

HISTORY OF K. OF C. WAR WORK.

Date up to Feb. 17, 1919.

(Continued from last week.) A statement is submitted herewith showing the financial condition of the War Camp Fund, from the beginning up to February 1st, 1919, showing total receipts and expenditures, summarized with underlying detailed statements. Briefly the receipts are \$17,970,352.31 and the expenditures and liabilities \$14,007,109.54.

In addition to this it ought to be said that a very large proportion of the overhead charge has been maintained by the Order out of its General Fund, and not charged to the monies collected for the war; this includes practically all the work of direction. Furthermore the free service of councils and members of the Order at large has been a tremendous factor in keeping down the expenses.

The work is not all finished; a call comes this week for two hundred more secretaries for Overseas. This is only an evidence of the increase of work and responsibility, and requisitions in similar proportion have been received for supplies.

In addition to their compensation the Overseas secretaries have each been protected with a five-thousand dollar insurance policy in the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York, N. Y. Similar protection has been afforded "K. of C." Chaplains, Overseas.

The Order has taken up the employment of demobilized soldiers and sailors through its councils and the secretaries in the camps and cantonments, and has already received most favorable commendation from the Department in Washington. It has also given large and extended service on the transports bringing the soldiers home and has increased its activities in the Hospitals throughout the country. Service houses have been opened in most of the principal cities and they have been uniformly successful. In many places, these were buildings especially obtained for the purpose, and in other places, councils have used their buildings or permanent quarters, but everywhere throughout the country there has been the same spirit of cooperation and helpfulness.

The policy of not conducting a canteen and of not using the service of women has been maintained from the beginning and has avoided a danger and weakness which has beset some of the other societies engaged in this work. Despite the fact that we were criticized in the beginning for sending forth secretaries without a special training and education, we feel proud to point to the record of our nearly two thousand secretaries here and overseas, and the words of the returning soldiers and of the public press have more than justified the wonderful spirit of our secretaries and our careful choice.

Late News of Ireland

Carlow

Addressing a meeting composed of nearly 2,000 people in the Town Hall, Carlow, T. Farren, Dublin, said Labor's time was coming in Ireland.

Cork

Judge Hynes got white gloves at the Macroom Quarter Sessions. John O'Brien, Barnabew, a middle-aged farmer, dropped dead in Skibbereen on his way to the railway station.

J. F. Anderson, manager, Bank of Ireland, Mitchelstown, has been promoted to the O'Connell St. branch, Dublin.

Dublin

Very Rev. James Beahan, O. C. C., has just celebrated his Golden Jubilee, and the occasion is not to be let pass by his numerous friends without suitable recognition. He has ministered with tireless zeal and devotion for the past fifty years in Whitefriar St.

Kerry

Jack Leahy, College street, Killarney, a prominent member of the local Volunteers, has died after a short illness.

Lieut-Col. W. H. L. McCarthy, D. S. O., was at Listowel Petty Sessions sworn a magistrate for Co. Kerry.

Robert O'Kelly, Princess street Tralee, has died, aged 84. He was through the '67 rising. He was father of Rev. S. A. O'Kelly, O. P., some time Prior of Holy Cross Tralee, and now of Adelaide, and of Sister M. Aloysius, of Sister M. Dominick, Mercy Convent, Roscommon.

Limerick

The remains of the late Rt. Rev. Monsignor Shanahan, Thornaby-on-Tees, arrived in Limerick and were met at the train by Most Rev. Dr. Hallinan and diocesan clergy. The chief mourners included Father Shanahan, P. P.; Dr. Shanahan, brothers; Sir Vincent Nash, the Mayor (Mr. O'Mara) and a large concourse followed the remains to Mt. St. Lawrence Cemetery.

The Very Rev. M. Canon Irwin, P. P., CastleMahon, Limerick, whose death is announced, had reached his 84th year. He was formerly C. C. at Shanagolden and one of two other parishes, and was appointed P. P. of CastleMahon nearly thirty years ago by the late Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer. He was a native of West Limerick.

Mayo

The Reverend John Corbett, P. P., died at Partry, Balliarobe, on January 1, 1919.

Tipperary

Rev. L. Ormonde, C. C., Carrick-on-Suir, has been appointed P. P. Ring.

The death has taken place of Mrs. Sheedy, Connibrey, Portroe. Also of John Ryan, Bachelor's Walk, Nenagh, and Mrs. Winifride Kennedy, Gralligh, Nenagh, and Mrs. Thomas Ryan, Coote's Cross, Currane.

R. S. Mauns, accountant, National Bank, Tipperary, has been appointed assistant inspector and will reside in Dublin.

Waterford

Rev. R. A. Durand, Farnell street, Waterford, was ordained priest for the diocese of Dundee by Most Rev. Dr. Hackett.

Wicklow

The Shillelagh toy industry, which made great progress in the last few years, closed down last week in consequence, a correspondent says, of the difficulty of obtaining skilled men, as such men are receiving unemployment donation and refraining from work.