

Bishop Hickey's Annual Seminary Letter

Read In All Churches Last Sunday—Urges Need of Priests.

Bishop Thomas F. Hickey's annual letter on ecclesiastical education was read Sunday in all churches. The letter in part follows:

"The annual message on the subject of ecclesiastical training goes out this year under conditions that are at once extraordinary and impressive. Since our last letter one year ago the world has witnessed the cessation of hostilities that had for several years been exacting a fearful toll of life and expenditure of money, but with the announcement of the armistice joy took possession of the hearts of men.

"It must have seemed to the people of the belligerent nations that their great burden was at last lifted and that they might anticipate a period of relief from suffering and one of enjoyment of national and of international peace. And yet what are we witnessing to-day but a social unrest and a change in economic conditions that are a burden both heavy and distressing.

Problems of To-day.

"In fact, there are problems for solution in the world to-day of serious character, which call for wise discussion and for conscientious treatment. The church has always been a force in constructive work among individuals and nations and her influence to-day is a great hope for order and prosperity among men.

"Our ranks of the clergy have been touched to a degree by the war and the widespread prevalence of influenza, but this diocese has not suffered as severely as others have. Two of our splendidly promising young priests, Rev. Mortimer L. Nolan and Rev. Otto Geiger, succumbed to influenza, and many other priests suffered but recovered.

Priests in War Service.

"This diocese responded promptly to the call for Rochester quota of chaplains for service among the soldiers and sailors and at the time of the armistice ten of our priests were in actual service as army chaplains. All but one have returned. To-day with gratitude we state that we are well provided with priests, but we must plan for next year and for years to come."

"How thoroughly we should be impressed with the great benefit to the diocese of our two local seminaries, St. Bernard's and St. Andrew's. The registration at St. Andrew's during the scholastic year 1918-19 was 70 students and of this number thirteen will enter St. Bernard's this month. Reports from the parishes indicate a large entrance class at St. Andrew's this fall. Rev. Edward Simpson, a professor at St. Andrew's, has been appointed pastor of St. Francis Church at Phelps and his place will be taken by Rev. Francis Luddy.

"During 1918-19 263 students registered at St. Bernard's Seminary and of this number seventy-three were in the first-year class. There were twenty-one in the class for ordination and five were ordained for this diocese.

"It had been our hope for several years that with the advent of the golden jubilee of the diocese and the silver jubilee of St. Bernard's Seminary we should have a celebration in keeping with the dignity and importance of the events, but war conditions and the epidemic of influenza forced its postponement to some later date.

"We believed, however, that an effort would be made to relieve the seminary of the interest burden which made so heavy a demand on our receipts. This was done at the opening of the present year and a campaign was conducted. The clergy of the diocese subscribed \$54,000, of which \$24,000 has already been paid. The subscription by the laity amounted to \$139,504.42 and up to this writing \$126,240 has been paid in. The time for the payment of the balance has been extended to the close of the present month.

Increased Collection Asked.

"We made bold to mention the usual offering because the annual collection for the seminaries represents a large number of contributors and we believe that if in every case where the contribution to this collection could be raised to two dollars or more it would be done and the returns would be greatly increased. If our contributors will consider according to their personal experience the difference in the purchasing power of one dollar from that of twenty-five years ago they will not hesitate if their means will permit to give a properly increased amount. We earnestly request our pastors to stress this point in bringing to the notice of their people the annual Seminary collection.

"We would have our people regard seriously at this time the matter of financing the seminary for in the light of the large sum given towards the funded debt of the seminary it might occur to some that there was no longer the need for funds that had existed before the campaign. It is in this sense that we regard the present appeal of so great moment and particularly because of the cost of labor and supplies.

Appeal for Prayer.

"The month of September is the seminary month and we direct that this letter be read to your congregation on the first Sunday in September and that the subscription books be distributed as soon as possible among the solicitors. We always appreciate an increasing number of solicitors and beg to suggest a notable increase this year to carry out the general plan of an enlarged subscription.

"On the first Sunday in October, a supplementary collection will be taken up in all the churches of the diocese to enable those who may not have been reached by solicitors to make their contributions in the church and due announcement will be made of this collection on the preceding Sunday as well as on the Sunday of collection. We repeat our appeal to priests and people for prayer for vocations to the priesthood and to the religious life."

DEBT FILIPINOS OWE CHURCH.

Intellectual Advancement and Character Lauded By Noted Observers.

Only Malays To Reach Such High Standards.

Maximo M. Kalaw, Secretary of the Philippine Mission to the United States, has prepared "A Guide Book on the Philippine Question", which has recently been sent to the American press. The purpose of the pamphlet, we take it, is to prepare the American people for an appreciation of the claims of the Filipinos for independence, and it makes a strong case for the inhabitants of the islands annexed to our possessions as a result of the Spanish-American War.

Character of Filipinos.—Progress Made.

What interests us most in the pamphlet are the references to the Filipino character and the progress made under the influence of the Catholic missionaries. Mr. Kalaw tells us, e.g., that, under Spanish rule, "as early as 1866, out of (?) a population of 4,000,000 there were 841 schools for boys and 833 for girls. In 1892, eight years before the coming of the Americans, there were 2,137 schools. There were also, during the Spanish regime, colleges and universities where professional training was given"; he lists these institutions, giving the year of the founding of the University of Santo Tomas, Manila, as 1611, making the University "twenty-five years older than Harvard." Kalaw quotes from the French explorer La Perouse (who visited Manila in 1787), the Englishman Crawford, "historian of the Indian Archipelago", the German naturalist Jagor, the Austrian Blumentritt and the American LeRoy, to illustrate the progress made by the Filipinos under the Spanish regime. To the testimony of these men he adds a collection of comment by Americans on the Philippine Republic of 1898.

Mr. Taft on Intelligence and Character of People.

A particularly interesting paragraph is devoted to Mr. Taft's opinion, expressed in a special report to the President of the United States in 1903, on "Filipino character and integrity". Mr. Taft said in part: "The friars left the people a Christian people—that is, a people with western ideals. They looked toward Rome, and Europe, and America... It is the only Malay or oriental race that is Christian. They were not like the Mohammedan or Buddhist, who despise western civilization as inferior... They learn easily and the most striking fact in our whole experience in the Philippines is the eagerness with which the common Filipino agricultural laborer sends his children to school to learn English. There is no real difference between the educated and ignorant Filipino that cannot be overcome by the education of one generation. They are capable people in the sense that they can be given a normal intellectual development by the same kind of education that is given in our common school system." And in 1914, during the Philippine Committee hearing, Mr. Taft praised the "racial solidarity" of the Filipinos.

Further Testimony Not Advanced By Mr. Kalaw.

Mr. Kalaw might have been able to quote still more testimony from American sources concern-

ing the character of the Filipino. He might have quoted Senator Paterson, speaking in the U. S. U. S. Senate, in 1908, on the virtues of the Filipino as a laborer. Or a Mr. Doherty, writing about the same time to an American paper, saying that the Filipinos were so peaceful and orderly that even a great holiday "passed without a single case of disorder or a single violation of any law or ordinance." Or he might have quoted Justice Tracey of the Philippines, addressing American judges in the islands in March 1909, saying: "I have heard speeches and arguments from members of the Filipino bar that would honor any bar in any civilized country; and my immediate association has been with men whom I consider not only of the very highest and noblest character, but of the very first grade of ability. I know I shall be guilty of what is an impropriety when I say—and I will say it—that in my calm judgment, in point of intellect and of law-learning the strong end of our court is the Filipino end. And it is idle to tell a man who has associated with such men that the race which produces them will never be capable of self-government." (N. Y. Evening Post, March 21, 1909.)

Whom Have the Filipinos To Thank For All This?

There can be no question as to the correctness of such views, borne out by these and other competent witnesses. Nor should there be any question as to the influence which aided the Filipinos in attaining the intellectual level and character standards referred to. This influence is no other than the strength and light of the Gospel and the teaching and ministration of the missionaries. It is a significant fact—and one borne out by Mr. Taft and other observers—that no other members of the Malay race have attained to the heights reached by the Filipinos. This means that neither in Java, under Dutch, nor elsewhere, under British influence, were those results obtained which were achieved in the Philippines under Spanish rule and through Catholic influence. The Philippines owe a great debt to the bearers of the Cross of Christ, who labored for centuries so zealously and patiently among their people.

C. B. of the C. V.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

14th Sunday after Pentecost

- Gospel, St. Matt. vi. 24-33. The Mammon of Iniquity.
- S. 14, Exaltation of the Holy Cross.
- M. 15, The Seven Dolors of Our Lady.
- T. 16, SS. Cornelius and Cyprian, MM.
- W. 17, The Stigmata of St. Francis.
- Th. 18, St. Joseph of Cupertino, C.
- F. 19, SS. Januarius and Comp., MM.
- S. 20, SS. Eustace and Comp., MM.

You Can Register at the R. B. I.

for any course in the Day School on or before next Monday, September 15. Register early if possible. Rochester Business Institute, 172 Clinton Avenue South.—Adv.

Are You Thinking

of preparing yourself for a business career? If so, you can start that work in the Rochester Business Institute Day School next Monday, September 15. Call us up for full information. Stone 326, Main 3969.—Adv.

Convention of the Order of Alhambra In Buffalo, Sept. 22

The biennial convention of the Order of the Alhambra will be held in the city of Buffalo, September 22, 23 and 24, the delegates and visitors being the guests of Cordova Caravan No. 26, of that city. Elaborate plans have been made for the entertainment of the visitors.

The membership in the Order of the Alhambra is restricted to Knights of Columbus of at least the third degree and its beautiful and impressive ritual has to do with that part of the history of the famous palace of the Moors in the city of Granada, which concerns the inspiration and the work of Christopher Columbus.

One feature of the work of the order is the erection of memorials to mark the places of great Catholic interest in the United States. One of the Alhambra memorials has been placed in the vestibule of New York's Custom House to mark the spot where the Mass was celebrated for the first time on Manhattan Island in 1683.

A more recent achievement of the order was the purchase of two acres of land at Syracuse, N. Y., where a monument was erected on Indian Hill, where the first Mass was said in New York State in 1655. The marble shaft rises on the summit of the hill from which a magnificent view of the surrounding country is to be had. At the dedication Rev. Thomas J. Campbell, S. J., delivered the address.

The officers of the supreme divan are: Supreme commander, John T. Ryan, who is the United States Appraiser at the port of Buffalo; vice supreme commander, Joseph T. MacSweeney, Rochester; supreme scribe, A. B. Neubaur, Albany; supreme chamberlain, Joseph T. Gleason, Brooklyn; supreme propagandist, U. Marioni, New Orleans; captain of the body guard, John H. Beetha, Brooklyn; grand vizier, Daniel J. Dugan, Albany; Dr. Harry F. MacLeod, Rochester, Mass.; John A. Eckert, Washington; Dr. N. J. Delebaaty, Rutland, Vt.; Edward B. Mahan, Syracuse.

Chicago Archdiocese proposes to have 100,000 Holy Name men by 1920.

In the North American College, Rome, ten priests were ordained this year for our country.

The movement for the freedom of Ireland is growing in this country rapidly and determinedly.

In a pastoral letter, Cardinal Lucon calls on France to reinstate God in the family and in the life of the nation and state.

Rt. Rev. Bishop McNicholas, of Duluth, in an address declared "women's influence for the benefit of society on public affairs to be incomparably greater than ever before."

Are You Satisfied

with your present position and attainment? If not you can advance your interests very greatly by taking a business course at the R. B. I. Either the Commercial Course or the Shorthand and Typewriting Course will fit you for an excellent position in a business office. You can start any course in the Day School on Monday, September 15, or you can start any course in the Evening School Tuesday, September 16. Rochester Business Institute, 172 Clinton Avenue South.—Adv.

Catholic Photoplay Pre-Review Service Offers Its Help Through Our Paper

The Catholic Photoplay Pre-Review Service New York, intended, its promoters state, to serve more than seventeen million persons in this country is, after many weeks of preparation, established and working.

According to a statement issued from its office, the Catholic Photoplay Pre-Review Service will co-operate with most of the leading Catholic publications in this country—ensuring a wide circulation in a specialized sphere.

Its promoters are said to be men with a well-grounded knowledge of the photoplay industry having a wide experience in the advertising and propaganda field and in earnest sympathy with the policy of making and exhibiting only clean pictures.

Charles J. Meegan, formerly connected with George Klepke's, for the present in charge, Mr. Meegan, only recently left the service of Knights of Columbus War Work where, for more than a year, he was in close touch with the Catholic press and all the newspapers of the country. Discussing the Catholic Photoplay Pre-Review Service Mr. Meegan said:

"It is in no manner a censoring proposition. Neither is it intended to criticize. Its paramount purpose is to find good pictures and commend them to the world at large, specializing in the Catholic field. We will let others deal with objectionable films. Our patrons will learn, thru us, only about worthy plays."

"There's nothing particular in our policy—we will work on lines of liberality but never forgetting the point where good ends and bad begin. We are not 'kill-joys'—we are 'boonies'."

"Our Service will be at the disposal of every Catholic congregation, society or organization in the country. We will be the connecting link between more than seventeen million Catholics and the photoplay makers, distributors and exhibitors. We propose being a factor in co-operation."

"When certain details have been completed, this Service, in connection with pictures of special interest to juveniles, will be extended in most of the Catholic parochial schools."

"Our endorsement of a picture will, we hope, serve as a guide for Catholics and non-Catholics alike. We are doing for the producers, distributors and exhibitors what they have always labored to do viz., getting in touch with and advising the photoplay theatre patrons who, in the final analysis, support and make possible the industry. We have the machinery to do this and will unquestionably attain our purpose."

"Our machinery has been set up to also cover Europe and South America, especially in countries where Catholic predominance within a few weeks we will be in close touch and co-operating with Catholics throughout the world or at least wherever motion pictures are shown."

The French and Spanish Languages are the most important for American business. There is a great demand for young men and women who know French or Spanish, or both. You can study these languages in the R. B. I. in either Day or Evening School. Call us up for further information. Rochester Business Institute, 172 Clinton Avenue South.—Adv.