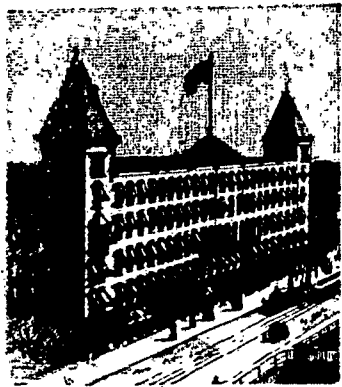


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The new Department of Social Action, which is the leading organization of the National Catholic Welfare Council in English on our Council is starting now on its important economic system, treated from the United States met in Washington, they besides "Alleged Socialism of the formed a permanent organization, in Church Fathers," a refutation of the der the immediate administration of a accusation that the early Fathers of committee of the Hierarchy, to fur the Church believe in common owner- ther the religious, educational and so- hip and a recent book entitled "The rial well being of Catholics in the Church and Socialism and Other Es- United States. The work of this per-says." The columns, of our Catholi- ment organization, which is called magazines frequently publish articles the National Catholic Welfare Council, of his on economic questions, and he is divided into several departments. is in demand on the lecture platform. One of these departments, all of which His advice and assistance were of great are under the control and direction of value in the work of the National Cath- the Hierarchy, is the Department of the War Council. Doctor Ryan is the Social Action.

leading Catholic economist in, the En- Rt. Rev. Peter J. Muldoon, Bishop of glish speaking world and rivals those Rockford, Illinois, a member of the ad-on the Continent of Europe. The De- ministrative committee of the National partment of Social Action is assured of Catholic Welfare Council, was chosen success under his leadership. chairman of the Department of Social Leaders of Catholic thought and ac- Action. Bishop Muldoon is also action, engaged in the work coming under member of the administrative commit- the scope of this department, have as- tee of the National Catholic Welfare sured their hearty co-operation. The Council and was one of the signers of Catholic Press has promised its sup- the famous Bishops' Program of Re- port and help. The Department of St- construction. When he set about or- cial Action should therefore open a new izing the Department of Social Ac- era of Catholic Action in the fields of tion, he called a meeting of a number citizenship, social and industrial rela- of eminent Catholic clergymen and lay tions. Work that has been isolated be- men engaged in the work that would fore will be coordinated, and every ef- come under such a board. At the meet- ective method will be used to stimu- ling the plans for the department were ate further work and study by Cath- olics. The members of the executive liea, committee of the Department of Social. The work of such a department cov- ers a broad field—so broad that only

ers a broad field—so broad that only Rt. Rev. Mgr. Splaine, Boston, Mas part of it can be covered immediately. sachusetts; Rev. William J. Kerby, D. But as speedily as possible the work of D. Professor of Sociology at the Catho the department will be extended to the he University, Washington, D. C.; Rev. many different questions, embraced by Frederick Seidenberg, S. J., dean of the works, "Social Action." For the the School of Sociology of Loyola Uni present the chief work of the depart- versity, Chicago, Ill.; Rev. William Ament will be confined to the promotion Bolger C. S. C., professor of economics, of better citizenship, to industrial re- Notre Dame, Ind.; Rev. Edwin V. lations and charitable organizations. O'Hara, L. L. D., former chairman of Reliable information will be gathered the Oregon Minimum Wage Commis together, and the department will serve son, Portland, Oregon; Charles P. a clearing house for the distribution Neill, Ph. D., director of the Bureau of of the best Catholic study on these mat- Information of the Southeastern Rail ters. It will try to stimulate further ways; James E. Haggerty, dean of the and better work in these fields. It School of Commerce and head of the will supply information in response to Department of Economics and Social- personal letters, and through the col- ege in Ohio State University, Colum- mous of the Catholic press and the lec- tures, Ohio; Frederick Kunkel, editor of the platform. "America," St. Louis, Mo.; and Geo. Arrangements are being made to offer J. Gillespie, New York City, president t, Catholic colleges and seminaries, free of the Supreme Council of the St. Vin of cost, a course of lectures by eminent cent de Paul Society of the United Catholic clergymen and laymen. The States. lectures will deal with some of the

important matters that come under the committee will direct the work of the work of the department. They will be Department of Social Action, but im- given during the coming months. mediate charge of it is given to John The Department of Social Action is A. Lapp, L. L. D., and John A. Ryan, prepared also to give, upon request, in- formation and advice to diocesan char- itable organizations. Recently the Na- tional Catholic War Council, at the field of citizen ship and social and in- request of the archbishop of New York

industrial relations. Both Doctor Lapp and Pittsburgh, made surveys of the and Father Ryan have had long experi- diocesan charities in New York and ence with these matters. Both stand Pittsburgh to see what improvements among the leading thinkers and writers, could be made in the works of charity Catholics and non Catholics alike, who; these dioceses. The department will be dealing with these subjects. Their be able to give advice and assistance ability and long experience, assisted based on the New York and Pittsburgh by the direction of the chairman of the studies, to diocesan authorities, who department, Bishop Muldoon, and aid-wish to make surveys of their charit- ed by the co-operation of the executive able institutions, committee and many Catholic clergy. The department will also furnish to men and laymen who are engaged in the Catholic Press information about this work, will make the Department the industrial facts and movements of of Social Action a success. the day. The encyclicals of the Popes,

Doctor Lapp was awarded the degree the great, letter of Pope Leo on the of L. L. D. from Alfred University for "Condition of Labor," and the Bish- distinguished work in civics. He has op's Program on Reconstruction will written a study in civics entitled "Our also be explained and commented upon, America." He is also the compiler of The Department of Social Action will "Important Federal Laws" and "Eol try to acquaint everyone with the ser- al Rules and Regulations." In 1914 cial teaching of the Catholic Church, he was appointed by President Wilson Information about the process of Na- a member of the Federal Board of Vo tionalization, and lessons in citizen- educational Education. For nine years ship will be sent out, especially to the Doctor Lapp occupied the position of foreign language Press, to the end that director of the Legislative Information all Catholics will enjoy the benefits of Bureau at the Indiana State Capitol, citizenship and fulfill its duties.

and was director of the Ohio State Authoritative Catholic documents on Board of Social Insurance for two citizenship, labor problems and social years. Recently he directed the survey service will be gathered into separate of Catholic charities for the New York volumes to make them available for Atchafalaya, a report of which will convenient and ready use. Social study soon be made public. He had charge clubs will be encouraged and advised of the citizenship campaign carried on by the department in order that Catho- by the National Catholic Welfare Coun lie action for the good of society may d. Doctor Lapp is also the editor of or carried on more intelligently, mor- "Modern Medicine," a monthly jour nately, and by more people, of industrial and public health. His An organization to do this work has knowledge of these questions and his long been needed. Its coming how at long experience assure the success and his opportune time makes it especially value of the work of the Department of valuable. The Social message of the Social Action. The National Catholic Catholic Church is Christ's message, Welfare Council is fortunate in obtain- But in the application of its truths to ing his services. the changing conditions of modern life.

Father Ryan's name as the other di- exact information is demanded. The rector is sufficient to endorse the De- Department of Social Action will try artment. He has long been prominent to make known the social doctrine of as a student, writer and interpreter of the Catholic Church, and, in addition, the Catholic viewpoint in economic and will compile and distribute the infor- mation. His first book, "A Livingmation necessary for the application Wage," which has recently been re- of those teachings. To obtain such a used, has been the standard work in result, the department asks the coop- eration of all.

more than any other, is due the move- The Department of Social Action les- ment in this country for a legal mini its offices at 1312 Massachusetts Ave, num wage for women. Doctor Ryan N. W., Washington, D. C. It is at the taught Moral Theology in St. Paul's service of the Bishops, the priests and Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., for many the Catholic organizations in the years) and is now professor of Moral United States. Theology in the Catholic University In 1914, he debated socialism with Morris Hilquit, the leading New York Socialist, in the columns of "Every- body's Magazine." Since then the de- bate has been published in book form y MacMillan under the title, "Social- ism—Promise or Menace." MacMillan has also published his work on "Dis-

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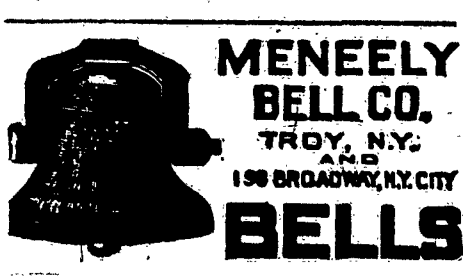
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