

The Catholic Journal.

31st Year, No. 22.

Rochester, N. Y., Friday, February 27, 1920

ABSTRACT OF THE PASTORAL LETTER

Of The Archbishops And Bishops Of The United States To The Clergy and Laity Of Their Charge.

The Archbishops and Bishops of the United States, in Conference assembled, to their Clergy and faithful people — "Grace unto you and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ."

VENERABLE BRETHREN OF THE CLERGY, BELOVED CHILDREN OF THE LAITY:

Thirty-five years have elapsed since the Fathers of the Third Plenary Council of Baltimore addressed their Pastoral Letter to the faithful of their charge. The interval has been marked by events of far-reaching import for the welfare of mankind. The greatest of these, the World War, is finally ended. And now that God, in His mercy, has restored the nations to peace, it is fitting that we offer up praise and thanksgiving to Him for the blessings which He has bestowed on the Church at large and especially on the Church in our country.

Progress Of Religion

Under the guidance of three illustrious Popes—Leo XIII, Pius X, and Benedict XV—the Church has shown, in various forms, the power with which Christ endowed it for the salvation of men. Its inner life has been strengthened by a closer union of all its members with their head, the Vicar of Christ. Devotion to the Person of our Lord and to His Blessed Mother has steadily increased. The piety of the faithful has become deeper and stronger through frequent Communion and daily attendance at Mass. Works of charity have multiplied and Catholic education has grown, with fruitful vigor, in all our institutions.

We rejoice with our brethren of the clergy in the splendid results of their labors among the people—in preaching the Word of God, administering the sacraments, establishing schools and building churches.

You, likewise, beloved children of the laity, we heartily commend for your faith, for your zeal in supporting the cause of religion, and for your hearty cooperation with your pastors in all good works. With great charity you have responded to their appeals in behalf of the poor, the afflicted of every class, and the helpless little ones of Christ. You have shown your faith by your works: and God will surely reward you.

Catholic Education

We refer with pride and gratitude to the growth of our Catholic schools. It is an evidence of the interest which you take in the Christian education of your children. You are convinced, as we are, that religious instruction is not only a part of education but the most important part. It is the surest means of preserving our Catholic Faith and of training our children to become good men and good women. It teaches them to respect authority, to obey law and to be as careful of the rights of others as they are of their own rights. It is the best preparation for citizenship. By supporting our Catholic schools you render most valuable service both to the Church and to our country. There is no more genuine patriotism.

Negroes and Indians

It is mainly through education that we shall improve the condition of the Negro and Indian races and enable them to enjoy more fully the blessings of religion. Both justice and charity require that they be given the fair opportunity of which they have so long been deprived. In the eyes of the Church, as in the sight of God, all men have been redeemed at the same great price; and all have need of the same spiritual guidance and the same spiritual guidance and the same good will on the part of their fellowmen. We therefore invoke the Divine benediction on those who are laboring in the interest of the Negro and Indian; and we deprecate most earnestly all attempts at stirring up racial hatred, which so often expresses itself in deeds of violence unworthy of a civilized nation.

Catholic Societies

In solving our educational problems and in widening the scope of our charities, we look with confidence to our Catholic organizations. They have given innumerable proofs of their zeal; by defending the rights of the Church, by protecting young men and women against moral dangers, and by uniting their efforts for the promotion of worthy causes. They will now, in the same Catholic spirit, put forth their energies in spreading sound ideas of social and industrial reform. For these are urgently needed, not only for the guidance of our immigrants, but also for the checking and correction of tendencies which are stirring up discord among our native-born citizens.

Catholic War Activities

The entry of our country in the War gave American Catholics a new occasion to prove, as they had so often proved before, their patriotic devotion. The value of our associations for the public welfare was at once recognized. With the initiative taken by the Knights of Columbus, the unselfish spirit of the Catholic Young Men's Association, and the enthusiasm shown by the organizations of Catholic women, we realized that it was necessary to unify our activities. With this object in view, the Hierarchy established the National Catholic War Council.

America's Pledge To The World

We went into the war and ended it. In any material sense, we had nothing to gain. We fought to make the world a better place for all mankind. In proclaiming our purpose, we held up our country and its institutions as the hope of humanity. The pledges we gave must be redeemed. As our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XV, declares, the American people, "retaining a firm hold on the principles of reasonable liberty and of

Christian civilization, are destined to have the chief role in the restoration of peace and order on the basis of those same principles, when the violence of these tempestuous days shall have passed."

Our Present Situation

Though the war is ended, our country is not yet restored to its normal condition. On every side, there is unrest and agitation. The conflict of class with class makes progress impossible. It threatens to undo the splendid things which the union of all our people accomplished. It is importing into our country the very evils which brought disaster on Europe. If America is to be preserved, for its own sake and for the sake of humanity, a remedy must be found for our present situation.

Need Of A Solid Foundation

This is not a time for makeshifts. The facts are before us, plainly and roughly. They cannot be set aside with mere expedients or formalities that smooth the surface of things, but leave the virus beneath. Rightly or wrongly, the movements which are shaking the foundation of order come out of men's souls. They embody a demand for right. They may be stayed for a time or diverted; but if, in keeping with American principles, order is to rest on the willingness of the people and their free cooperation, their souls must be reached. They must be trained to think rightly and to do as they think.

The War's First Lesson

The first and most essential lesson in true education is that which the war has taught us. For a long time the attempt was made to regulate human affairs without any reference to God. It was thought that the advance of civilization, the progress of science and the growth of commerce had made the peace of the world secure. Religion was excluded, in great measure, from public life, and entirely from the council of nations. It was a vast experiment, conducted with all the resources of power and skill. And now we see its results.

Justice And Charity

Christianity requires that we accept two fundamental principles at the basis of our human relations. These are the principles of justice and charity. The application of these in private and public life is the first step toward the restoration of peace and order.

Justice obliges us to give every man his due, just because he is a man.

Charity is the distinctive badge of the Christian. "By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another" (John XIII, 35).

Marriage And Divorce

As life and its relations have their origin in the home, whatever strengthens the family tie will rebound to the good of society. On the contrary, all those influences and tendencies which weaken the bond established by marriage are pernicious. They destroy the home and corrupt our social relations at the source.

The Catholic Church does not and will not sanction divorce in the absolute sense which permits either of the separated parties to remarry during the lifetime of the other.

The Wider Social Relations

Social intercourse, in the usual sense, responds to a demand of our human nature. It is an effective means of drawing more closely the bonds of charity. And it often gives occasion for joint endeavor in furtherance of the common good.

To attain these worthy ends, social enjoyment must remain

within reasonable limits. When it interferes with the duties of home; it defeats its own best purpose.

Industrial Relations

The disturbances from which our industries are suffering bring home to all the people, in direct and practical form, the need of thorough readjustment. In part, the present situation is due to the war; but its real causes lie farther back in our industrial history. It is not merely that unwise policies have been adopted, but rather that these have been framed upon wrong principles and baseless assumptions.

It is an error to assume that the issues involved are purely economic. They are, at bottom, moral and religious. Their settlement calls for a clear perception of the obligations which justice and charity impose.

Reorganization

Catholics will do their full share toward the complete restoration of peace. With one mind and heart they will labor for our country's advantage. As their patriotic efforts were united to such good effect through the National Catholic War Council, we have determined, for the ends of peace to maintain the spirit of union and coordination through the National Catholic Welfare Council. Under its direction, our needs and problems in the several fields of education and social reform will be carefully studied. Means will be taken to secure and publish correct information on all matters affecting the Church and Catholic life. The work of our organizations will be developed and directed toward the fuller attainment of Catholic aims.

Foreign Missions

The growth of the Church in our country is due, principally, to missionary labors. We are now enjoying their fruits, and we are deeply concerned that the harvest should increase. But we cannot forget that we owe a duty to the missions in other countries. Freely we have received; let us freely give in return.

Needs Of The Holy See

In the midst of the turmoil of war, the Holy Father gave his thought and energy without reserve to those in every country who are suffering and helpless. With the restoration of peace, he has redoubled his efforts. In our filial devotion he finds comfort and reason to hope for the future. Our assistance at the present time will give him special consolation, owing to the fact that, in so many other countries, his children are no longer able to share with him their scanty needs. Let us, on our part, fulfil their loyal desire. Let it suffice for American Catholics to know that the Holy Father with numberless demands upon him is in need.

The National Shrine

In this regard we cannot refrain from expressing our gratitude to the Holy Father for his unfailing counsel, direction and encouragement, particularly in his recent Letter to the Bishops of the United States, in which he commends most cordially to our Catholic people the happy completion of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at the National Capital, as a noble monument of our love for Mary Immaculate, the Celestial Patroness of the Church in the United States and the glorious Queen of Peace.

We have thus set before you, dearly beloved, the more striking features of our situation, its opportunities and most urgent needs. We have indicated the principles which must shape and

develop our Catholic life in order that we may render effectual service to the Church and to our country.

Let us once more remind you of two essential duties. The first, that you continually offer up prayer and supplication for all men, beseeching the God of Mercies to direct their hearts in the way of peace and concord. The second, that you show forth in your own lives, in your homes, your social intercourse and your dealings with others, the beauty of our Catholic Faith; its power to strengthen the soul in trial, its efficacy for the accomplishment of the duties which charity and justice prescribe.

Doing these things you will advance the Kingdom of God upon earth and give honor to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Given at Washington, September 26, 1919.

In his own name and in the name of the Hierarchy.

JAMES CARDINAL GIBBONS,
Archbishop of Baltimore.

Cardinal Logue Says Change Is Due in Ireland

Not Within Living Memory Have Such Calamitous Conditions Existed, He Asserts in Lenten Pastoral.

BELFAST, Feb. 15.—Cardinal Logue in his Lenten pastoral to the diocese of Armagh says:

"Not within living memory can we find in Ireland such calamitous conditions as exist at present—drastic repression on one side and retaliation on the other—a military regime rivaling in severity even that of countries under the most pitiless autocratic government, vindictive sentences out of all proportion to alleged transgressions, letters cachet or arbitrary arrests more frequent than in prerevolutionary France, deportations such as raised a wild cry of reprobation against Germany when it was in military occupation of Belgium. These and similar acts cannot fail to create exasperation, recklessness, despair and general disorder.

"On the other side there is retaliation, lawlessness and crime such as any man guided by God's law must regret and reprobate. Crime can never aid us in the assertion of our rights. On the contrary, we find it our greatest obstacle. It alienates sympathy, creates prejudice, mars the fair fame of our country, discourages our friends and strengthens the hands of our enemies; and furnishes still greater oppression and tends to justify the wrongs we suffer from.

"However, we may suffer for the present, we may console ourselves by the conviction that this state of things cannot last. It cannot stand in the light of public opinion. Force cannot be a substitute for good government. It has failed more than once, even in the memory of the present generation, involving in its failure the political doom of its advocates.

"If the prediction of General Smuts is not to be verified England shall sooner or later find it to her interest to commit the destinies of this country to some enlightened statesman who will rely more on justice and good government than on political strategy."

Do Not Forget March 1st

For that is a day on which you may register in the Rochester Business Institute for any of our courses or subjects which you wish to take up. Phone: Stone 326; Main 3360.—Adv.

IRISH NEWS IN BRIEF

CONNAUGHT

Rev. M. O'Flaherty, of Roscommon, has been elected representative of Roscommon County Council on the General Body of Galway University.

LEINSTER

Sister M. Thomas, O. S. F., youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Turner, Roslary, died at St. Dominic's Academy, Everett, Washington, aged 21. Most Rev. Dr. Hochstetler laid the foundation stone of the mortuary chapel attached to Michael's Church, County Suir.

Most Rev. Dr. Harty, of Mercy Convent, Templemore, blessed Miss M. Fanning, in religion Sister Brandon, daughter of Mr. T. Fanning, Two Mile Cross.

Rev. J. F. O'Brien, C. S. C., at Rathfarnham Castle, Dublin, deceased was son of the late F. X. O'Brien, M. P., for City, who was sentenced to be hanged, drawn and quartered for his part in the '67 movement.

The death has taken place of Rev. Patrick Kieran, O. S. F., Milltown, Mullingar.

A new Catholic church is being erected at Ballinacree.

Sister Mary Agnes, whose death has recently taken place in the Convent at Drogheda, was a native of County Meath.

MUNSTER

Mr. Dominic Kieran, in Queenstown, is a well-known business man and a member of the city council. He acted at its dissolution.

Rt. Rev. Mgr. O'Connell, meeting of the Convent of A. A. Committee, proposed a vote of congratulation to Prof. Macman on his election as President of University College, Cork. Mr. O'Connell, he said, was a tower of strength to the Gaelic game.

An Annis man, Rev. G. O'Connell, has been ordained in the Diocese of Buffalo, N. Y. He is a brother of Father O'Connell, O. F. M., Killarney, and of Mr. Thomas O'Neill, Limerick.

Rev. Patrick J. Conboy, C. S. C., who died recently at Bride's Home, Sea Road, aged 90, was an Irishman of distinction.

Rt. Rev. Mgr. James P. Conboy, who died at Davonport, S. A., was born at Killarney, Ireland with his parents when years old.

ULSTER

The death has occurred of Gregavanagh, Ballybay, M'Mahon, who was 100 years of age. She was moving about on her feet before her death.

Congratulating the Mayor at Cavan on the occasion of the county, Judge Deane narrowly missed a conviction until three days previously, were no criminal cases.

At the Convent of Maryknollen, the death took place recently of Mother M. O'Beirne in the 74th year of age. She had been a nun for years.

For the first time in the history of Derry now has a representative of Nationalism in the municipal elections. The death took place of Mrs. M. O'Beirne, the great age of 100 years. County Council, Rev. Dr. M. O'Beirne, Alton, from the