

**COMBINE CONSTRUCTIVE EFFORT WITH NEGATIVE PROTESTS.**

**Timely Advice Offered By Bishop of Northampton in Pastoral Letter**  
COOPERATION IN SOCIAL WORK URGED BY PRELATE.

There is undeniably a tendency among Catholics in our country to condemn things they find to be wrong in public life and thus to strive to have the wrong righted. But there is another duty incumbent on them,—that of constructive effort in bringing about positive betterment, instead of merely engaging in negative criticism. Both duties,—that of protesting when necessity arises for protest, and of constructive work, even to the extent of cooperating with those not of our faith,—are clearly stated by the Bishop of Northampton in a Pastoral Letter. What the Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Frederick William Keating, seeks to impress upon his people is valuable to American Catholics also. The Bishop treats also of one or two other interesting topics, based on experiences gained during his recent visit to the United States.

"Independence of View."  
The Bishop insists on "independence of view" among the English Catholics, saying that no Catholic should "be content to be a mere pawn of some political party, the blind disciple of the noisiest demagogue, the negligent and negligible hanger-on of his trade-union . . . , the dead echo of the party Press." He says that the "Catholic working class" is in a position calling for "moral courage of the highest type at this critical moment," and urges the men of this class to register a strong protest against the guidance of irresponsible leaders. "Let them, he advises, employ their voting strength and influence manfully, to dismiss from office and power those who misrepresent the true aims of trade unionism, and to replace them by honest men who will promote the interests of their own class without declaring an unjust war on every other class."

Something More Needed Than Protests.  
But firmness of conscious conviction, and the launching of strong protests is not all that is necessary. Msgr. Keating very correctly urges constructive co-operation with helpful agencies outside of our ranks.

"An attitude of protest, he says, 'though sometimes incumbent on a Catholic, is by no means the whole, or the most effectual part of his influence. In a country which is predominantly Protestant, and where all kinds of false theories gain a following, nearly every popular movement is associated with objectionable elements, objectionable advocates, objectionable proposals, or objectionable methods. It is enough to refer to the education question, the temperance question, the sex question, the land question, as well as the labour question. To coldly refuse co-operation because some of the persons or some of the measures are not all that a Catholic would wish, is neither wise nor patriotic. Our fellow-countrymen, on the whole, whatever their limitations, are honestly bent on social betterment, and have remarkably open minds on the subject. Objectionable people become less objectionable when we get to know them. Objectionable features can be eliminated from a scheme by frank and friendly discussion. Anyhow, wrongs out not to be left unredressed until an ideal scheme of reform is forthcoming; and if we turn down those that are proposed, our non-Catholic friends are entitled to demand from us a better. Even an imperfect scheme may be got to work well if well administered; but the administration is hardly likely to be committed to those who refuse to lend a hand in the framing of it. The exigencies of war-time, as everyone knows, have broken down social and religious barriers, and have brought together all sorts and conditions of people in an unprecedented way. Women, especially, of all creeds and classes, have worked on the same committees, have nursed in the same hospitals, have been associated in the management of the same huts, buffets, soldiers' clubs, and such like; and have learned, thereby, to know and value each other as never before. Naturally the same sociability will prevail in the future, and our local enterprises will be shorn of all their exclusiveness and narrow sectarianism. Indeed, social service is so fast becoming the only cult of the English people, that any creed will be welcomed which can show a steady output of work and workers. Catholics have no reason to fear such a test. Drawn out of our comparative isolation during the past four years, we have proved both our willingness and capacity. The larger opportunities that are opening before us must not catch us indifferent or unprepared. To turn them to account, and to obviate the incidental dangers that will undoubtedly crop up, we need but to develop the machinery which already exists for that very purpose."

**A Striking Reference to America.**

The Prelate then offers some suggestions as to how this machinery is to be developed; he does this by referring to his observations in America. "We were agreeably surprised in the United States, he writes, at the exceedingly good reputation achieved by our home organizations. The publications of our Catholic Social Guild,—especially, were known,—and valued everywhere; and the strongest desire was expressed for combined action on both sides of the Atlantic. We, certainly, have much to gain by such an alliance. Efforts ought to be made to establish sociological schools in all our main centers of population similar to those which are to be seen in every American city. Catholic young men and women are there trained, not only to take an intelligent interest in social questions, but to equip themselves for public positions, including the many paid posts which there, as here, are provided by the local and central authorities. They who have no call to the religious life, yet are strongly attracted to social

service, are thus enabled to find at once their living and their vocation as district nurses, health officers, infant welfare visitors, and in such-like employments. At New York we came across several hundred young people being prepared for municipal appointments in the sociological school of Fordham University, on the twenty-eighth floor of the Woolworth Building!"

There are some very helpful suggestions in this Pastoral Letter of the Bishop of Northampton. The references to America are essentially correct, but only American Catholics themselves will ever realize how far they are from living up to the Bishop's assertion that Catholics are training for social service "in every American city." The suggestion contained in the implicit obligation of living up to the compliment bestowed, and the other,—that of combining constructive effort with negative protest, should be seriously appreciated by all American Catholics.

C. B. of the C. V.

**Roman Catacombs to be Excavated.**

The Pontifical Commission of Sacred Archaeology is preparing to excavate more of the ancient Roman catacombs wherein so many thousands of the early martyrs were buried.

The Roman catacombs are truly a treasure-ground of our holy Faith. They are filled with monuments and inscriptions and paintings which prove conclusively the antiquity of the holy doctrines which we profess today.

During three centuries of bloody persecution, our brethren of the Faith assembled in these underground caverns to celebrate the sacred functions of Catholic worship. There on the tombs of the martyrs the priests offered up the Sacrifice of the Mass. Around these tombs, deep under ground, they hewed out of the soft sandstone their churches and chapels. Many of these churches and chapels have been re-excavated by the Pontifical Commission of Sacred Archaeology instituted by Pope Pius IX. There in most cases, the ancient altar still stands. There, too, are found many beautiful frescoes representing the Sacrifice of the Mass and the Holy Eucharist.

The Pontifical Commission has already explored, excavated and repaired many miles of the catacombs-galleries. They have yielded a rich harvest of ancient historical materials on the Sacraments and the teachings of the Church in general.

The outside world is already confused by the force of this unmistakable evidence for the antiquity of Catholic Faith and practice. But the vast extent of the catacombs remains still to be explored. It is supposed that the galleries contain a large number of churches and chapels. Undoubtedly they will yield rich materials in further evidence of early Catholic teaching.

The Pontifical Commission of Sacred Archaeology has already done wondrous work in excavating the ancient catacombs. A score or more of cemeteries have been excavated and repaired. Those of St. Callixtus, St. Sebastian, St. Domitilla and St. Agnes are the most important. Here the Sacrifice of the Mass is celebrated again at certain times on the ancient altars. Hither great scholars and simple pilgrims flock to

view and study the ancient testimonies of our holy Faith.

Before the war, the devoted faithful of Europe contributed generously to this pious work of love. It is a work that appeals especially to the heart that is devoted to our holy Faith. It is a work of love for those great heroes and heroines of the Faith the countless array of early martyrs.

Now, the devoted ones of Europe are reduced to poverty: They are unable to continue their generosity. Hence the Pontifical Commission of Sacred Archaeology turns to great and generous America where sturdy Catholic Faith makes hearts strong and devoted. The honor and merit of furthering this work so dear to the heart of our Holy Father, Benedict XV, will belong to the noble hearts of Americans. It will be their pride and their joy to have brought to light the great monuments that prove so clearly the antiquity of our holy Faith.

We implore the hosts of holy martyrs to bless and prosper our generous and devoted brethren of America.

The Pontifical Commission of Sacred Archaeology, by its Secretary, Monsignor Casio Respighi, given at Rome, the Feast of St. Pudentiana, 19th of May, 1919.

You may send your generous and pious offerings direct (or as below) to His Eminence Cardinal Basilio Pompili, Vicar General to His Holiness, Via della Pigna 13a, Rome, Italy. Offerings will be promptly acknowledged and forwarded to the Cardinal Vicar when sent to the Rev. Dr. Roderick MacEachen, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C.

**LARKIN, K-C OVERSEAS, HEAD, RETURNS.**

New York, June 26.—The American doughboy is quite convinced, according to William P. Larkin, Overseas Director of the Knights of Columbus, that whatever debts his country contracted abroad have been amply paid for. Mr. Larkin returned this week on the Espagne from a two-months' survey of K. of C. war relief work in Great Britain, France, Belgium, Germany and Italy. In Rome he was received in audience by the Pope, enjoying a thirty-two minute conversation with His Holiness in the throne room at the Vatican. Through Mr. Larkin the Pope conveyed his blessing to the American people and sent a special blessing to the Knights of Columbus in New York. The Pope spoke enthusiastically of the work the Knights of Columbus had done for American troops in Rome and expressed the hope that the Knights would maintain a permanent club-building in Rome.

Mr. Larkin, in company with Overseas Commissioner Hearne, of the K. of C., visited Cardinal Mercier. The Cardinal states definitely that he would visit America in September. He spoke enthusiastically of all the United States had done for Belgium, said Mr. Larkin, and in a sermon in the Cathedral at Antwerp on Memorial Day, under the auspices of the K. of C., Cardinal Mercier paid public tribute to the part America had played in the war.

On his arrival here Mr. Larkin was notified of his elevation to the Knighthood of St. Gregory by Pope Benedict. Mr. Larkin stated that delegates to the Peace Conference expressed themselves highly satisfied with the progress of the Irish cause.

**Catholic Short Notes**

The cause of the Ven. John N. Newman, of Philadelphia, has been resumed in Rome.

The Knights of Columbus, three in number, have charge of a hotel at Lourdes, France.

The Sisters of the Poor of St. Francis, of Covington, have received permission from Rome to open and conduct a maternity ward in their St. Elizabeth Hospital.

The number of Americans now visiting in Rome is increasing.

A Venetian gold-velvet cope of the fifteenth century was sold at auction in New York recently for \$20,000. Also, a painting, "The Resurrection," by a pupil of Raphael, which brought \$14,000.

St. Mary's College, Winona, is to be considerably enlarged.

The Bishop of Helena, Mont., recently delivered a lucid address on Autocracy and Democracy in connection with the Catholic Church.

Boston has a league of Catholic nurses.

The Catholic undertakers of San Francisco will hereafter give Christian burial to indigent Catholics who die in public institutions.

The National Catholic War Council's building at Junction City, Kas., now in course of erection, will cost \$40,000.

On Mount Olivet, near the top, is the place whence Jesus ascended to heaven.

In the great ancient obelisk that stands as a guard and sign before St. Peter's in Rome, in its apex, a piece of the Cross of Christ, over which is written and pointing to the world "Jesus Christ today, tomorrow and forevermore."

The Oriental College in Rome began with fourteen students.

M. Clemenceau, the Premier of France, whose political course has been against the Church, when he was wounded by an anarchist, was placed under the nursing care of a nun.

The priest is the product of at least ten years of preparatory study, prayer and sacrifice.

Not long ago an Army Chaplain celebrated Mass in the Colosseum in Rome. Several regiments of infantry and artillery which had just faced death on the battlefields stood where the early Christians met death by wild beasts, in the presence of 80,000 human beings who knew not what they were doing. A fallen pillar of 1900 centuries ago served as an altar.

On August 1, 1917, now nearly two years ago and prior to the "fourteen points" submitted by President Wilson, the Sovereign Pontiff Pope Benedict XV, suggested a "League of Nations," outlining: (1) An arbitration tribunal to solve and settle the differences of the nations; (2) a society of all nations, belligerent and neutral, for submission to and settlement of all differences, and acceptance of the arbitration tribunal's decisions; (3) to accept such arbitration tribunal's decisions, otherwise to be excluded economically from the nations not accepting its decisions.

**Late News of Ireland**

**Carlow**  
Judge Brereton Barry was presented with white gloves at Carlow.

**Cork**  
Miss Lena Burke was elected nurse for Dunmanway Workhouse. All the dispensary notice boards in Dunmanway Union are to be printed in Irish and English. Dublin

The late E. Burke Roche Kelly, J. P., Hazelbarth, left \$20,522. The death is announced of Sister Sproule, superintendent of Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, where she originally received her professional training, and with which she was connected for many years. Three years ago she received the St. John of Jerusalem medal for her services to the sick and wounded during the Rising of 1916.

**Kerry**  
The starting of co-operative stores and industries by the workers and taking contracts for public works was the only real solution for labor troubles, said Rev. T. A. Finlay, S. J., at a lecture in Tralee.

The funeral to Rath of T. Healy, U. D. C. saddler, Upper Castle street, Tralee, was largely attended. Deep sympathy is felt with his relatives, including his sister in the Mercy Convent, Chapeauville, Sister M. Brendan.

**Limerick**  
Rev. P. McInerney, for many years P. P. of Casteleconal, has died. The deaths are announced of Madame Xavier Blackett, Superioress, Laurel Hill Convent, Limerick, at an advanced age; Sister M. Alacoque, Convent of Mercy, Cahir, a native of Knockaney, County Limerick; and of Sister Mary of the Saviour, of the Good Shepherd, Order, Belfast, daughter of the late T. J. O'Donnell, Ballindinac, Watergrasshill, Cork.

The Glentworth Hotel, one of the best known in the south of Ireland, was sold at Alfred J. Sexton's sale rooms, Limerick. The premises are among the finest of the many buildings in the city. The hotel consists of 37 bedrooms, commodious dining room, coffee room, commercial, reading and writing rooms.

A grotto in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes, in thanksgiving for averting conscription, has been erected in the grounds of the Catholic Church, Gha, by the Rev. Father Foley, C. C.

**Mayo**  
Most Rev. Dr. Kilmartin has made the following clerical changes; Rev. E. Hyland, C. C. Achill, to be C. C., Crossbarry; Rev. E. Egan, Crossbarry, to be C. C., Keelogue; Rev. A. Moran, C. C., Keelogue, to be C. C., Crossbarry.

**Recommended**  
Walter Sweeney, J. P., died at his residence, Clontarf House, Clontarf, aged 70. Recommended Guardians and D. C. unanimously elected Higgins, Doneman, as chairman in a room of the late T. A. P. McInerney, D. L.

**Wexford**  
Rev. Paul Griffith, whose name in Georgetown Hospital is announced, was a member of New Ross. He was author of "The Priest's Ritual," "The Mass Ritual" and "The Parish Book."