

The Catholic Journal.

32nd Year, No. 3.

Rochester, N. Y., Friday, October 15, 1920

10 Cts.

Michigan To Vote On Anti-Parochial School Proposal

Three Supreme Court Judges Dissented—Minority's View

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Lansing, Mich., Oct. 6.—By order of the Supreme Court of Michigan the proposal to amend the state constitution so as to compel all children between the ages of six and sixteen years of age to attend the public schools will be submitted to the voters at the election on November 2. One justice of the court, in a minority opinion, expressed the belief that submission of the proposed amendment will "precipitate a bitter religious war" in the state.

In the opinion of the majority of the court it was held that the validity of the proposed amendment could not be decided at this time. The only questions before the court, it was held, were whether the amendment could be declared unconstitutional before its adoption as part of the constitution and whether the secretary of state, a ministerial officer, could exercise judicial power to exclude the proposition from the ballot.

Three Judges Dissented
Three of the eight judges dissented. One of these three—Justice George M. Clarke, is a candidate for re-election.

After giving this opinion, Attorney General Groesbeck was nominated for the governorship in the Republican primary, defeating eight candidates, including James Hamilton, author of the proposed amendment. Hamilton received only 18,000 votes in the entire state, and less than 2,000 in Detroit. The Democratic nominee, like Mr. Groesbeck, is also a vigorous opponent of the amendment. Most of the candidates for other state offices have denounced the proposal as a scheme for proscribing private schools.

Lutherans, Adventists and other Protestant persuasions conduct private schools in Michigan and have joined the fight to prevent the adoption of the amendment.

After declaring that if the Secretary of State might decide whether the proposed constitutional amendment is unconstitutional and refuse to submit it, he might exercise the same power in other cases, the court turned to the other question involved, and declared:

"No one knows to any certainty whether if the amendment is submitted to the legal electors, it will receive a sufficient number of votes to carry it. If it does not, no one is harmed. If the proposed amendment should receive a majority of the legal votes cast, there will be time enough to inquire whether any provision of the Federal Constitution is violated. Until that time comes, we must decline to express any opinion on the constitutionality of the proposed amendment."

Judge Fellow's Minority Opinion
Justice Fellows, who wrote the minority opinion, said:

"I cannot bring myself to feel that this court should by a discretionary writ of mandamus, compel the Secretary of State to submit this amendment to the people, thus precipitating a bitter religious war in this commonwealth, in which neighbor will be arrayed against neighbor, church against church, Protestant against Catholic, yes, Protestant against Protestant and where the net result can be but a nullity. The writ should be denied."

"By the fourteenth amendment to the Federal Constitution," Justice Fellows continued, "the states of the Union did not surrender their police powers, but in my judgment this proposed amendment is beyond the police powers thus reserved."

The amendment would "take from the parent the privilege of educating his children in parochial or private school," Justice Fellows declared. "Indeed, it takes from him the right to exercise any control over the education of his own offspring and gives such right to the state," Justice Fellows added. At the same time, he said, it would deprive denominations and corporations of the right to use for educational purposes property worth more than \$70,000,000.

Opponents of the measure—Protestants, as well as Catholics—are confident that even if it should carry at the election—which is deemed very unlikely—the courts will hold it unconstitutional and invalid.

English Catholics Publicly Pray For Ireland

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
London, September 21.—As a public act of intercession for Ireland, English and Irish Catholics took part in a public procession last Sunday, through the streets of London in honour of the Blessed Oliver Plunket.

The procession started out from the great Church of St. Patrick in Soho Square, and accompanied by banners and the emblems of various confraternities, the processionists took their way to Tyburn, to the actual spot where the Irish Primate suffered martyrdom for the Faith. On its way to Tyburn the procession passed the Church of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, where the remains of the Martyr were first buried.

Chanting hymns and reciting the rosary, thousands of the faithful, bearing in their midst the Sacred Relics of Blessed Oliver Plunket, passed over the very route along which the Martyr was borne to his death. Large numbers of people along the route viewed the solemn pageant of prayer and intercession for Ireland in respectful silence. There were some who viewed without sympathy, and many more who gazed on the praying marchers without any understanding. Nevertheless, the spectacle of this multitude praying devoutly for Ireland, and forming, as it were, a bodyguard about the Relics of the martyred Irish Primate who suffered death for the Faith almost in the heart of London, created a profound impression.

Although many Irish Catholics took part in the procession, it was organized by the English Guild of Our Lady of Ransom, which was founded for the conversion of England.

The spot where Blessed Oliver Plunket met his death is now marked by a brass tablet placed in the middle of the road, at the junction of Oxford Street and Edgeware Road, and a few yards from where the convent of the Tyburn nuns now stands. The brass tablet is in the form of a triangle, which was the shape of the Tyburn gallows, and bears the inscription "Here stood Tyburn Tree, removed 1750."

English Catholic Schools Successful
(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
London, Sept. 21.—English Catholic schools have made a remarkable showing in the recent examinations in the Universities.

Site For K. Of C. Memorial Sought From Congress

Bill To Be Introduced At Opening Session—Legion Favorable

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Washington, D. C., Oct. 11.—One of the first measures to be proposed at the forthcoming session of Congress probably will be a bill to provide a site for the erection of the memorial building in Washington for which the Knights of Columbus have offered a fund of \$5,000,000 to the American Legion.

Kenneth A. McRae, chairman of the National Memorial Committee of the Legion expressed the opinion that this will be done and there is little doubt that Congress will comply with the request of the Legion. Resolutions calling upon Congress to donate the site have been passed by three Washington posts of the Legion and their action is merely a reflection of the sentiment and action of posts throughout the country.

Board of Trade Commends
In addition to this evidence of the Legion's approval, the proposal of the Knights has received warm commendation from the Board of Trade of Washington. This body has adopted resolutions expressing the "keen appreciation of our organization of the noble spirit of unselfish patriotism which sponsored this generous action."

The most desirable site for the structure, on the Mall, not far from the Capitol, already has been donated by Congress to the George Washington Memorial Association, which has for several years been raising funds for a memorial building of the same character as that proposed for the American Legion. After the war the purpose of this organization was changed and it was proposed to erect the building as a war memorial. Inasmuch as the American Legion building is to serve the same end it is possible that the George Washington Memorial Association might give way to the Legion. In any case it is not doubted that Congress will provide the necessary site and it is a forgone conclusion that the Legion will accept the offer of the Knights of Columbus.

It is the hope of D. J. Callahan, of Washington, supreme treasurer of the Knights of Columbus, and others on the K. of C. committee that the site selected will be on the Mall between the Pan-American building and the Lincoln Memorial, facing south to Arlington cemetery on the opposite bank of the Potomac, where the remains of thousands of soldiers of all American wars are buried and where the Government has erected a beautiful edifice dedicated to the country's warriors.

Bishop of Amiens Promises Monument To Canadian Heroes

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Amiens, Sept. 30.—In a letter addressed to the rector of Miramont in regard to the graves of Canadians at Courcellette, Mgr. de la Villere, Bishop of Amiens, announces his intention to raise on the Courcellette territory, a monument in memory of the Canadian heroes. This monument is to be erected with the assistance of the "Catholic Committee of French Amities," which is under the direction of Mgr. Bua-

France Restoring Religious Property Seized By Nation

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Paris, Sept. 30.—Return of ecclesiastical properties seized and held by the Government under the "law of separation" indicates the better condition in which the Church in France finds itself since the war. Numerous instances of this policy of restitution by the civil authorities have been recorded in the last several months.

It is announced in the *Oran Religious Weekly* that the episcopal residence of the town has been restored to the present Bishop. In the town of Aire, the municipal council, to which had been given the Bishop's palace and the little seminary, has unanimously offered to turn these back to the Bishop.

The general council of the Morbihan has authorized the sale of the little seminary of St. Anne d'Auray so that eventually it may be purchased by the Bishop. Cardinal Dubois recently made known through the *Religious Weekly* that he was to resume his residence in the former Bishop's palace at Rouen, and added that the civil authorities afforded him every facility to occupy it.

Priests Organize a Co-operative Company

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Paris, Sept. 30.—Under the patronage of Mgr. Guibert, Bishop of Frejus and Toulon, an ecclesiastical cooperative organization has been started in the diocese under the name of the Sacerdotal Union. The object of this organization is to supply the clergy with all necessary clothes and garments at a reduced cost of 50 per cent. This organization has its main office in the Convent of Ste. Marthe.

New Bishop of Lithuania

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Berlin, Sept. 30.—Catholics of Lithuania are still celebrating the recent installation of the first national Lithuanian Catholic Bishop, Monsignor Pringovic. The Government was represented at the ceremony by M. Bergs, the Catholic minister of the interior, and some 60,000 people were thronged in and around the monastery of Aglona, where the installation took place. Monsignor Swiezkas read to these people, outside the monastery, the Papal Bull of the preconization of the new Bishop.

The Blessing of the Sea

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Paris, Sept. 30.—A moving and picturesque ceremony was witnessed a few days ago at Port-en-Bessin when the Bishop of Bayeux, who had come to visit the fishermen, taking up again an old by-gone tradition, wearing his full pontifical garments, got into a boat and sailed up and down the coast to bless the sea.

Bishops Sail For Rome

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
New York, Oct. 11.—Right Rev. Bishops Peter J. Muldoon, of Rockford, Patrick R. Heffron, of Winona, and Joseph F. Busch, of St. Cloud, sailed this week on the Patria for Naples, en route to make their ad limina visits to Rome.

Indianapolis—Hal Reid, the Catholic scenario writer, is author of the gripping motion picture, "For the Freedom of Ireland".

Italian Elections Are Important To The Church

Religious Instruction In Schools An Issue— Popular Party Isolated

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Rome, Sept. 20.—The Provincial and Communal Elections are approaching. The latter are enormously important for Catholics because Town Councils control many things in the life of the country, of which religious instruction in the schools is, perhaps, the most important, which go beyond the sphere of politics. The rights of Catholics as such, of religion, it may even be said of the Holy See itself, are affected by action that may be taken.

The Popular Party has defined its course of action in these elections as "intransigence": it will have its own candidates and will have no alliance with other Parties. But that policy was formulated when it seemed certain that the elections would be carried out on the system of proportional representation, always supported by the Popular Party, introduced, indeed, through their efforts into the parliamentary elections, and through which they attained their numerical success—that this system also would obtain in the communal elections.

Unfortunately, the Party got a bad set-down. All other Parties combined with the Socialists—scandalous political conduct, considering what the Socialists are, but there it is—to defeat the Populars, and the communal elections will be carried out next month on the old unsatisfactory "majority" system, the result of which is reckoned to be that the Socialists will have large success, Liberals also considerable success and Populars no success at all. It is hoped that things will not turn out quite so catastrophically as that, but it is a fact that the Socialists are bound to succeed largely, especially after the propaganda of the recent agitation in the industrial world, and that the Liberals have organized a huge campaign through the newspapers who are as a matter of fact managing the whole business, practically every Roman newspaper except the Catholic *Corriere d'Italia* being in it, to fight Socialists and Populars. They cannot kill the former, but it looks as if the latter would be left in the cart.

Popular Party Isolated

Now elections are necessarily in the hands of the new Party. It had a great numerical success at the Parliamentary elections through proportional representation. In the communal elections it has arrayed against it all the other Parties that there are, who all hate it. It is early to criticize, but it is regrettable that things have so worked out that it has raised opposition on all sides, because its programme was undoubtedly sound and useful and it had indeed done useful things.

Full returns on the Italian elections will not be obtainable until November, but results of the voting in 1011 communes already are available. They show Constitutionalists of varying shade were successful in 478 communes, chiefly in Southern Italy. The Popular Party obtained a majority in 237. The Socialists again have captured Florence, places including Venice, Padua and Verona, Bologna, Pisa, Ravenna, and Parma.

FRENCH WINNERS OF SCHOLARSHIPS IN U. S. CONVENTS

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Washington, D. C., Oct. 11.—Nearly a score of Catholic girls from France who will continue their studies in different convents in the United States have arrived here chaperoned by Miss Finn, one of the members of the commission of the International Institute of Education who went abroad last summer for the purpose of conducting examinations for the sixty French students who are to take honor courses in this country. In addition to Miss Finn, the commission included Dr. Jessica B. Peixotto of the department of social economics of the University of California and Miss Virginia Newcomb.

Coincident with the arrival of Miss Finn in Washington, the departure was announced of Miss Hester Curtis and Miss Alexandra Abernethy of Trinity College, who have won scholarships awarded by the International Institute for American girls desirous of continuing their studies in France. Miss Curtis, who was awarded a French government scholarship, will be given the privilege of taking courses at the Sorbonne.

Notable among the arrivals here are the Miles' Marie Bellard and Octavie Arnaud, who are graduates of the celebrated school of St. Denis, near Paris, the students of which are all daughters of officers who have won the decoration of the Legion of Honor. They will take courses at Trinity College in Washington. Mile. Charlotte Neveu has also been designated as a Trinity student.

Eleven American convents will extend their hospitality to the visitors, three of whom will go as far as California.

Canada Catholic Church Cannot Be Sued For Taxes

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Victoria, B. C., Oct. 9.—Action instituted by the Right Rev. Alexander Macdonald, Bishop of Victoria, has resulted in a decision that Victoria cannot seize and sell for taxes St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Cathedral. The decision, given by the District Court of Appeal, is the result of long litigation and is held by legal authorities to definitely fix the principle that Canadian churches cannot be sold for taxes and that taxes cannot be levied on them. The action was instituted by the Bishop when the Treasurer of Victoria attempted to seize and sell the cathedral, because the taxes, not paid since 1913, amounted to \$16,000. Only one member of the Court of Appeal, Justice Macdonald, dissented from the opinion.

PRIEST SCIENTIST

AWARDED GOLD MEDAL

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Paris, Sept. 20.—The Archaeological Society of Southern France has awarded the "Jeton d'Or" (gold medal), the highest reward which their power to the learned archaeologist, Fr. Breuil, a Sorbonne, who was lately appointed doctor honoris causa by the University of Cambridge. The medal was bestowed on Mr. Emile Cartellier, secretary of the institute, in the name of an excursion to the Pyrenees, where the professor of human sciences, was engaged in the discovery of the