

ANENT THE PROPOSED FEDERALIZATION OF EDUCATION.

Danger of Centralization Pointed Out.

SMITH-TOWNER BILLS NOT SUBJECT TO COMPROMISE.

The Smith-Towner educational bills have elicited considerable interest on the part of those who think favorably of them, and also on the part of the opponents of these measures. Numerous protests have been sent to Senators and Representatives in Washington in reference to these bills, and some of the people's representatives have asked their constituents for reasons for such protest. All the Senators and Congressmen have now been supplied with a substantial argument against these bills and their inherent tendency through the medium of the leaflet "For the Freedom of Education", sent to them by the Central Bureau of the Central Society. And some of them are prepared to oppose the tendency which these bills foster.

Among the letters received by the Central Bureau as a result of the circulation of this leaflet there is one from a Representative stating: "I am inclined to agree with many of your arguments against centralization of educational control." And another, from a Senator from a western State, whose name is known to millions beyond the borders of his own state, says: "Replying to yours of the... inst., in which you refer to the Smith-Towner bills, will say that with my present views I am opposed to these measures. There is too much centralization of power in the Federal Government these days, and every possible scheme is suggested to rob the States of their rights and to concentrate all power in the National Government."

Other letters received from Washington at the Central Bureau breathe the same spirit. Still another letter, from a priest of recognized standing in the Catholic Educational Association, supports the contentions of those who are eager to defeat the Smith-Towner bills for the reasons repeatedly advanced in these columns. This Rev. gentleman, after referring to Cardinal O'Connell's paper on the same subject, bearing the title: "The Reasonable Limits of State Activity" writes in part: "Everything that can be done to oppose centralization should be done. It is a most insidious and dangerous measure..."

Opposition against the Smith-Towner bills is also voiced in a resolution adopted by the National Benedictine Educational Association of America, recently in session at Peru, Ill. Points 3., 4., and 5 of the resolution read in part:

3. Power to create and control the school depends on the power to control the money that creates the school.

4. Consequently, Federalization of all school moneys, the essential feature of the Smith-Towner Bill, is the death-knell of Educational Freedom.

5. Consequently, the voters of America will employ all legitimate agencies, and the final sanction of the ballot-box, against a measure subversive of the Educational Freedom guaranteed to our families and our States by a Constitution that has lately been rewritten in the life-blood of their sons and brothers..."

In addition to these expressions, it will be well to consider the fact that, while the National Education Association, in its campaign for the Smith-Towner bills, has set up the educational policy of France as an example to us, the Bishops of that very country are not at all enthusiastic over the present school arrangement in their country. In the "Seminaires Religieuses de Quebec" No. 44., recently sent us, we find a letter of "the Cardinals, Archbishops and Bishops of France to the French Catholics," several paragraphs of which treat of the school situation, the rights of parents and the rights, limitation of rights, and duties of the State in a sense of protest against the present policy. Thus even in the instance quoted, the N. E. A. propaganda in the interest of the bills mentioned is misleading.

Opposition against the Smith-Towner bills should be continued. Suggestions or requests for amendments are practically beside the question, because the fault with the bills is not in minor flaws or imperfections but in the fundamental tendency to centralization, which has always been accompanied by grave danger to Society and State. A compromise will never suffice, because it can not remove their intrinsic tendency. C. B. of the C. V.

K. OF C. OVERSEAS DIRECTOR CONTRADICTS STATEMENT.

William P. Larkin, Director of Knights of Columbus Overseas Activities, contradicted the statement given out at Washington to the effect that virtually all welfare work on the Rhine has ceased.

"So long as there is a soldier in Germany, there will be K. of C. secretaries there," said Mr. Larkin. "We have about 800 workers over there, providing all sorts of entertainment and athletic diversion and distributing all kinds of comforts for the Yankees of the 1st and 3rd Divisions who comprise the Army of Occupation. Even when these boys leave, we will still keep our workers there until all Americans connected with the Army of Occupation leave."

"Instead of closing up our work in Europe, we are intensifying it, as the boys who come home are daily testifying."

We are still shipping loads of cigarettes, tobacco, pipes, candy, and other comforts to the soldiers, and the K-C huts are just as popular a rendezvous for doughboys as during the war, if not more so. When the last doughboy steps up the gangplank at Brest, then 'Casey' will pack his grip, but here will be no departure until that time."

New Building For Maryknoll Seminary.

The American Seminary for Foreign Missions is erecting two more of its permanent buildings. One, an annex to the present Field Afar Office, will be built at Maryknoll-on-Hudson; the other, the first section of the new Venard Apostolic College, is being constructed at Clark's Green, Pennsylvania, where this Maryknoll preparatory college has been located in temporary quarters for seven years.

For the present these buildings will meet the needs of the rapidly developing work of the Catholic Foreign Mission Society, but in another year the permanent Seminary at Maryknoll must be begun. It will soon be necessary also, to provide larger quarters for the Maryknoll Sisterhood, the Foreign Missions Sisters of St. Dominic, who at present attend to the household and clerical duties at Maryknoll and the Venard but who will eventually send some of their members to the mission field.

American Catholics are taking an active interest in pushing this work of the American Church, and even greater cooperation is to be looked for as a result of the stirring words of His Eminence, Cardinal Gibbons, in regard to Foreign Missions:

Our enormous needs at home in this progressive country have so absorbed our thought and our zeal that we have hardly been able, till very recently, to turn our attention to foreign missions. The new position of our nation as the great world power will surely enlarge our vision. All over the world America will have tremendous influence. Up to the present moment, we may say, that influence has been entirely non-Catholic. To the world in general, even to the Catholic world, American is synonymous with Protestant. The wonderful strength of the Church in this country is almost unknown to foreign lands. The reason is that the Church abroad has profited little by our strength and our riches. Now we cannot doubt that vocations in this field, both of men and women, will be found in abundance, and it is our confident hope and prayer that God will use American zeal, energy, and organizing ability to give a great impulse to foreign missions.

SHORT NOTES OF CATHOLIC HAPPENINGS.

This year is the golden jubilee of the foundation of the Little Sisters of the Poor in Louisville.

Announcement of the purchase of one of the oldest and finest residential properties in Youngstown, O., by the Ursuline Sisters of the Holy Name, to be developed for their new home and academy, is made.

M. Marcel Prevost, French Minister, said at the Academic reception of Mgr. Baudrillard regarding the separation of Church and State law: "If I were Pope, I too, would reject that law. There is not a government in France, no matter how radical, which can close our 40,000 churches and expel 40,000 cures."

Ireland is now prosperous despite her struggle for independence. She responded magnificently to the appeal for the canonization of the Irish martyrs' fund.

The Republic of Lithuania is Catholic. Its President is Ant. Smetonka, a Catholic.

Late News of Ireland

Carlow

At Bagenalstown the Carlow Feis was attended by about 9,000 people and addresses were delivered by the Very Rev. M. Cullen, P.P., V. F., Bagenalstown; Prof. Eoin MacNeill; J. J. O'Kelly, M. P.; T. Deloughrey, Mayor of Kilkenny, and Rev. Father Patrick, Kilkenny.

Sister Mary Domincia Fitzgerald has died in the Poor Clare Convent, Graiguecullen, Carlow, at the age of 26 years, six of which were passed in religion. Deceased was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald, Flintfield, Faha, Killarney.

Cork

Rev. Father Watson, C. C., chaplain to the Middleton Presentation Convent and Spiritual Director of the League of the Cross, has left for the Diocese of Portsmouth. He is succeeded by Rev. James Cotter, who was an army chaplain.

Cork County Teachers' Association, on the motion of J. Sheehan, seconded by Miss Tierney, congratulated the Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Cloyne, on his golden jubilee.

Dublin

Messrs. McKeown, MacKeogh & Co. sold by public auction to H. E. Barr 52 acres of tillage land, situated at Lucan, subject to a rent of £54 10s. 6d. for £8,500.

The Very Rev. Albert Power, S. J., M. A., who has been appointed rector of Newman College within the University of Melbourne, was formerly attached to the professorial staff of Milltown Park College, Dublin, where he lectured on theology, scripture and ecclesiastical history for 10 years, and for eight years of that period was rector of the college. He is recognized as one of the foremost educationists in Australia. Father Power has relatives living in Dublin and Liverpool.

Kerry

Listowel Guardians expressed regret at the death of the tailor, John Joy of Finuge, who entered the service of the board over 70 years ago, when workhouses were about erected first. He was considered to be the oldest official in the country.

Most Rev. Dr. O'Sullivan, Bishop of Kerry, administered Confirmation to four hundred and twenty children at St. Patrick's Church, his Lordship expressed himself highly pleased with the answering of the children and expressed his thanks to the clergy and teachers. At night the houses were brilliantly illuminated in honor of his Lordship's visitation.

Limerick

Glin District Council requested the L. G. B. to transfer the Glin area for Union purposes from Listowel to Rathkeale Union on the grounds that it would be more convenient for the poor and be a saving to the ratepayers.

Mayo

Miss Duffy, in religion Sister Gerard Joseph, eldest daughter of Mike Duffy, Kilmenna, Westport, has been professed in the Presentation Convent, Balingglass.

Widespread regret has been occasioned by the death of Rev. Andrew Callaghan, P. P., Bonnicom, who was one of the best known and most esteemed priests in the diocese of Achonry.

Rev. Mother Evangelist McCarthy of Swinford Convent celebrated her golden jubilee on Aug. 4.

Tipperary

Rev. Father Madden, C. C., Borrisokane, has been transferred to Birr. He is replaced in Borrisokane by the Rev. T. Meagher, C. C.

FOREIGN MISSIONS NOTES AND NEWS

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

SAD NEWS

For several years Rev. Alfred Botty, Belgian foreign missionary in Mongolia, has been one of the most prolific writers to the publications printed by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. From Bishop Abels comes the sad news that he has suffered the loss of this apostle, and another, Fr. VanObbargers, within the past few months.

The death of Fr. Botty will be severely felt in the mission of East Mongolia. He was a professor in the seminary for native clergy and an active worker in many fields of action.

Mgr. Abels has ordained two new priests, which brings the number of native apostles up to seventeen. These co-workers are much needed in the present dearth of missionaries.

THE CRUCIFIX REPLACES THE IDOL.

Sister Mary, of Wenchow, is in the foreground of the small army of missionary nuns engaged in saving Chinese babies. She and her companion Sisters of Charity have been given charge of a large pagan orphanage formerly controlled by a mandarin, and feebly triumphant. She says of it:

"Babies just pour in. No less than twelve in one day; they come at all hours and from all parts of the country. Some are left outside the gate; some are put in the 'Door Hole'; the majority, especially when very small, or deformed, are brought in old baskets or wrapped in matting. Poor little ones! They just come in time to receive baptism, and then go straight to Heaven. How we came here is a miracle, and how we have replaced the idols by the Crucifix another miracle. But the path is a very thorny one, and the devil does not hide the fact that he is angry with us."

THE COFFIN IN THE CHINESE HOME.

The respectful fear that a coffin inspires in us is one of the many things that has no place in the life of a Chinaman, who has been formed to think and act in a manner utterly different from ours. It is the greatest consolation for Chinese to have in their home the coffin that will receive their remains. The poor that cannot defray the heavy expenses of a funeral keep the dead body at home until various members of the family die; and they then make one grand interment. Chinese graves are always in the mountains or hills; the higher the better. And this is carried out so consistently that practically the valleys are the only land given over to cultivation; the mountains are sacred places reserved for the spirits of the ancestors.

Rev. Fr. Rigaud, Jesuit, has made public some figures which doubtless give accurate information regarding the condition of the Church in the Armenian Catholic Province of Marache. Fr. Rigaud was formerly an instructor in St. Francis Xavier College, Beyrouth. He states that Fathers Constantian, Tersian and Tchalekian are living. Fathers Parmanian and Akrabian were put to death. The hierarchy of Marache (Armenian rite) has been preserved. About 70,000 Armenians (Catholics) were killed; about 30,000 remain; altogether the South fared better than the North during the persecutions.

Catholic Summer School at Cliff Haven, N. Y.

CLIFF HAVEN, N. Y., AUGUST 7.

On last Monday morning at 10 o'clock the Special Four Weeks Sociological Course prepared by the Rev. William J. Kerby, S. T. L., Ph. D., Dean of the School of Sociology, Catholic University, Washington, D. C., was opened. The first week of lectures was given by the Rev. John A. Ryan, D. D., Prof. of Moral Theology and Editor of the Catholic Quarterly Review, Catholic University, Washington, on "Problems of Reconstruction". Next week Prof. Chas. B. Fenwick, Ph. D., Bryn Mawr College, will speak on the Problems and Achievements of the Paris Peace Conference; the following week the Rev. John O'Grady of the National Catholic War Council will treat of "Poverty and Relief", and the final series will be given by John A. Lapp, also of the National Catholic War Council on "The School as a Community Centre." The second morning course of the week was given by the Rev. Edwin Ryan, D. D., Prof. of History at St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie on "Some Counterparts of the Day."

At 12 o'clock morning James J. Walsh, M. D., Ph. D., Sc. D., one of the best known writers and lecturers of the day and for years favorite at Cliff Haven, in a course on "Religion and the War" pointed out the union of old fashioned faith and supreme military genius in the person of Feck, Ben, Petain, Goerod, Fapella, and Kastelan and of the same faith and heroic patriotism from the little Catholic nation of Belgium and the world figure of Cardinal Mercier. In the evening Mr. and Mrs. James E. Talbot of Brooklyn, N. Y. delighted large audiences with two artistic song recitals and on Thursday and Friday evening the Rev. Francis J. Spellman, of Boston, gave illustrated lectures on "Shrines and Rome" and "An Hour with the Masters of Art."

The annual championship Golf Tournament opened last Monday, with an entry list of fifty-two, one of the largest in the history of the Cliff Haven course. The tournament is in competition for a handsome silver cup presented by James Butler of New York.

The Campus suffered their first real defeat of the season on Saturday last when the Stratford Morrisville team scored a 1-0 victory over the home team.

During the past week Cliff Haven was honored by visits from no less than three members of the American hierarchy, the Rt. Rev. Joseph E. Conroy, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, in which the Summer School is situated, the Rt. Rev. Maurice E. Burke, Bishop of the Diocese of St. Joseph, Mo., and the Rt. Rev. James Albert Duffy, Bishop of Grand Island, Nebraska. On Tuesday evening a reception was tendered at the Champlain Club to Bishop Burke, who has been making an extended stay at the Summer School. The reception which was one of the most brilliant social events of the season, was presided over by Hon. George J. Gillespie, President of the Champlain Club, who welcomed the distinguished visitor to Cliff Haven. An address was also made by the Rev. John D. Reach of New York, and musical numbers were provided by the Rev. J. L. Williams of Brooklyn, Mrs. W. F. Plunkitt, Miss Lilly B. Houghor and Miss Kathleen Narelle and Master James Dunn all of New York.