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The Holy See And Participation In The League Of Nations

The Moral, Unpolitical Influence of the Pope, the Essential Factor in Papacy's Part In Reconciliation.

PAPAL PARTICIPATION IN THE LIGHT OF DIPLOMATIC USAGE AND ESTABLISHED CUSTOM.

The Catholic press of the country has frequently emphasized the fact that the representatives of the powers taking part in the Peace Conference could do nothing better than to accord to the Holy See the same rights they have granted to the secular powers. As a matter of fact, the diplomats could have made excellent use of the strong moral influence exerted by the Vice-Gerent of Christ, regardless of whether they desired to discuss or to ignore the question of the Papal States and the Temporal Power. The powers could indeed have invited the Holy See to participation in the labor of establishing a League of Nations without offending against international custom and diplomatic usage. This is evident from the history of International Congresses and Conferences, — a consideration which makes it all the more regrettable that the invitation has not been issued.

A Remarkable Book.

The manner in which the Holy See would, if conditions made participation possible, co-operate in the League of Nations, and the limitations of papal influence in the conferences of the representatives of the various Nations, are laid down in a remarkable treatise on "International State Congresses and Conferences," a study in international law and diplomatic usage, which, according to European newspapers, will be read with the greatest interest in diplomatic circles, and in fact wherever the new regulation of international law is being discussed. The author of the treatise is a young savant of Budapest, Dr. Richard Gruber, a graduate of the Oriental Commercial Academy in Budapest, and of the University of Zurich. The author has set himself the task of analysing the practice of Congresses and Conferences, on the basis of authentic records and documents, and to thus reduce the practice to a set of laws, and to elucidate it. The treatise affords the theoretical as well as the practical man a means of quickly informing himself on the usage and rulings of diplomatic gatherings.

Important Role of Pope, as "temporal Representative Of The Deity."

Concerning the participation of the Holy See in the League of Nations the author says: "In conferences for the establishment of peace the Pope should have an advisory voice, such advisory service to be unrestricted, except insofar as not to interfere with the fashioning of the official resolutions of the conference. There is not the slightest reason why such an advisory voice should be denied him. For his opinion, which in such cases would be expressed through a representative, could not but be of service to all the powers of the civilized world. Insofar as the voice of the Papacy will be sounded only in the interest of harmonizing hostile factors, by paving the way to mutual understanding and reconciliation, the Holy See exercises a function traditionally its own, and which represents one of the principal purposes of the mission of the Papacy as the temporal representative of the Deity.

No One Nation Should Be Able to Exclude Pope.

In a legal sense it is understood that, once the co-operation of the Holy See in any Congress is consented to in practice among the Nations, it would no longer be within the power of any individual nation to prevent papal participation in diplomatic deliberations, as has been the case heretofore. One can readily perceive that in many cases the Pope, by virtue of his position, could have used his influence to the end that the Nations might base their relations on a foundation of the consciousness of the solidarity of the human race, which would serve to eliminate hatred, injustice and materialistic egotism. This would be done in the sense of the thought of Cardinal Rampolla, who wrote at the time of the call to the first Conference at the Hague: "It is essential that Christian Justice come to be recognized to the widest possible extent in the world. It is impossible for the world to enter upon an era of true peace without the mediation of Jesus Christ." (See Lompard: Le Pape, les Etats et la Conference de la Haye.) In such work of mediation, however, the moral, entirely unpolitical influence of the Pope, separated from all ecclesiastical tendencies, would have to be brought to bear on the situation. If one considers the services of the Papacy during many centuries in the interest of the peace movement, and weighs the ever increasing influence of the Catholic Church, one cannot fail to wish that the Pope may henceforth co-operate to the greatest possible degree in the perfection of international organization. — (Wehberg l. c., p. 109.)

In following Dr. Gruber's views and conclusions the reader will have to bear in mind that his book was written shortly before the end of the war. His argument is not affected, however, by the occasional use of the future tense. The author continues:

Throughout the War the Vatican has given satisfactory proof that it has honestly endeavored to maintain its position above all party lines. The question as to whether the peace-makers at the coming diplomatic congress should extend an invitation to the Pope, or if they have an interest in his participation in the conference, is merely a part of the problem of the participation of noncombatant nations, — in fact of all neutrals.

All Neutrals Entitled to Part in Peace Efforts.

It should be added that if neutrals are to participate in the Peace Conference at the close of the present European war then the Pope should also be permitted to take part. The

equitable application of the principle does not exclude any neutral, whether such power be a sovereign state of a spiritual government with the attributes of sovereignty. Just as the equalization of contracts can be materially advanced through the co-operation of neutral powers, so the concessions possible between the various parties could surely be more readily consummated if His Holiness would speak in the name of Christian charity and international justice. And his voice would be raised in vain. The spiritual power of the Pope can be exercised impartially for the benefit of all nations only if the Pope can exercise his exalted office independently of all secular influences." Recognizing the Services of the Holy See.

Thus far we have followed Dr. Gruber. The statement would not be complete without adding that the task of mediation also should be entrusted to the Pope, and to him primarily. Naturally nothing is expected in this connection except the discharge of his honorary duties. At the same time, however, the services of the Roman Church in the interest of social reforms and of the silent furtherance of the cause by the means at her disposal would finally be recognized and appreciated. The justification of papal participation in certain diplomatic undertakings must be investigated not only from the formally theoretical or the narrow practical viewpoint, but rather from the angle of Christian culture, now obtaining for some twenty centuries; — a culture which — and this should be frankly admitted — has formed the first foundation for all social progress and improvement.

The suggestions offered by Dr. Gruber have not been followed; — just as the Holy See was excluded from co-operating in the peace efforts, so the Pope is apparently to be excluded from the work of erecting the structure of a League of Nations. Therefore the Central Bureau declared, in a statement prepared by it and later embodied in the resolutions of the Catholic Union of Mo.:

"We do not marvel at the difficulty experienced by statesmen and diplomats in bringing peace back to the world. The foundation of the structure which they strive to erect is purely human wisdom, and its corner-stone Humanism. The Vice-Gerent of Jesus Christ, the meek Shepherd and father of all the peoples of the earth, was not invited to devote his energies to the perfection of the undertaking. The Spirit of Evil, diligently at work everywhere at present, is seeking to isolate the Pope, to win the peoples of the world away from him. He shall not share in the fame of having erected a League of Nations. He, whom God has called to be the foundation-stone of His Church and the arbiter of His mercies as well as His judgments!"

C. B. of the C. V.

A great heroine of the world war is Kathleen Burke, honorary member of the 138th Field Artillery. She was wounded at Verdun, gassed at Valenciennes, crossed the ocean in the face of submarines sixteen times and raised more than four million dollars for works of mercy, entered Verdun during the siege and visited the British front lines in action.

The battle-killed and wounded-dead of the war, according to authentic statement, number slightly over 7,300,000.

Late News of Ireland

Carlow

Lieut. M. A. Foley, Leinster Regiment, has died in Egypt. He was a son of Mr. Foley, J.P., Old Leighlin House, Carlow, and nephew of the Bishop of Kildare. When the war broke out he was a student of University College, Dublin, and a member of the National Volunteers. He received his commission in 1916. He was only 22.

Cork

J. C. Rohan, St. Patrick's Quay, has been appointed Greek Consul in Cork.

Dr. C. J. Lenihan has been appointed M. O., Kanturk Dispensary District. Surgeon P. L. O'Driscoll, who has been demobilized from the navy, has resumed duty as M. O. Timoleague.

Dublin

There was a vast attendance at the May procession in honor of Our Lady in the grounds of the Passionist Fathers at Mount Argus. The city confraternities and Artane Band participated in the devotions, and a sermon on Our Lady was preached by Very Rev. Father Malachy Gavin, C. P.

Married — At the Church of the Visitation, Fairview, Michael F. W. Cavanagh, R. E., second son of the late John J. Cavanagh, Southport, and Mrs. Cavanagh, 2 St. James' terrace, Sandymount, to Clare Gladys, daughter of the late Thomas Cleary, journalist, Clontarf.

A sterling Nationalist has passed away in the person of James Ennis of Naul, who was well known for the active part he took in the Land League. Many relatives were present at the funeral, amongst them being Frank Lawless, M. P.

John Henry Kincald, M. A., J. P., has died at his residence, Cloonevin, Killybeg, aged 89.

Kerry

Accidental death, with nobody to blame, was the verdict at the inquest on Dennis Lawlor, of Corahane, Ardfert, over whom the wheel of his loaded turf cart passed when his horse bolted coming from Ballinclogher bog, shortly after Dr. Lawlor had passed on a motor bicycle. Sympathy with his wife and five children was expressed.

Mayo

Most Rev. Dr. Gilmartin has appointed Rev. E. Higgins, Achill, C.C., Crossboyne; Rev. E. Egan, Crossboyne, C.C., Keelogue, and Rev. A. Moran, Keelogue, C.C., Achill.

Tipperary

The Catholic Church at Ballybritt is being repaired.

Rev. J. Meade, C. C., has been transferred as C. C. to Ennis.

The L. G. B. sanctioned an increase from £100 to £140 in the Catholic chaplain's salary, which the Clonmel Guardians had raised to £150.

Mrs. E. McKenna, sister of Rev. Cyprian Meagher, C. P., Mount Argus, has died at her residence, Ballyluskey, Borrisokane.

Sister Mary Paul, daughter of the late Patrick Kane, Nenagh, has died at the Convent of Mercy Nenagh.

Most Rev. Dr. Hackett presided at a high Mass celebrated at Mercy Convent, Cahir, in connection with the Golden Jubilee of Mother Bernard Vaughan, a native of Mallinaghone.

Waterford

Rev. J. Lennon, C. C., Dunmore East, whose elevation to the pastorate of Stradbally was announced, is being succeeded in Dunmore by Rev. Nicholas Burke, who was a chaplain to the forces.

The Emergency Home To Be Moved.

The Catholic Emergency Home, which has been occupying the old Brewster homestead on South Fitzhugh street, is to be moved to Forest Lawn, the Brewster property having been sold. The home will occupy the cottage of Mrs. Florence Alexander during the summer months. In the meantime an effort will be made to secure an available location in the city for the use of the home during the fall and winter.

The emergency home, which has been conducted under the supervision of the Rev. Jacob F. Staub, rector of Holy Redeemer Church, has taken care of 184 children since it was opened in the Brewster homestead on November 14th last. Up to the end of April the expenditures amounted to \$8,088. The expense averages between \$1,200 and \$1,500 a month, so that it is probable about \$9,500 has been expended up to the present time.

During the time the home has been in existence it has received cash donations of \$309.91 while the revenue received from parents and guardians for the care of their children has amounted to \$1,381.50. While many children have been cared for free of charge, there are others, whose parents or guardians have been unable to bear the expense of their keep at the home. The average cost of a child at the home has been in excess of \$9 a week. When it is considered that out of the total number of 155 children cared for 55 were infants and that the majority of the children were receiving hospital care, it will be realized that the cost of each child was not so great.

MEMORIAL FIELD MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED SUNDAY.

The memorial field mass of the Knights of St. John will be held in Holy Sepulchre cemetery on Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. Bishop Thomas F. Hickey will celebrate the mass, and invitations to assist in the services have been sent to the pastors of all Catholic churches in the city. The choir will be composed of members of the Knights of St. John, who will sing parts of the mass under the direction of Fred Pohl. It is expected that there will be a hundred voices in the choir.

A temporary altar has been erected on a knoll in the new part of the cemetery on the east side, near the river bank. The First Regiment, which comprises all the Rochester commanderies, will assemble at Lake avenue and the Ridge road at 9 o'clock and will march in a body to St. Bernard's Seminary. The knights will then escort Bishop Hickey and the other officers of the mass and priests to the cemetery.

Division 7, A. O. H., Celebrates.

More than two hundred members of Division No. 7, Ancient Order of Hibernians, gathered in Maennerchor Hall Monday night to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of its organization. As the guests marched into the dining hall the orchestra struck up "The Wearing of the Green." William T. Connor was toastmaster and the invocation was made by Rev. J. Francis O'Hern.

The principal speaker was George T. Winkle, of Seneca Falls. Mr. Winkle spoke on "Civilization's Debt to Ireland." He said that that country had contributed liberally to the arts, science and literature, and that 181,000 of its people were under the British

Catholic Short Notes

St. Benedict's College at Atchison, Kas., represents a value of \$500,000.

Official Government reports state that one hundred women in this country are members of the church to every forty-four men.

Chief Justice White, of the Supreme Court, has completed 25 years service as such.

Attending the University of California are 1,364 Catholic students.

The Franciscan Sisters are contemplating a new \$400,000 hospital in Green Bay, Wis.

The Henry Boyle Catholic Home at Land du Lac, recently destroyed by fire, is being rebuilt.

Bishop Drossaerts, of San Antonio, Texas, has been given \$15,000 for the erection of an orphanage with the promise of \$25,000 more. The asylum will be in charge of the Dominican Sisters. Furthermore \$8,000 has been donated him for his projected diocesan seminary.

At a dinner in honor of the Governor of New York, the Very Rev. Edward P. Tivnan, S. J., president of Fordham University, said: "I am unalterably opposed to the prohibition amendment, and I deeply deplore the fact that it is a violation of our sacred rights; it is illogical and inconsistent. It is the most shameful piece of legislation ever placed upon our law books, and a disgrace and a blot on our Constitution. This is the view of all the great leaders of the Church of which I belong."

The tenth century Irish ball of St. Senan was sold recently at auction in London for \$6,250.

Alsace and Lorraine are Catholic, and declare their opposition to the anti-clericals of France.

In Catholic Bavaria, where one would not expect it, revolution of almost every description is rampant. The King is a refugee in Switzerland, where he is residing in a home for aged priests. The people of Bavaria, like those in Ireland and Tyrol, are exemplary Catholics. All the horrible elements of revolution seem to be in ascendancy in the large, historical cities of Bavaria, like Munich, Nuremberg and Augsburg. Munich is a city of 600,000 population; Augsburg of 105,000; Nuremberg of 340,000.

It is estimated that there are three hundred million images of various gods in heathen India.

It is reported that a Mrs. Bouffe, of County Tipperary, Ireland, died recently at the great age of 121 years.

The four bronze horses of St. Mark's, in Venice, which were taken to Rome for safety, will shortly be returned.

The leading Catholic organization in Italy is the Popular Union among Italian Catholics. This society is under the immediate direction of the Holy See.

The Garden of Gethsemane is at the foot of Mt. Olivet, outside the walls of Jerusalem, and just across from the Valley of Jehoshaphat and the Brook of Kedron. In it is the Grotto of the Agony of our Lord.