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BISHOP'S TO ISSUE PASTORAL LETTER.

Of Importance to All Catholics in the United States.

WASHINGTON, February 5:—For the first time in thirty-five years the American Catholic Archbishops and Bishops are issuing a pastoral letter to their clergy and the laity. The Committee which has had the preparation of the letter in its charge has completed its work, and the letter will be read in every Catholic Church in the United States on the first Sunday in Lent, February 22nd, Washington's birthday. This Committee is composed of their Eminences, Cardinals Gibbons and O'Connell, and Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Shahan, D. D., Rector of the Catholic University of America, at Washington. As the letter is of considerable length, an abstract will be supplied to all the pastors of the country, and in most cases will be read in place of the lengthier document.

The letter is the product of the united thought of the American Hierarchy, the spiritual directors of the Catholic Church in the United States. It has been signed by his Eminence Cardinal Gibbons, on his own behalf and in behalf of all the other members of the Hierarchy. Cardinal Gibbons is the sole survivor of the seventy-six Bishops who signed the joint pastoral letter issued to the seven million Catholics of the United States after the Third Plenary Council of Baltimore held in 1854. Now there are one hundred and one Bishops in the United States, not counting auxiliary bishops, and bishops without a see, appointed to do special work—addressing in the Pastoral Letter more than twenty millions of the laity.

At the suggestion of Archbishop Hanna, acting as Chairman of the Administrative Committee of the National Catholic Welfare Council, which is the organization through which the Bishops conduct affairs of national bearing, the Bishops and pastors of the country are urging the Catholic people in every parish throughout the land to go to Holy Communion on the day the Pastoral Letter is read, to pray for the intentions of the Holy Father and the Bishops, and for the Welfare of Church and country.

The pastoral letter was written along lines laid down by the Bishops at their general meeting last September. It takes a comprehensive view of the world situation, and insists that reconstruction shall proceed on sound principals, and not along lines of mere expediency. It emphasizes the need of justice and charity and shows how both are to be applied to the practical solution of the pressing problems that confront all civilized nations. In the light of these fundamental principles of justice and charity the Pastoral Letter will discuss the problems of marriage and divorce, industrial relations, national conditions, and international affairs. It lays stress on education as a means of reconstruction and sets forth the principles on which it should be conducted. It exhibits the power of Christianity as an absolute necessity for human welfare. Pointing out the vitality of the Catholic Church, especially in America, it also shows clearly the beneficent action of the Holy See.

The active cooperation of American Catholics with the country during the War is briefly related, and then the letter explains the organization effected by the Hierarchy of all Catholic agencies through the National Catholic War Council, and shows how this organization is to be perpetuated in the National Catholic Welfare Council. The letter concludes by strongly insisting that each individual must do his or her duty as a Catholic and a citizen in order to secure permanent peace.

American Legion to Aid K. of C. Schools and Employment Service.

Definite announcement has been made that the various state organizations of the American Legion will interest posts within their jurisdiction of the educational inducements which the Knights of Columbus have established throughout the country for demobilized service men and women.

According to William J. McGinley, Supreme Secretary, the Knights have arranged to keep the thousands of posts informed of the opening and progress of the schools which are free to all former service men. "There are more than sixty schools already operating," said Mr. McGinley, and by midsummer it is expected that the total attendance will easily be 250,000 men and women. The schools will be open to all women war workers who have certificates of service from the government which will allow Red Cross and Army nurses to qualify and women who served with the Navy.

"Action has also been promised to us by the Legion in our work of finding jobs for the veterans. The whole territory taken in by the eastern-northeastern department of our employment service which takes in New York, Boston, Providence, Baltimore, Jersey City, Philadelphia, Bangor and other cities are to benefit by the efforts which the local posts will exert in finding work for their 'buddies' who are unemployed and registered on the enrollment books of the K. of C. bureaus."

"The Bishops' Program of Social Reconstruction" has been selected by the faculty at Notre Dame for the Commencement trilogy of Bachelor orations next June. Particular interest is attached to the Bishops' plan at the university because of the fact that it was worked out by priests, bishops and laymen at a session at Notre Dame last summer. Two members of the Notre Dame faculty, Rev. William A. Bolger and Rev. John McGinn, are members of the National Catholic Welfare Council. Father Bolger is head of the economics department at the university and Father McGinn is professor of sociology.

New York State K. of C. Scholarships.

The final assignment of winners of the Knights of Columbus series of scholarships for demobilized service men has been completed. The Knights from their headquarters at New Haven, Conn., have issued a special pamphlet covering this phase of their reconstruction activities.

The report shows that the following men from New York State have qualified through preliminary examinations for scholarships: Catholic University—Joseph J. Flynn of Rochester.

Fordham University—Edward T. Dillon of Watervliet; Howard M. Woods of Rochester; William J. Sullivan of Ogdensburg and John F. B. Gleason of Geneva.

Georgetown University—John E. Tynan of Irvington-on-Hudson.

Holy Cross College—Clement A. Burns, of Johnstown; James A. Grady of Elmira.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology—Charles J. Burke of Rochester; Paul J. Roche of Danville; William D. Scofield of Waterville; Charles N. Wenz of Rensselaer; William J. Sherry of Salamanca and Oswald J. Kirchner of Rochester.

Michigan Agricultural College—J. Griffin Little of Rochester.

Niagara University—Joseph M. Conroy of Rochester and William Hunt of Albany.

Notre Dame—Vincent D. Cavanaugh of Syracuse; Justin E. Hyland of Penn Yan; Harold William Kearney of Amsterdam and Alexander J. Lockwood of Rochester.

University of Pennsylvania—Clarence A. Joyce of Geneva and Charles C. Leonard of Binghamton.

Sheffield Scientific School (Yale)—Stanley J. Murphy of Cohoes and Thomas F. Cosgrove of Peekskill.

Stevens Institute of Technology—William R. Conin of Hudson.

The award of scholarships by the Knights of Columbus to the former service men has been nationwide in its scope, according to William J. McGinley of New York City, the supreme secretary who handled the vast volume of correspondence and memoranda involved in the preparatory work of shaping up the candidates for the preliminary work.

The various faculties of colleges and universities also did exceptional work and co-operated with Mr. McGinley. More than forty institutions were picked by the committee on war activities which conceived the plan of awarding scholarships to the men who served their country.

Two courses were open—academic and technical and the awards were made proportionately.

ORDINATIONS AT MARYKNOLL

The midwinter Ordinations for the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America took place on Sunday, Feb. 8, at the Maryknoll Seminary, Ossining, N. Y. Rev. Raymond A. Lane, of St. Mary's Parish, Lawrence, Mass., and Rev. Joseph A. Sweeney, of St. Mary's Parish, New Britain, Conn., were elevated to the priesthood; while Rev. Joseph Hunt, of the Church of the Assumption, Brookline, Mass., received the sub-deaconate. Rt. Rev. Edmund Gibbons, Bishop of Albany, was the officiating prelate.

The progress of America's own Foreign Mission Society has been markedly providential, especially in view of the crying demand at present for more missionaries.

Though it is only eight years since the Papal sanction was given to the work, Maryknoll in all its branches has now a total of about one hundred sixty persons, twenty of whom are priests, devoted to the service of foreign missions. The more widely known this work becomes, the more responsive will be the cooperation of the American people with this, their own national Seminary, devoted exclusively to foreign missions. American Catholicity stands on trial before the world; the verdict becomes increasingly more assured.

Ex-Governor Dunne At Notre Dame.

Ex-Governor Edward F. Dunne of Illinois, one of the three Irish-Americans who presented the cause of Ireland at the peace conference a year ago, in a recent address at Notre Dame told for the first time how the Irish commission got passports to Ireland. Messrs. Walsh, Dunne and Ryan had been promised an interview with Lloyd-George but when the day set for the meeting came the British premier was unable to keep his appointment. He said he would be unable to see the commission for ten days. Rather than delay in Paris that long Walsh, Dunn and Ryan suggested that Lloyd George grant them passports to Ireland. Unwittingly he eagerly granted their request. "We went across the channel," said Dunn in recounting the incident, "saw all we wanted and made our report in Paris. And now I have no doubt that Lloyd-George has been kicking himself ever since for his blunder."

Meeting in the Interest of Coming Irish Loan Drive in Rochester

March 1st to 17th.

A meeting of the Rochester Organization Committee to take charge of the Irish Bond-Certificate Drive, which is to take place in the City of Rochester from March 1st to March 17th was held in the Powers Hotel on Friday evening, February 13th.

Mr. Gerald McLoughlin, representative of the National Headquarters in New York City of the American Commission on Irish Independence, was present and spoke. At this meeting the definite plans of the Committee for the conduct of the drive in this city was announced.

Great interest is being manifested among all classes of people in this city in this coming drive for the sale of the Irish Bond Certificates. These certificates will be converted into bonds of the Irish Republic within six months after the time the Republic of Ireland has been recognized by the Nations of the World. Many men and women of prominence in the community have expressed their sympathy with the movement. They were present at this meeting.

Rev. William A. Doran Is Transferred From Bath.

Bath, Feb. 12.—Rev. William A. Doran, who since July, 1916, has been assistant rector at St. Mary's church in Bath, has been transferred by the bishop of the diocese to Elmira, where he will be assistant to Rev. John Lee, rector of St. Peter's and St. Paul's church, a leading parish in that city, and act as chaplain at St. Joseph's hospital.

A service will be held in St. Mary's church Sunday evening, when Father Doran will address the congregation in farewell as a priest of the parish. He served at Holy Family church in Auburn before coming here.

IRISH NEWS IN BRIEF

Antrim
W. Knight, principal of Elgin Street National School, Belfast, died suddenly at his residence, 55 Rosemount Gardens, Cork.

Cork Steamship Company have resumed direct sailings between Rotterdam and the Port of Cork. The death is announced at Haverhill, Boston, of James H. Fitzgerald, aged 65, leather dealer, formerly a member of the city council. Deceased was a native of Tralee.

Galway
Through the intervention of Very Rev. Father Fideles (Definitive), O. F. M., the strike of the Galway County Council engineering and clerical staffs has been ended by an increase of 25 per cent on 1910 salaries, the total increase amounting to £756. The increase is retrospective from August 5.

The Sisters of the Presentation Convent, St. Joseph's, Oranmore, County Galway, keep a lamp burning before the picture of the Holy Face in order to make some reparation for all the faults offered to that Divine Face by sinners. Holy Mass is offered once a month for all members. Petitions are placed before it. General Holy Communion every Tuesday.

Kerry
Kilbarney Guardians passed a vote of sympathy with J. W. Scanlon, R. D. C., on the death of his mother, and adjourned as a mark of respect.

Kildare
Dr. E. Cosgrove, Killoek, has been made certifying surgeon under the Factory Acts for Moy, north district, in succession to Dr. S. Moore, removed, according to the London Gazette.

Married—At the Pro-Cathedral, Marlborough street, Dublin, by the Rev. W. Bowden, Adm., Eugene O'Callaghan, 1 Bellevue terrace, Limerick, to Bride, daughter of the late Christopher Maguire, Bironath, Straffan.

Limerick
Abbeyfeale Farmers' Union passed a vote of sympathy with Rev. J. Carr, C. C., on the death of his mother.

The father of the present Lord Dunraven was a Catholic, and at a meeting in Limerick over sixty years ago to unveil a statue of Daniel O'Connell, he denounced one of his own ancestors who gave up the Catholic religion and became a Protestant under the Penal Laws so as to retain his properties. The present Lord Dunraven was brought up a Catholic, but when he became 21 he went over to the Protestant Church.

Tipperary
The death announced of Rev. P. Crowe, P. P., Cossageaneen, Roscrea, one of the best-known priests in the diocese of Killaloe. His activities were mainly concerned with the progressive movements for the betterment of the people.

Wexford
At a meeting in Enniscorthy at which the Very Rev. J. Canon Dunne, P. P., presided, it was decided to establish a historical society for the diocese of Ferns.

On leaving Enniscorthy for Glenageary, County Dublin, Miss H. E. Preston, Salville, received a handsome presentation. She had taken a prominent part in charitable work and the Rev. Canon Lyster, B. D., who made the presentation, expressed regret at her departure.

Wexford Guardians expressed regret at the death of D. R. Kearing, T. C., F. L. G.

The Catholic and the Obligation

By Rev. ...
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Others, who do ...
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