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Immodest Dress Is Excoriated By Archbishop Shaw

Prelate Says Indecency of Female Attire Appeals

FRENCH WOMEN ACT

Following Cardinal Amette's Condemnation They Adopt Resolutions

[By N. C. W. C. News Service] Washington, D. C., April 26.—Immodest and unseemly feminine fashions in dress have recently been the subject of censure by Catholic prelates and priests in this country and abroad, and, in consequence, the movement among Catholic women to work a reform in this direction has gained a good deal of impetus. It is expected to gather additional momentum from the drastic action taken by Rev. Father P. Novatus of Phoenix, Arizona, who last Sunday caused notices to be posted at the entrances of St. Mary's Church in that city to warn women wearing low-necked dresses that they were forbidden to enter.

Archbishop J. W. Shaw of New Orleans declared in a recent pastoral letter that "we have seriously debated with ourselves whether we are not bound in conscience to exclude such women (those indecorously clad) from the house of God whose Vicar on earth would not tolerate their presence for a moment."

French Catholic Women Act
Following scathing condemnation of objectionable fashions and questionable dances by Cardinal Amette of Paris, a meeting of the Paris Diocesan Congress unanimously adopted resolutions proposed by Madame la Marquise de Moustiers pledging Catholic women to oppose the evil which the venerable French Archbishop had denounced. The resolutions, copies of which reached Washington this week, urged:

That women's dress, while following the fluctuations of fashion and taste, conform to decency, and

That there be a protest against illustrations in certain advertisements and certain exhibitions in shop windows.

Cardinal Amette is reported to be much gratified at the results which are already apparent and hopeful that the influence of Catholic women will bring even greater improvement.

In many communities of the United States Catholic women's organizations have taken formal action to discourage by word and example the adoption of immodest fashions. In some instances Catholic dressmakers have refused to make immodest garments for their customers. Archbishop Shaw's excoriation of the abuse is the severest that any Catholic prelate in this country has yet uttered. He said:

"While we are neither presumptuous nor foolish enough to discuss colors, forms and fashions, yet we are deeply concerned with the morals of dress in the interest of Christian purity and modesty. The present shocking disregard in modern female attire for the elementary principles of ordinary decency is simply appalling. It is a question whether a licentious woman of the degenerate Roman Empire surpassed

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British Adopt American Catholic Social Platform

[By N. C. W. C. News Service] New York, April 26.—Edward Eyre, chairman of the Catholic Federation of England, arrived here yesterday from London and reports that Catholic social reconstruction work is being taken up with the greatest enthusiasm there.

Eyre, who was here a year ago and took back with him the Catholic Social Platform drawn up by the Rev. Joseph Husslein, S. J., of New York, declares that it has been approved by Cardinal Bourne as a practical contribution towards the solution of British as well as American problems.

The Westminster Federation, the Catholic Social Guild and the Catholic Confederation, by direction of Cardinal Bourne, have adopted Father Husslein's platform as a plan of action.

At a mass meeting held in London on April 9, the platform was made the subject of a lecture by Henry Somerville, secretary of the Catholic Social Guild. The meeting, which was most enthusiastic, directed that the following telegram be sent the author:

"Large public meeting last night, Bishop of Nottingham presiding, passed you cordial vote of thanks for platform."

Mr. Eyre reports that a group of ten workingmen lecturers have started a tour of England explaining and advocating the adoption of the platform.

Justice Stafford a Convert

[By N. C. W. C. News Service] Baltimore, Md., April 26.—Announcement of the reception of Justice Wendel Philip Stafford, of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, into the Catholic Church has been made by Cardinal Gibbons.

Justice Stafford was born in Barre, Vt., in 1861 and has been a justice of the District of Columbia's Supreme Court since 1904, previous to which he was a judge of the Supreme Court of Vermont. He was president of the Vermont Bar Association in 1898 and is the author of several books of both prose and poetry. Included among these are "North Flowers," a book of poems published in 1902; "Voices, a Dramatic Ode," 1915; "The Land We Love," poems, 1916, and "War Poems," 1917.

New York Catholic Knighted

[By N. C. W. C. News Service] New York, April 24.—George J. Gillespie of this city, chairman of the committee of laymen conducting the campaign for enrollment in the Catholic charities of the archdiocese, has been invested with the title of Knights Commander of the Order of the Crown of Belgium by order of King Albert. The decoration was bestowed by Baron E. de Cartier, Belgian Ambassador, and is in recognition of Mr. Gillespie's services as head of the St. Vincent de Paul societies of the United States in raising funds for the poor of northern France and Belgium.

London, April 25.—Ireland's desire to have Lord Granard, a Catholic, as Viceroy will necessitate a special bill, as there is a legal inhibition against the appointment of a Catholic.

Sir Mark Sykes, a Catholic traveler and diplomat, is urging that Great Britain colonize Palestine for the Jews.

Parochial School To Be An Issue In Michigan

Bishop of Grand Rapids Denounces Proposed Amendment

WILL BE FOUGHT

Would Banish God From Society—Similar Bill In New York

[By N. C. W. C. News Service] Washington, D. C., April 26.—Catholics in all parts of the country are watching with intense and anxious interest the efforts of the Wayne County Civic Association, an anti-Catholic organization of Michigan, to win popular support for a proposed amendment to the State constitution requiring the attendance of all children between the ages of 5 and 16 years at public schools. The amendment is to be submitted at the general election next November.

Bishop Kelly's Protest

The recent pastoral letter of Bishop E. D. Kelly, of Grand Rapids, in which this attempt of the bigots is denounced and an appeal made to fair-minded non-Catholics to prevent its success, is being circulated in Michigan. The "Catholic Leaflet" is being published at regular intervals to acquaint Catholic citizens and others with the purpose of the proposed amendment and to mobilize opposition to it. Bishop Kelly is among the conspicuous leaders of the fight, in which he has the support of Bishop Michael J. Gallagher, of Detroit, and the clergy throughout the State.

In addressing both Catholics and non-Catholics of his diocese, Bishop Kelly points out that the success of the proposed amendment would mean the suppression, not only of religious schools and orphanages, but would banish God from society and destroy the Church.

"The passage of the proposed amendment would mean a death warrant to constitutional rights and a travesty on democratic government," Bishop Kelly declares. He says further:

"Here is a wanton assault upon the rights of citizenship. Were the Catholic schools of Michigan, against which the measure is directed, not proven by every standard of education and citizenship; were they failing in the thoroughness of their Americanism; were they lacking in any qualification desired in those institutions which cradle the hopes of America of tomorrow, the amendment would be intelligible on the ground of public policy. But there is no such refuge."

Bishop Kelly challenges the promoters of the amendment to furnish the least proof that the Catholic schools of his diocese or in Michigan at large are not wholly American and at least as efficient as those conducted by the State. He points to the recent successes of the pupils of Catholic schools in the national competition for the best essay on the value of army training; to the record of patriotic service rendered by the parochial schools and their graduates in the war; to the names of men who fought in the great battles of France, and says the enemies of Catholic schools cannot meet the challenge. He concludes:

Playing With Fire
"With all solemnity we warn, not only our people, but the elec-

torate, at large, that the element behind this amendment is playing with fire when it seeks to destroy our Catholic school system. No specious appeal of theirs to the will of the majority can make right that which is inherently wrong.... No majority is empowered to abrogate a Divine law or destroy a natural right.... We make no threat. We make no declaration at the present time other than that to affirm, with all the emphasis possible, that we Catholics as an integral factor in the Commonwealth of Michigan, protest against this unreasoning invasion of our rights, and appeal to our fellow citizens as they value their own liberties to be tolerant of the liberties of their neighbors."

A constitutional amendment also has been introduced in the legislature of New York making elementary education "in public schools compulsory."

In a sub-heading and in one of the first paragraphs of an article which appeared in last week's issue of the N. C. W. C. News Sheet it was erroneously stated that 17,000,000 children were attending the parochial schools of the United States. The correct figure—1,701,213—was given in the last paragraph of the article.

Motion Pictures of Lourdes In London.

[By N. C. W. C. News Service.] London, April 15.—An interesting departure in Catholic propaganda was made this week when a film of a Lourdes pilgrimage, prepared under Catholic auspices and the property of a Catholic, Mr. Martin Melvin, was released for the first time. It is of no ordinary Lourdes pilgrimage, either, but the great pilgrimage of the allied armies in thanksgiving for the close of the war.

The usual scenes of Lourdes, familiar to any pilgrim who has visited that wonderful shrine, are depicted, fresh interest add color being lent to them by the presence of many distinguished soldiers and dignitaries of the Church. The scenes about the Grotto are shown, those at the Baths, the procession of the Blessed Sacrament on the great Esplanade, the torchlight procession at night, the stations of the cross, those magnificent bronze groups up the mountains and the services in the vast Rosary Church. The crowds demonstrate in their complete unconsciousness of pose the extraordinary spirit of faith which fills the atmosphere of this place. Mr. Melvin declares his intention of keeping the film and hiring it out, placing the proceeds to build a permanent hotel at Lourdes for indigent pilgrims.

Mrs. McWhorter Goes to Rome

Chicago, April 26.—Mrs. Mary F. McWhorter of this city, national president of the Ladies' Auxiliaries of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, will sail for Rome on May 12. Mrs. McWhorter has been the leading spirit in the national drive being conducted by the organization to double its membership during 1920, and which is meeting with great success. More than 70,000 members are now enrolled.

Word has been received in London that Cardinal Bourne's condition is much improved. The British Embassy at the Vatican, it has been decided, will be continued.

It is untrue that the Vatican will send a representative to the San Remo conference.

Union Of Nations Is Christian Idea Says Card. Amette

Address Read at Great Meeting in Paris Sorbonne

TWO LAWS OF UNION

Wish Expressed that League Provide a Place for Pope

[By N. C. W. C. News Service]

Paris, April 15.—In the course of a great meeting held a short time ago in the Paris Sorbonne in favor of the Society of Nations and after speeches by Mr. Bourgeois and Mr. Poincare, this important statement of Cardinal Amette was read by the Auxiliary Bishop, Mgr. Roland-Gosselin:

"The inspiration of the Society of Nations is essentially Christian, for the Christian doctrine is that all men are brothers, all created by the same God, and all called by God to the same eternal destiny. Issued from the same Father, men, as they multiplied, formed at first families, then tribes, and lastly nations. But these different groups must not remain strangers and still less hostile to one another.

"In the designs of Providence narrower are the bonds which unite the members of a family or of a nation, but just as families cannot remain isolated, so nations be united. Such union, however, must be founded on two laws: justice and charity. Justice proclaims to the people as well as to the individuals: 'Render to all men their dues.' Charity adds: 'Love one another.' Such are the necessary foundations of a genuine society of nations.

"Let justice first of all reign amongst nations through the respect of every one's rights, and through the reparations of the rights that may have been violated. And once justice has been assured, let charity, let mutual good will bind nation to nation as they bind man to man. On these conditions the world will enjoy peace.

"The Catholic Church, a vast society of nations established by Christ, destined, as its name indicates, to spread all over the world, had sought in the Middle Ages to realize this ideal among the peoples which professed its Faith and obeyed its laws. It was Christendom. Nowadays the world does not enjoy such unity of Faith, yet there remain moral principles unanimously recognized by all civilized peoples. It is a noble and praiseworthy undertaking to aim at founding on these common principles a covenant that may guarantee the peace of the world and preserve it from the frightful conflicts which have soaked it in blood. The Church can but wish heartily the success of this project.

"Since the men working for its realization have called upon me for an expression of my thought in this solemn gathering, may I be permitted to formulate the wish that the future Society of Nations provide a place worthy of Him for the Supreme Representative of the highest moral authority that exists on earth, of that authority which, speaking in God's name, has the greatest power to bring men to the practices of mutual justice and of mutual love."

NEW A. P. A. S. I.

It is Called...

of Washington

[By N. C. W. C. News Service]

New York, April 26.—The Washington Association of Catholics, organized by the A. P. A. S. I. organization, the members of Washington campaign against this State, and extend its propaganda to the States of Virginia and other States.

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