

## K. OF C. WILL FIGHT BOLSHEVISM

James A. Flaherty, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus has returned to the East after an extended tour of various K. of C. State jurisdictions which took him as far south as the Mexican border and as far west as San Francisco.

The deepest impression received by Mr. Flaherty on his tour is the fact that there is an entire unity of desire on the part of the people of the United States to have industry stabilized into the ways of peace.

"Anybody making an intelligent survey of the United States at the present time," he declared, "will find that the end of all wars—gratification in victory less accentuated than an eagerness to have things restored to a peace footing.

"The present time is no exception to the rule that an unrest follows in the wake of war, even of victorious war. Fortunately the good sense of the American people insures us against what might be truly termed the turbulent conditions prevailing abroad, even in the countries of our associates in the war. This makes it all the more necessary for us to be on our guard and so carefully and skillfully manœuvre the nation from a war to a peace basis that we shall avoid all of the disturbances that could arise with even the slightest mismanagement.

"It is not true that there is a good opportunity for propagandists of extreme radicalism in this country at this time. Certainly we are confronted with some difficult problems and out of these difficulties opportunities for the spread of bolshevism may arise. The Knights of Columbus, as a nationwide organization, are prepared to anticipate whatever bolshevistic movements may be launched. Long before our country entered the war, long even, before the war broke out in Europe, the Knights had carried on a constructive warfare against socialism in this country. Experts in industrial relations toured the country under the auspices of the board of directors of the K. of C., giving public addresses on the subject, and holding public question classes to enlighten the people regarding the dangers of socialism.

"Now, the K. of C., through its eighteen hundred and more councils throughout the country, is an agency for constructively combating any new forenoon disruption that arise. With whatever healthy dissatisfactions may crop up among labor circles, the K. of C. has no more or less interest than any other body of American citizens who stand for a square deal all around; but the society, to a man, is opposed to the import and practice of foreign anarchistic doctrines and will fight them with all the power at its command."

"The most pressing necessity faced by Knights of Columbus in their overseas activity at this moment is the demand and need for athletic and theatrical entertainment and recreation for our troops", said Mr. Edgar A. Martin, just returned from Paris, where, at Knights of Columbus headquarters, he directs the Order's overseas legal work.

"Next to the paramount question 'When do we go home?' our soldiers are most concerned about entertainment and recreation," Mr. Martin continued, "and they want, above all, plenty of baseball, lots of sparring exhibitions and then entertainment such as is provided by theatricals, preferably vaudeville.

"So urgent is the call for these that I was sent to the United States to co-operate with Mr. Wm. P. Larkin, Director of K. of C. Overseas Activity, in providing additional athletic paraphernalia and considering the best means of providing additional theatrical entertainment for the boys.

"Mr. Larkin has already placed additional orders for two thousand baseball outfits, each consisting of twelve balls, six bats, four gloves, a mask, and a chest protector. The order calls for immediate delivery, and these supplies will be at the disposal of American soldiers abroad within a few weeks.

"The government limits the Knights' shipments abroad to three hundred and fifty tons each month, but during the next few weeks supplies of an athletic character will be given precedence, and if we can't get enough of our supplies over by heretofore used methods, we will try to persuade the government to permit us to do it by other means.

"More than a million of our boys over there have many hours to themselves every day now, and time hangs heavy on their hands. They crave excitement, they need recreation and entertainment. They know the season for outdoor sports has arrived in this country and they read all about the preparations of the Big League baseball teams; they read about the coming championship fight between Willard and Dempsey; they got the results of the recent indoor games at Madison Square Garden; they are familiar with the startling revival of all outdoor games and they long to enjoy some of the games and contests scheduled. This, of course, is denied them but they are not to be denied the pleasure of participating in similar games and contests if it is within the power of the Knights of Columbus to provide the means.

"Not a day passes at our Paris headquarters that a half dozen camp commanders do not urge the immediate need of more sporting goods for the men.

"For instance, at or near Le Mans there are perhaps eighty thousand soldiers. They are begging for athletic equipment of all sorts. Give them enough baseball outfits, enough theatrical entertainments bulwarked with worth-while photographs and they will be happy and contented. Leave them to their own resources and a spirit of unrest will permeate their ranks and discontent will follow. They are willing to endure their exile from home if only they have means of entertaining themselves. And they must be provided—and they are going to be provided with it by Knights of Columbus if we have to build factories in Europe ourselves to manufacture needed equipment."

## Foreign Mission News

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

### BACK FROM THE WAR IN GANGPUR.

We fancy that many Catholics will like to know how the Gangpur Labor Corps came back to its Indian surroundings, after its gallant work at the Front.

For that you must transport yourselves to the mission station of Kesramal, the central station of the Gangpur Mission conducted by the Belgian Jesuit Fathers.

At Kesramal the Father Superior, Fr. Grignard, S. J., tried to forget his pressing financial anxieties and roofless church (that for two years has lacked its covering) and impoverished mission, as he looked on the native Labor Corps who assembled at the mission for a general Communion of thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart for their safe return from the European battlefield.

What a witness they were able to bear to that Holy Religion under whose flag they had marched so bravely; everywhere, they had seen the Catholic Church the predominant religion, the only universal one, the only true brotherhood, and it was a fitting opportunity for Fr. Grignard to point out that even if here, in Gangpur, they were scattered in little groups among pagans, it was but as the vanguards they had seen at the Front, having behind them the innumerable and compact armies of God's true soldiers fighting for right and justice.

In France the Indians had seen how churches should be kept, and on their return the men voted ten rupees apiece out of their wages to help put on that roof, and Father Grignard's heart swelled with joy and thankfulness as he remembered that only fifteen years ago, these same poor children of the jungle were sacrificing to demons and sunk in the grossest paganism.

Kesramal may be one of the poorest missions in Bengal, but at least it has produced fruit! Only how much more might not be done among these poor Bengal folk were but funds forthcoming? For the mission's poverty is crying—its very accessories of worship lacking—the Fathers cannot even afford to replace their terribly soiled and worn-out set of vestments. A little kindly interest among American Catholics would go such a long way towards making Kesramal Mission happy—for it does need friends very badly! Its missionaries never "come back" from their war—it is always going on without truce, or even an armistice, on that front where paganism is being so gallantly fought in its own strongholds.

### CAST A RAY OF SUNSHINE ON THESE DARKENED LIVES.

Sister Guerlain, Superior of the Sisters of Charity at Tchong-ting-fou, China, sends some photographs of abandoned children rescued by her nuns, that would move the stoniest-hearted person to tears.

The first shows a sad-faced little girl, leaning on a crutch, with one of her legs missing. Her mother threw her on a railway track and the train cut off her leg and otherwise injured her. Of the others, two are blind, and the third, a girl of twelve, was given in marriage at seven years, according to Chinese custom, and later cast off by her husband's family. Utter misery is depicted on all the small countenances, and to do something to make life pleasanter for these stray lambs of the flock should be considered a privilege.

## Late News of Ireland

**Antrim**  
Rev. James Marmion, P.P., was the recipient of a handsome presentation by the parishioners of Ballyclare, on his transfer to the charge of Dundrum parish.

**Clare**  
Rev. S. Clancy, P. P., has resigned the chairmanship of Clare Asylum Committee, and P. C. Nagle, the vice chairmanship. An application from the staff for a shorter working week (56 hours) was referred to a sub-committee.

**Cork**  
In recognition of the successful efforts of the Very Rev. Father Thomas, O.S.F.C., in settling the recent trades disputes, the Cork Trades and Labor Council have decided to erect a stained glass window in the Franciscan Church Cork.

J. F. O'Callaghan, surveyor of excise and customs, whose death has been announced, was brother of the late Dr. J. J. O'Callaghan, M. O., Macroom Union.

**Donegal**  
Letterkenny Asylum Committee passed a vote of condolence with Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell on the death of his sister.

**Dublin**  
Sister Charles Borromeo Plunkett, for over 20 years attached to the Boys' Infant School, Stanhope street, has died. For almost 30 years she was connected with the Guild of the Children of Mary and for the past 12 years, was in charge of the Servants' Registry attached to the convent.

Deep sympathy is felt with Peter Tierney (founder St. Joseph's Catholic Boy's Brigade) and family on the death from influenza of his youngest son, Daniel, which occurred at his parents' residence 52 Bolton street. The Grocers and Vintners' Committee passed votes of sympathy with Mrs. Byron, Ballybough road, on the death of her husband, and with Edward Hackett, Rathmines, on the death of his mother.

**Galway**  
To mark the diamond jubilee of Rev. Mother Stanislaus Nolan, high Mass was celebrated at Mount Carmel Convent, Loughrea, by Rev. Father Jerome, O.D. C., deacon, Rev. Father Anthony, O.D.C.; and sub-deacon, Rev. Father Columba, O.D.C.

**Kerry**  
At the Convent of Poor Clares, Kenmare, the interment took place of Sister Bernardine Lynch. Philip Cremin, a small farmer at Lisseyconor, Kerry, has inherited £60,000 and some property through the death of a sister at Portland, Oregon.

**Limerick**  
Most Rev. Dr. Millinan has appointed Very Rev. John Ryan, P. P., Ballingarry, to the Prebend of Ardennah; and Rev. John Conway, C. C., Bulgarden, to be P. P., CastleMahon and Feohensagh.

The funeral of the late Mother Mary Gonzaga, Limerick, was attended by Most Rev. Dr. Hallinan, and a great number of the clergy, Limerick Guardians adjourned as a mark of respect.

**Mayo**  
Dunshaughlin Guardians expressed regret at the death of Rev. B. Guinan, P. P., who had been also chaplain of the workhouse.

**Roscommon**  
There was a large attendance of clergy and laity at requiem Mass, celebrated in Croghan Church for the repose of the soul of the late John Morris, Rathallan, Boyle. The celebrant was Rev. R. Morris, C. C., Castleree, a brother of the deceased.

## France Honors Rector Of The Catholic University of America.

Washington.—For his work in the cause of humanity during the world war, Bishop Thomas Joseph Shahan, rector of the Catholic University of America, this city, has been made an officer of the Legion of Honor by the French government.

The decoration was conferred upon the distinguished prelate in Caldwell Hall at the Catholic University in the presence of a number of bishops staying at the University to attend the consecration of Rev. Dr. William Turner as Bishop of Buffalo, together with members of the French High Commission and members of the faculty of the University.

The decoration was conferred in behalf of the French government by Edouard de Billy, deputy French High Commissioner to the United States. Mr. de Billy in presenting the decoration to Bishop Shahan said it was in recognition of the espousal of the French cause in the great war by Bishop Shahan and his close co-operation with the hierarchy of France.

Bishop Shahan in replying said that he was grateful to the French government for the great honor conferred upon him, and considered that it was equally an honor for the whole University, whose professors and students had always been staunch defenders of the French cause, as being identified with the cause of human freedom the world over. The world owed an infinite debt to the religious, literary, and social genius of France, and the defeat of the "grande nation" would have been the eclipse of the highest things of civilization. France, he said, had been the hyphen between the Crusades and the national spirit of modern times. Much had happened in modern times to dishearten the lovers of France in the new world, but he was certain that in the new times now dawning France would recognize again the supreme value of its Catholicism as the supreme moral force and charm of its gifted people.

Following the ceremony, members of the faculty held a reception for the visitors and later escorted them through the various university buildings.

## CARDINAL MERCIER WILL VISIT THIS COUNTRY SOON.

New York, March 29.—Cardinal Mercier, the famous Belgian prelate, is planning a visit to the United States within the next few months, according to William J. Mulligan, chairman of the Knights of Columbus committee on war activities.

Mr. Mulligan, on his recent trip abroad, visited the Cardinal at Malines and invited him to be the guest in this country of the Knights of Columbus. The Cardinal then told him that his visit was certain, and expressed a keen desire to make the trip.

Cardinal Mercier, Mr. Mulligan said, wanted to come to the United States to express personally his appreciation of what this country has done. The Cardinal said he wanted to see all our big cities, and mentioned Chicago especially. Mr. Mulligan said he did not think the Cardinal wanted to make his visit here in the heat of season, but in the spring or fall.

## Catholic Short Notes Briefly Recorded.

In the war 250,000 Irish served in the Army and Navy.

The Cincinnati Catholic Women's Association numbers 7,000 members.

The Denver Tabernacle Society is to be affiliated with the Archdiocese of Rome, and become an association for the perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

The pastors of Buffalo, N. Y., will organize a club for returning Catholic soldiers.

The Grolier Club, New York, has a Psalter printed at Mayence on the Rhine, by Faust & Schoeffer, successors of Gutenberg. Also a Missal by Jean du Pro, first Parisian printer, and a Breviary printed at Venice in 1479.

Between three and four billion dollars were collected in the United States for war charities.

In St. Paul, Minn., St. Mary's parish church, parish school and rectory, all on six lots of ground, were sold to the Great Northern Railway for \$145,000. Possession to be given in 1922. Necessities required the sale.

The number of totally blinded victims of the war, on the allied side, is put at 7,000.

In May, this year, will occur the fiftieth anniversary of ordination of Mgr. Byrne, Bishop of Nashville. Three other of our Bishops—Bishop Hennessy, of Wichita; Bishop Harkins, of Providence, R. I., and Bishop Garvey, of Altoona, Pa.—will also have their golden jubiles of ordination.

The Catholic hospitals of Denver, Colo., treated 10,168 patients last year.

The Holy See has dispatched to the Bishops and ordinaries of the universal Church "A Remotissima" or formula of 110 questions, which shall embody their quinquennial reports of their respective dioceses.

The Sinn Fein aims at securing international recognition of Ireland as an independent republic. In the name of the sovereign Irish people, it denies the right and opposes the will of the British Parliament and crown, or any foreign government to legislate for Ireland.

The S. Congregation also considered two miracles adduced in favor of the canonization of Blessed Madeleine Postel.

A telegram from Serbia says Archbishop Vichontis, of Serbia, was slain by the Bulgarians.

The President of France presented personally the cross of the Legion of Honor to Mgr. Tiesler, the Bishop of Chalons.

His Holiness, the Pope, says of the Peace Congress gathered at Versailles: "Their decisions will be of supreme interest to all humanity; may there come from the Congress that great gift of heaven, true peace, founded on the Christian principles of justice.

A grave danger is impending the Church in Germany. The new Ministry will probably attempt a confiscation for the State of all church property. What obtains now in Mexico may probably obtain in Germany.