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Starvation Scenes In Austria Decribed by Dr. Peter Guilday

Catholic University Professor First American Priest to Visit the Famine Area--Gratitude to America And Touching Faith of Sufferers

By the REV. PETER GUILDAY, Ph. D., Professor of Church History at the Catholic University

[Written for N.C. W. C. News Service]

Vienna, August 2.—After seeing the battlefields of France, one would imagine he had seen Europe at its worst. By no means! Here, and here of all places in the world, can the real horrors of the war be seen. Ninety-seven per cent of the young girls of fourteen cannot live because of the malnutrition of the past five years. Tuberculosis is rampant among all between fourteen and twenty.

Vienna, outwardly, is not indeed much different from when I last saw it in 1908. But away from the center of the city the sights are beyond belief.

Albert Halstead, chief of the American High Commission to Austria, told me I was the first American priest to come to the city and that he would give me every opportunity of witnessing the distress of the people. Lieutenant Stockton, U. S. A., arranged for the trip.

Praised God For American Aid

The poverty, the horrible poverty, is appalling. In one of the hospitals a whole ward of bedridden women, starved to the bones, raised their gaunt arms to Heaven when the Sister told them I was an American, and praised God that America had proved itself the land of charity. Women crowded around me in the centers where food is distributed and raised their hands with a "Praised be Jesus Christ" for America.

Two questions were uppermost in my mind. I wanted to know how far the distress was a reality, and whether or not we were doing wrong to carry on our charity on such a colossal scale. I wanted to know whether or not the Austrians could do anything for themselves.

That the distress is a reality I have no further doubt. It is in fact almost beyond belief. I watched table after table of little children eating the food and drinking the milk and wearing the clothes furnished by the God-fearing Christians of the United States. It was pointed out to me that it was not merely a question of whether America's charity would continue, but whether it was not already too late. It could not, of course, have come sooner. The war had to end first. But to watch these starved little creatures almost broke my heart.

There are several prominent relief societies at work—the American Mission, with Mr. Halstead at its head, is doing the bulk of it. Write that name Halstead high in the annals of American life—Halstead, the noble, high-spirited American whose every hour is filled with anxiety for these stricken children of the Catholic Church.

The British Relief Work is doing magnificently, especially with the poorer classes. The Friends, or Quakers, have taken over a goodly part of the labor. The Y. M. C. A. is preparing to do its part and to do it, not with proselytism as its motive, but in a disinterested Christian spirit.

But among all the relief workers, the high place must be given to the Caritas Band of Austria. This Catholic relief society existed long before the war. Since the war it has centralized at Vienna all the charitable works of the nation. The ramifications of its works are beyond counting—every possible aspect of Christian life is given its place in the organization.

Row On Row Of Dying Children

I was shown all these different works, and when it is agreed that the relief must continue for two more years if Austria is not to perish it is a great satisfaction to see how splendidly and efficiently all Catholic charitable work is organized here. Money is needed and needed badly. The Superioress of a little band of Sisters of Charity wept this morning as she told me their work was threatened for lack of funds. That work I saw till my heart was sick. Row after row of little beds on which were dying children, slowly wasting away because of the horrors of the past five years. If only an appeal could be made to American Catholics to awaken to the need of these children of the faith!

And all this I write from a city which from 1829 to 1865 gathered a general collection for the Church in the United States! Think of it! Millions of dollars sent by the Leopoldine Association in those years to build our churches, our orphan asylums and our schools.

"Praised be Jesus Christ" they say to you everywhere in the century-old custom of Austria. And it is said with cheerfulness—there is no complaint, no faultfinding. "Praised be Jesus Christ," they say, with death staring them in the face!

Pope Sends Blessing To Women's Suffrage Congress Delegates

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

Geneva, August 11.—Catholics from Austria, France, Great Britain, Holland, Luxembourg, Spain and Serbia were among the delegates to the recent International Women's Suffrage Congress held in this city. Although they were deputed to attend by non-sectarian organizations these women were glad to recognize the common bond of religion and jointly attend mass celebrated at Notre Dame Cathedral at which the Rev. Father Hall, speaking in French, made a plea for the recognition of woman's status and explained the Church's attitude towards her enlarged sphere.

A telegram was sent to the Holy Father, which said: "Catholic women of different countries assembled at Geneva for the International Women's Suffrage Congress offer their devout homage and their sovereign obedience to the Supreme Pontiff and humbly pray his paternal benediction."

His Holiness expressed his gratification at this mark of loyalty and instructed the Apostolic Delegate at Berne to convey his special blessing to each of the signatories.

Church Chimes By Electricity

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

Paris, August 10.—A company has just been formed in Paris for the installation of electric power in the churches to ring the chimes.

Protestants Give Catholics Credit For Charities

Interchurch Report Indicates Catholic Example Worthy of Emulation

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Washington, D. C., August 23. Catholic charities—hospitals, orphanages and homes for the old and the friendless—provoke compliments from the framers of the Interchurch Movement's report recently issued in two volumes. Catholic example in this respect is proposed for emulation by American Protestants, who are shown to have made inadequate provision for their sick, fatherless and needy fellows.

Protestant Hospital Service Inadequate

Protestants have been especially behind-hand in providing for the care of the sick, the report indicates. With a membership of about 25,000,000, the various Protestant denominations have furnished a hospital service for only 43 per cent of their adherents, while the Catholics have institutions with bed capacity not only for the 17,549,324 of the Faith, but also for an additional 6 per cent of the total non-Catholic population of the country. These figures are taken from the Interchurch Movement's report, which illustrates their effect with a graph.

Similar want of provision for sufferers from incurable diseases, such as cancer, tuberculosis and leprosy, is shown. Speaking of this class of institutions, the report says:

"The Roman Catholic and Protestant Episcopal churches, recognizing their responsibility, for which they should be commended, have established several hospitals and homes for incurables in various sections of the country."

After pointing out that these Catholic and Episcopal institutions are insufficient "to meet anything like the great need of incurably suffering humanity," and that the federal and state governments had made no satisfactory plans or efforts to afford relief and care for these thousands, the report declares:

"Protestantism as a whole has done very little to ameliorate the condition of these many hopeless sufferers."

Elsewhere in the report, in presenting arguments in behalf of establishing hospitals under "evangelical" auspices, the authors assert that "one thousand per day are turned away from Protestant church hospitals in the United States."

"There are today some three hundred Protestant homes for the aged to which these homeless unfortunates may retire to spend the remaining days of their lives in comfort," says the report.... "Yet, for every one received into these homes, one is turned away for lack of room." All together, according to the investigators for the Interchurch Movement, the various Protestant denominations maintain 381 hospitals, 288 homes for the aged, and 391 homes for children. They do not give the number of similar Catholic institutions. The membership of these sects is about 25,000,000. The Catholics, with 8,000,000 fewer members than the Protestant churches (counting men, women and children), support a large number of hospitals, orphanges and old people's homes.

Boston Catholic Women Purchase New Club House

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

Boston, August 23.—Members of the League of Catholic Women of the Boston diocese have inaugurated a new era in their activities here with the purchase of a handsome and commodious clubhouse at Beacon and Arlington streets, which will be an educational and recreational center for all Catholic women in this vicinity. The building, which, with the land, will cost approximately $70,000, is a five-story structure and well fitted for the purpose for which it will be used.

Mrs. Frances E. Slattery, president of the League, has announced that lecture courses and instruction in domestic science and dressmaking will be a feature of the winter's activities at the new clubhouse. Monsignor Splaine is spiritual director of the League, in which His Eminence Cardinal O'Connell has displayed great interest, being a frequent attendant at the meetings.

To Issue Catholic School Directory

(By the N. C. W. C. News Service)

Washington, D. C., August 21. Under the direction of its chairman, Archbishop Dowling, the Department of Education is preparing a directory of Catholic schools. This publication will meet an urgent need. It will supply just the information that is so frequently called for by teachers, clergy, and parents. By bringing together in a handy volume the facts concerning Catholic schools and colleges it will present a fairer idea of the Catholic educational system than is now obtainable from any other source. It is designed, in particular, to make known more generally the facilities offered by Catholic schools, so that Catholics in any part of the country may be able to select for their children the institution that is most suitable as regards location and courses of study. It will then provide a ready answer to the numerous inquiries that are made, especially at this season, regarding the best place to send a boy or girl for the best possible education.

Young Men's Union Convention Postponed

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Philadelphia, August 23.—The annual convention of the Catholic Young Men's National Union, scheduled to be held in New York August 28 and 29, has been postponed until October 2, according to an announcement made by President Michael J. Slattery. The postponment was decided upon by the national directors in order that the organization may be in a position to cooperate with the program of the National Catholic Laymen's Council, which will meet in Washington in September.

R. S. I. Fall Term Opening.

The Fall Term of the 57th Day School year in the Rochester Business Institute will open Tuesday, September 7, the day after Labor Day. The Evening School will open Tuesday, September 21. Call, telephone or write for complete information. Rochester Business Institute, 172 Clinton Avenue South. Telephones: Main 3869 and Stone 326.—Adv.

Germans Boycott School In Which Atheist Taught

Catholics of New Republic Find Courage to Insist on Rights

(By N. C. W. C. Service)

Berlin, August 3.—The Catholics of Germany, awakening from the benumbing effects of the war, with its consequent intellectual errors and confusion, have made such tremendous gains in courage and self-confidence that they are taking a more vigorous stand against the persecutions to which, as a minority, they heretofore have been subjected. One of the most striking proofs of this new spirit of open warfare against injustice has been furnished by the Catholic parents of Herne in Westphalia, who, in protest against the inaction of the Government when they complained about an irreligious teacher in the Catholic school, kept their children at home.

While apparently unimportant in itself, the stand taken by the Catholics of Herne is meeting with commendation from their co-religionists throughout the country and even many Protestant communities have organized meetings of sympathy.

The incident is typical of the Catholic mind in Germany today. Full and unfettered freedom of religious convictions and worship is the ideal being sought and many recent events would seem to indicate that this complete freedom, of which the German Catholics have heard so much, but which, because of their inferior numbers, they have never completely realized, is soon to be a fact.

Influence of Center Party

Without the great political and social upheaval, affairs might never have shaped themselves so well for the Catholics of Germany. Everything, it seems, had to be turned topsy-turvy first. The liberal views of the socialistic masses had to pave the way for the religious views of all parties, even those of the Center, to further successfully and legally this complete freedom of conscience and religious worship. And while the Center Party has been sharply criticized for its coalition and cooperation with the socialist majority which existed when the new republic organized its first form of government, there are many who are firmly convinced that without this move by the Center Party there would be no papal nuncio in Berlin today.

Dr. Kleineidam Resigns

Just at the time when the papal nunciature is being erected in Berlin, the Rev. Delegate of the Prince Bishop and Archdeacon of St. Hedwig's, Dr. Kleineidam, has announced his resignation. Dr. Kleineidam is seventy-two years old and has held his office for fifteen years. The administration of the delegation requires a man who combines deep knowledge, ability and vigorous health. While Dr. Kleineidam has the first two requisites, it has been apparent for some time that his health has been failing rapidly and his resignation was not unexpected.

A significant ceremony in Berlin recently was the celebration of the parochial mass in the beautiful church of St. Hedwig by Monsignor Pacelli, the papal nuncio to Germany.

Ray Chapman Is Buried With Catholic R[illegible]

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Cleveland, August 22.—F[illegible] al services held in St. Jo[illegible] thedral for Ray Chapman, [illegible] shortstop of the Cleveland [illegible] ball club, who died at a [illegible] being hit on the head by a p[illegible] ball thrown by Carl Mays, [illegible] New York club, at the [illegible] Grounds last Monday af[illegible] were attended by thousa[illegible] admirers of the young [illegible] The Rev. Dr. William A. [illegible] chancellor of the diocese, p[illegible] the sermon. The burial wa[illegible] have been from St. Philom[illegible] Church, but it was feared [illegible] attendance would be so la[illegible] it not could be accommod[illegible]

Fifteen thousand men, w[illegible] and children of Cleveland [illegible] tributed ten cents each [illegible] "flower from a fan" fund, [illegible] ed by a local newspaper in C[illegible] man's honor. One-third of [illegible] contributions were used for [illegible] floral design and the rest will [illegible] utilized in erecting a suit[illegible] memorial to the player at La[illegible] Park.

Chapman died in St. Lu[illegible] Hospital, New York, [illegible] by the Sisters of Charity, [illegible] morning following the day [illegible] hit. The blow had caused [illegible] pressed fracture in the [illegible] three and a half inches [illegible]

Chapman had been co[illegible] with the Cleveland club [illegible] 1912, had played in more [illegible] 1,000 games and was [illegible] one of the best shortst[illegible] one of the fastest men in [illegible] ball. A Catholic priest, F[illegible] Connor, of Philadelphia, [illegible] the news of his death to the [illegible] er's young wife, formerly [illegible] Catherine Daly, of Cleveland, [illegible] had rushed to New York to be [illegible] with him after hearing of [illegible] accident.

Mrs. Casserly Speaks At Camp Gr[illegible]

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Camp Grant, Ill., August [illegible] Mrs. John B. Casserly, [illegible] Francisco, Director of W[illegible] Relations of the United [illegible] Army, and well-known [illegible] olic circles, was among the [illegible] cipal speakers at the [illegible] and Recreation Special [illegible] conducted by the War De[illegible] ment here. Army officers, [illegible] service instructors, army [illegible] esses, and enlisted men from [illegible] parts of the country are [illegible] ing the courses at the [illegible] which closes this week. The [illegible] Francis P. Joyce and the [illegible] Ignatius Feely, Catholic [illegible] lains, are among those [illegible] ance.

Catholic Society in Vienna Ignatius Apostolic [illegible]

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Vienna, August 2. [illegible] tate religious, Dr. Zah[illegible] been sent to this city [illegible] Czecho-Slovak rep[illegible] the Inter-Allied Commission. With him he [illegible] whom he introduced [illegible] Diplomatic society in [illegible] largely Catholic, he [illegible] couple a very [illegible] cently the Rumanian [illegible] wife of the Rumanian [illegible] Power, who has been [illegible] in Vienna for [illegible] as well as the [illegible] has known [illegible] that M[illegible] is not [illegible] here.