

Secretary Baker Urges Knights of Columbus To Continue Welfare Work With Troops.

Newton D. Baker, Secretary of War, in a letter to James A. Flaherty, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, urged that the Order still continue its welfare activities with the soldiers in France, Germany, Siberia and the Canal Zone and Insular possessions until "such time as the Army is in a position to undertake the responsibility." The letter from the head of the War Department came in answer to the country-wide protest which the Knights issued against the peremptory ousting of the Seven Affiliated civilian welfare organizations.

With the abolition of the Commission on Training Camp Activities which was the official ruling body over all welfare organizations the War Department recently announced that the soldiers would be looked after by an organization of Army officers to be established within the General Staff.

Mr. Baker in his letter acknowledges the interest which the Knights of Columbus displayed in their desire to have the soldiers' welfare in the future looked after. He said: "I quite agree with you that so much of the program as relates to leisure time at least should be conducted in such a way as to induce a feeling of ease and comfort among the men, approximating as nearly as possible the conditions of home life, atmosphere and spirit. We hope to accomplish this by the employment of carefully selected men and women, who because of their training during the Emergency, as representatives of the affiliated organizations, or because of their natural ability and interest, are qualified to carry on a welfare program as employees of the War Department.

"In contemplating the end of Emergency, I turn with gratitude to you and your able associates, who so willingly accepted the responsibility placed under the Knights of Columbus. I extend to you the appreciation of the War Department, and the thanks of every man of the Service who came in contact with your representative in the field.

"You are requested to continue your work with the troops in France, Germany, Siberia, Panama Canal Zone, Hawaiian and Philippine Islands and Alaska, for a further period of three or four months, or until such a time as the Army is in a position to undertake the responsibility. The War Department in the future, as it has in the past, will feel free to call upon the Knights of Columbus for advice, counsel, and active assistance wherever the need develops."

Cordially yours, Newton D. Baker."

The Knights of Columbus protested the ousting order declaring that the question was of such large proportions it demanded a statement of the conditions which such a move would invite. "We are opposed to any attempt to institutionalize the activities heretofore conducted by the so-called War Welfare societies," the Knights told Sec. Baker. "The men in the service welcome a relief from war supervision and military methods. They welcome the relief and willingly respond to the services of civilians to whom they owe no special duty military deference and obedience. It is a relief from the restraint of official supervision for them to receive a touch of home life and neighborly assistance within the camps. Ready to leave the service if so ordered, we nevertheless wish to record our protest against the proposed new policy and feel that the action of Congress in refusing funds asked for these purposes by the War Department, the very willing contribution of the public for the maintenance of this work by the welfare societies; the hearty response and appreciation of the men in the Service, the very inherent contrast between military rule and discipline and recreational and educational work at the hands of friendly civilians all speak against the taking over of this work by the Army as one of its regular functions.

Rhode Island Welcomes Ireland's President.

President de Valera, the elected leader of the Irish Nation, chief of a Government chosen by a majority vote of more than two-thirds the nation, is in America as Kossuth once was, offering to us an historic figure even more valiant and appealing. He asks America to recognize the Republic of Ireland. He asks America to give to its sister Republic the hearing and the recognition denied to it at Paris. Ireland was denied a hearing at Paris because the British Government did not want her to be heard. Yet that coalition government of Great Britain is today conceded by Bottomley, colleague of Northcliffe, to be "dead and damned."

When President de Valera visited Rhode Island recently his stay was marked with many honors and repeated demonstrations of American demands for Irish freedom. At Providence, the State Capital, as at Newport, the President was met by a military guard of honor, was officially received at the State House by Governor Beekman, who gave a reception in his honor, and at the City Hall by Mayor Gainer, United States Senator Gerry assisting the Mayor and their historic guest in receiving the numerous guests. In Newport the freedom of the city was conferred upon Ireland's President by the Mayor and City Council, while at mass-meetings of 15,000 people in Providence and 8,000 in Newport the people of Rhode Island made it clear that they, as Americans, stand for the full independence of Ireland. As they expressed it: "We American citizens, in mass-meeting assembled in the City of Newport, do hereby declare ourselves unreservedly and unequivocally in favor of the Independence of Ireland, and in view of the justice of the cause of the Irish people, we demand that our Government of these United States, for which the Irish have fought and died, do recognize the Irish Republic." In this way Rhode Island has recorded itself as responsive still to the noblest of American traditions.

Late News of Ireland

Cork
The L. G. B. sanctioned war bonuses of £40 to the clerk of Youghal Union, £30 to his assistant and £20 each to the R. O.'s and master. Unless the Catholic chaplain was a whole-time officer, they stated, he was debarred from receiving a war bonus, and the guardians, holding the chaplain was as much a whole-time officer as the M. O., asked them to reconsider the matter.

Dublin
F. Lawless, M. P., at a Blanchardstown aridhecht said that Dail Eireann was not yet able to advertise all the work it was doing, but among many things done consuls have been appointed in New York, Paris, Genoa and Argentina to look after Irish interests, and a consulate was also being established in Switzerland. Dublin printers' and Glasnevin grave diggers' strikes were settled.

Kildare
Married—At the Pro-Cathedral Marlborough street, Dublin, by the Very Rev. Canon Waters, president Holy Cross College, William Walsh of Battlemont House, Ballymore, to Margaret, daughter of the late John Byrne, Suncroft, Curragh.

Kilkenny
Michael Kavanagh writing from Kilkenny, says: "Upon my return from a business visit to England, I was surprised to find that the 'competent military authority' had raided the premises of the printer who handles my weekly publication, the Irish Program. Although this journal is entirely devoted to the stage, and amusement interests, and of an absolutely non-political character, portions of the machinery used for printing it were taken away. I need not say what a serious loss this high-handed and unjustified proceeding means. Is there no redress?"

Longford
Miraculous cures effected by a priest at Six Mile Cross, in County Tyrone, have been much spoken of in Granard and surrounding districts. Recently a number of persons afflicted with various forms of disease went on a pilgrimage to the priest, whose name we could not ascertain, but it is stated the patients came back partially cured with hopes of a complete cure in three months.

Kerry
Widespread regret is felt at the death of Very Rev. J. Canon Cunnihan, P. P., V. F., Millstreet, which took place at Kingstown. The deceased was one of the most popular pastors in the Diocese of Kerry, and his death will be deeply mourned by his ecclesiastical confreres and by the people of the parish of Millstreet. A farmer named Timothy Curran was found dead in his bed near Waterville.

Mayo
The world famed pilgrimage at Knock was attended by thousands from all parts of County Galway and the surrounding counties. The travel stained pilgrims, some of whom had come from afar off, kept vigil until the following morning, the Feast of the Assumption of Our Blessed Lady. Throughout the night the Rosary was recited aloud by all.

Waterford
A statue and grotto in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes was unveiled in the Piltown (County Waterford) Catholic Church by M. Doyle, J. P., Rev. J. Meckler, P. P., Clashmore, presiding.

Short Notes of Interest.

The Internal Revenue Department, Buffalo, N. Y., has rescinded the regulation allowing a priest to order Mass wine for no longer than three months; they may provide for a year's supply.

There has been erected to the memory of the late saintly Bishop Marty, O. S. B., the first Abbot of St. Meinrad Abbey in Indiana, at Yankton, S. D., a statue. It stands 14 feet high. Bishop Marty became the apostle of the Sioux Indians.

In the United States there are 15,997 Catholic Church buildings.

Climbing the debris of a fallen factory wall, in Philadelphia, the priests of the Immaculate Conception Church risked their lives to administer the Sacraments to the dying firemen.

The campaign for \$10,000 for the Sisters of Notre Dame, Lawrence, Mass., resulted in an excess sum.

The diocese of Concordia, Kan., comprises about two and a half times the area of Belgium and one-half of the area of England. Its Catholic population is approximately 35,000.

The House of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, in St. Paul, Minn., received from the generous Timothy Foley an annex building costing \$75,000, and the parish school at Warrendale and Hazel Park each a \$60,000 building.

Storm greatly damaged the Church of the Gesù in Milwaukee; its stained glass windows were damaged to the extent of \$15,000.

The last four years of human carnage involved our country in a war-cost estimated at the stupendous figure of \$30,177,000,000. And over 100,000,000 people must pay these billions.

One of the most exhaustive non-Catholic legal opinions on the legality of Mass bequests was prepared and published several years ago by Judge P. B. Muir, a non-Catholic jurist of Louisville.

St. James the Apostle went back to Jerusalem from Spain. In the Holy City Herod Agrippa, to curry favor with the Jews, condemned St. James to death for his firm confession that Jesus Christ is God.

At Zwolle, Holland, on a hillside, a monument was erected to the author of the Imitation of Christ, Thomas Kempis.

The Aurora University at Shanghai is the only Catholic University in China. It has faculties of law, a school of engineering, an academic course, and an aggregation of three Catholic colleges. It needs funds for its medical school laboratories.

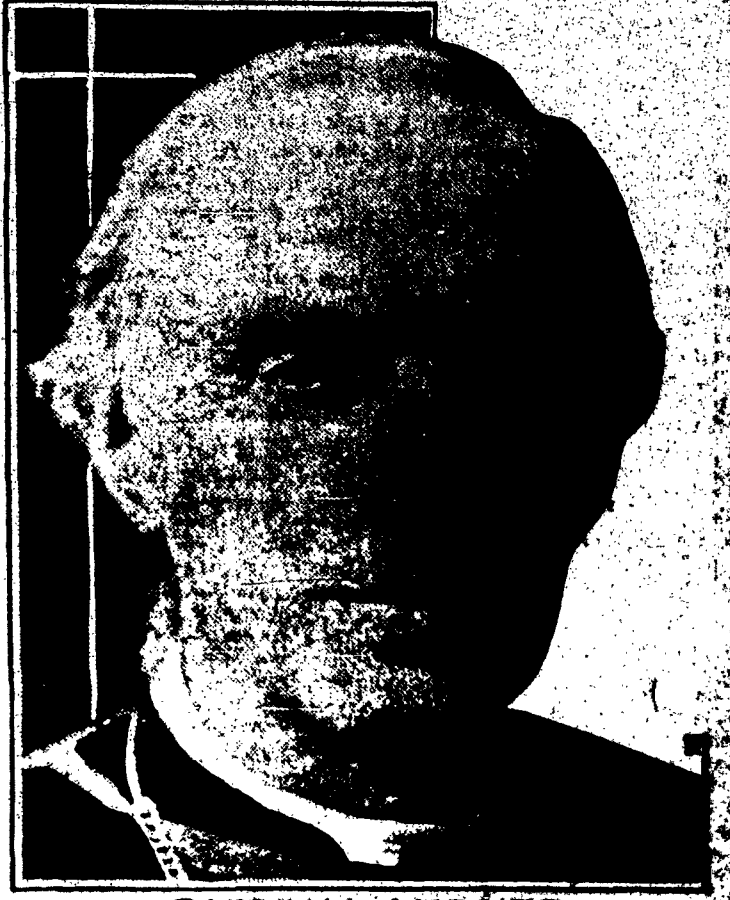
Some of the cities of Italy are urging the Beatification of Pope Pius IX. It is said that so far 31 miracles and cures have been wrought through his intercession.

Supreme Officer C. R. B. A. Coming

Plans are being made for a reception to supreme president M. G. Lanigan, of the C. R. & B. A., who will be in this city on Tuesday evening, October 14th.

The Franciscan schools in the Holy Land still remain closed, as also the Franciscan Free Pharmacy and Dispensary.

CARDINAL MERCIER TO BE GUEST OF CITY



CARDINAL MERCIER

Rochester will honor and welcome to the city next Monday the great champion of Belgium's rights as well as the loftiest and most attractive figure of the Great War. The bravery of Cardinal Mercier, his Christian defiance of oppression startled the world during the early days of the war; it was his testimony concerning the German invasion that convinced us that at last a reign of terror had broken forth, it was he who turned the tide of sympathy to the cause of Belgium and France.

Desire Joseph Mercier was born November 21, 1851, in the little village of Braine l'Alleud in the province of Brabant. He studied at Louvain, Paris and Leipzig, after which he was ordained in 1874. Immediately he was appointed to teach philosophy at the ancient and venerable University of Louvain. From this post, though, but a simple priest he was elevated to the dignity of Archbishop of Malines, on February 8, 1906, and on April 15, of the following year was created a Cardinal by His Holiness, Leo XIII.

All national guard units in Rochester with the exception of the Machine Gun Company which is not yet organized, will be on duty practically all day.

Chief of Police Joseph M. Quigley has been in conference with Alvin H. Dewey, chairman of the military affairs committee of the chamber, to which has been entrusted the escort and police arrangements, and will detail mounted and footmen of the police department for duty at various points where the cardinal will be seen during the day.

The railroad station platform where Cardinal Mercier will descend from his private car will be closed to all except members of reception committee appointed by the mayor. Police will also keep clear the center aisle of the main rotunda of the New York Central station so that the cardinal and his party may have a clear passage way to the automobiles which will be in waiting upon his arrival at 11:10. Police will also keep clear the automobile space in front of the New York Central station. Mounted Police and cavalry will escort Cardinal Mercier to the Church of Our Lady of Victory on Pleasant street by way of Central avenue, St. Paul and Pleasant streets. The Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus

will also be in the escort.

The committee in charge wishes to emphasize the fact that besides being a legal holiday when Columbus Day will be celebrated this will also be one of the great days in Rochester's history. The New York Central station, the Chamber of Commerce and Convention Hall, where the public meeting will be held in the evening, will all be profusely decorated and the request made that places of business and residences give evidence of Rochester's patriotic spirit.

The reception committee of three hundred, named by Mayor Edgerton, will be at the New York Central station at 11 o'clock in the morning. From the station there will be a brief parade, with band and military escort, to the Church of Our Lady of Victory, in Pleasant street, where Cardinal Mercier will speak to the members of that congregation.

Rochester will send a reception committee to Syracuse to greet Cardinal Mercier. The committee, which will leave in a special car at 6:15 o'clock in the morning, will include: Mgr. D. J. Curran, Rev. Alphonse A. Netchan, George Eastman, Thomas W. Fuciano, C. C. Beahan, Bernard J. Haggarty, A. E. Sutherland, Edward W. Mulligan, Simon Stain, Mrs. Isaac Adler, Mrs. Gurnsey T. Curtis, Mrs. Ralph Fitch, Mrs. Richard Germain, Mrs. Charles J. Maloy, Mrs. Daniel Murphy, George T. Boucher, Miss Amelia Purcell, Arthur L. Scott, J. Adam Kraeg, Paul Pachon, William E. Sloan, William T. Connor, John G. Elba, George T. Roche, Harold P. Brewster, Edward Strong, William C. Barry, William M. Smith, J. Craig Powers, Frank X. Kelly, Eugene J. Dwyer, Louis C. Langie.

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

- 18th Sunday after Pentecost
- Gospel, St. Matt., ix. 1-8.
- Jesus Cures the Man Sick of the Palsy.
- S. 12, St. Wilfrid, B. C.
- M. 13, St. Edward the Confessor.
- T. 14, St. Callixtus I, P. M.
- W. 15, St. Teresa, V.
- Th. 16, Purity of the Blessed Virgin.
- F. 17, St. Hedwig, Q.
- S. 18, St. Luke the Evangelist.
- Russian Finland and Estonia have asked for diplomatic relations with the Holy See.