

The Catholic Journal.

L 32nd Year, No. 7

Rochester, N. Y. Friday, November 12, 1920.

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Michigan Defeats Amendment Against Parochial Schools

Campaign of Bigotry Ends In Vindication of Catholic Rights

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

Detroit, Mich., Nov. 4.—With the cooperation of Protestant voters, the Catholic electors of Michigan overwhelmingly defeated the proposed state constitutional amendment which would practically have abolished parochial and private schools of primary grades. Although the returns are yet incomplete, it is apparent that the majority against the pernicious measure was nearly two to one.

The victory came only after many months of the most heroic exertions on the part of the Catholics, who had to combat all the forces of bigotry in Michigan and their supporters in other states.

The issue absorbed both the thoughts and activities of the entire electorate. Tens of thousands of voters subordinated their concern for the outcome of the presidential election to their interest in the overthrow of the plotters against their civil and religious liberties. Their only prayer was that the Catholic schools and Catholic religious training should be safeguarded. Overwhelmingly Defeated in Detroit

The amendment met a crushing defeat in metropolitan Detroit, the home of its author and chief promoters. In Marquette and other sections of the Upper Peninsula, it was correspondingly overwhelmed. Members of the Holland Reformed Church, constituting 40 per cent of the population of Grand Rapids, rallied with their Catholic fellow-citizens to save their own schools from abolition.

A favorable vote was obtained in nearly every community in which there was a Catholic Church or school. In a few Orange localities bigotry was the issue. In places where there were no Catholics the amendment was not considered on its merits, but became a provocative of religious prejudice.

The owners of the Menace-Nations and Parker—had spread their slanders in such communities and influenced many. Copies of the spurious "Knights of Columbus oath" were circulated by thousands, as were also caricatures and similar propaganda.

Eleventh Hour Criminal Strategem

The night before the election, under cover of black darkness, the champions of "patriotic education" stealthily spread thousands of handbills urging Catholics to organize against all secret societies—intending by this criminal strategem to inflame non-Catholics against the Catholics.

The intellectual classes and the leaders in every walk of life, including the editors of the newspapers, stood firmly against the un-American amendment. If religious animosities had not been fomented, the righteousness of the Catholic schools on moral and constitutional grounds would have achieved a greater victory. Earnest prayers of the thousands of little children, masses, expiations of the Blessed Sacrament, fervent triduum and extraordinary devotions of the people were exhorted by the Bishops of the several dioceses to obtain

Divine assistance in preserving the inalienable rights of Catholics against the fanatical onslaught.

An example of the methods adopted by the proponents of the vicious amendment is furnished in their attempt to introduce Gilbert O. Nations, one of the proprietors of the Menace, to an audience in Grand Rapids as a "former judge of the United States Supreme Court". Nations hails from a little town in the Ozark Mountains of Missouri. He was once a probate judge there, but never was a federal judge. He is now in Washington as a lobbyist.

Catholic Bishops Praise Michigan's American Spirit

Detroit, November 3, N. C. W. C. News Service, Washington, D. C.

The two-to-one victory for liberty of education in Michigan crowns with triumph the untiring efforts of our Catholic forces during the past six months. Transforming odds of three to one against, into two to one for, tells the greatness of the task and the magnitude of the victory. The result shows that the heart of Michigan is sound and still beats true to the principles of American liberty and revolts at religious persecution. The highest honor is due to the fair-minded non-Catholic leaders of every profession, who by voice and pen blazed the way for hundreds of thousands of their fellow-citizens.

BISHOP GALLAGHER.

Grand Rapids, November 3, N. C. W. C. News Service, Washington, D. C.

The electorate of Michigan declared two to one at the polls yesterday that the anti-religious school amendment should not become a part of our constitution because it was unpatriotic and un-American. Religious liberty and freedom of conscience still flourish in this Commonwealth.

BISHOP KELLY

St. Louis University Receives a Second Gift of \$50,000

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

St. Louis, Nov. 8.—Julius S. Walsh, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Mississippi Valley Trust Company, has contributed \$50,000 to the centennial endowment fund of St. Louis University, thereby bringing the total contributions to nearly \$1,000,000, according to an announcement made by the committee in charge. Mr. Walsh graduated from St. Louis University in 1864, and his sons are also included among the alumni. The campaign, which is for \$3,000,000, has been in progress since June, but no intensive solicitation of funds has as yet been undertaken. It is planned to start an intensive effort in business and industries this month. Mr. Walsh's contribution is the second of \$50,000 made to the endowment fund, a gift of a similar amount having recently been made by Edward R. Stettinius.

Pelletier Made Knight

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

Boston, November 8.—Joseph A. Pelletier, Supreme Advocate of the Knights of Columbus and district attorney of Boston, has been designated by Pope Benedict a Commander of the Order of St. Gregory the Great, bringing the number of the members of that organization who have been thus honored up to nine.

"The Exile of Erin" Authorship Disputed

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

Dublin, Oct. 30.—The authorship of the song, "Exile of Erin," has been a subject of controversy for many a year. Our school asserts that Thomas Campbell was the author, another is equally emphatic in maintaining that George Vincent Reynolds, a West of Ireland landowner, who died in 1802, was the writer of the famous ballad. Today the cudgels have been taken up by two eminent Catholic authorities. Dr. W. H. Grattan Flood, the musician and writer, insists that the Campbell authorship is beyond all doubt. In his opinion, Reynolds' claim to "The Exile of Erin" has been sufficiently disproved by M. J. Barry, in the second edition of his "Songs of Ireland," in 1846.

Rev. P. A. Walsh, C. M., St. Phibsborough, Dublin, has entered the list of the other side. He states unhesitatingly that any unbiased man, reading the arguments, pro and con, will declare Campbell's claim to the authorship of the "Exile" to be that of a barefaced plagiarist. He reminds Dr. Grattan Flood that the first edition of M. J. Barry's "Songs of Ireland" triumphantly establishes the claim of Reynolds to the authorship of the "Exile." Father Walsh is about to issue his second series of "Songs of the Gael," and in the new work he intends to set forth the arguments to show that Reynolds, the Irish patriot and poet, and not Campbell, wrote the "Exile."

Georgetown Has Record Registration In Its Law School

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

Washington, D. C., Nov. 8.—With an enrollment of 1,079, the law school of Georgetown University now has the largest registration of any law school in America and one that breaks all previous records, according to an announcement made by Hugh J. Fegan, assistant to the dean, in connection with plans for the celebration of the golden jubilee of that institution on December 4. Dean George E. Hamilton, has sent out invitations to 4,877 Georgetown graduates in every state in the Union to participate in the anniversary ceremonies. Many honorary degrees will be conferred on graduates. The committee in charge of the jubilee celebration includes the Rev. John B. Greedon, S. J., religious exercises; George E. Hamilton, academic ceremonies; James S. Easby Smith, reception; G. Conrad Reid, football. Hundreds of men prominent in public life will attend the ceremonies.

Apostolic Delegate Views Pictures Taken at Vatican

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

Washington, D. C., Nov. 4.—Archbishop John Bonzano, Apostolic Delegate, attended an exhibition of moving pictures at St. Rose's Industrial School, in Washington, and saw the cinemas of Pope Benedict for which the Holy Father posed during the recent visit of the Knights of Columbus to Rome. The pictures included also scenes at the principal points along the route of the pilgrimage of the Knights from Metz to the Eternal City.

Holy Sepulcher Monk Guardians Are Virtually Prisoners of the Turks

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

Washington, D. C., Nov. 5.—Though Christian armies conquered Jerusalem and forced the Sultan's troops to an unconditional surrender, and though a Christian commander upon entering the Holy City became trustee and protector of the Sacred Places of Christianity, the Holy Sepulchre, for the recovery of which the Christian world has made so many sacrifices and endured so many hardships, is still in control of the Turk.

The keys of the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre have been returned to the followers of Mohammed—to the conquered—and those who rightly own this great church that marks the Saviour's tomb, the Sons of St. Francis, are virtually prisoners within its walls. This is the astonishing information that comes to Washington from the Holy Land.

Monks Pay Tribute to Turks

Whenever the Franciscans wish to have the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre opened, they are compelled to pay a tribute to the Turks, to whom the Christian deliverer has entrusted the keys. This tribute consists of money or of sugar, coffee, coal or other commodities. The Basilica is locked twice daily—at noon and in the evening. Sometimes the intervals of closing are quite long, and on such occasions nourishment is passed in to the Monks through a small opening in the main door of the Basilica.

The conditions under which the Franciscans have been obliged to live while fulfilling their sacred trust to Christianity for seven hundred years (under Turkish domination) baffles description. Their quarters are of the foulest, with never a ray of sunlight, while in the winter months their couches are often drenched with rain. Life in a prison could hardly be worse.

If the Friars go in pilgrimage to the Cenacle they must pray standing, because the Turks in charge forbid Christians to kneel, though Mohammedans themselves kneel when at prayer. Yet the Cenacle, by every test of justice and law, belongs to the Franciscans.

Italy Honors Archbishop Hayes

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

New York, November 8.—The Order of the Crown of Italy has been conferred upon His Grace, the Most Rev. Patrick J. Hayes, of New York, in recognition of his services in behalf of Italians during the war. The decoration, which is conferred by the Italian Government, was presented at an informal ceremony in Archbishop Hayes' home, 452 Madison avenue, by Signor Ubaldo Rochira, acting Italian Consul General of New York, in the presence of a small group of priests and laymen.

Senlis Eucharistic Congress

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

Paris, Oct. 30.—A magnificent procession closed the diocesan eucharistic congress of Senlis. Splendid triumphal arches had been erected in numerous parts of the little town which, unfortunately, was partly destroyed by a fire started in 1914 by the German troops. More than 1,000 choir boys together with 500 priests led the procession.

French Cardinals Ask Support For Government Loan

Policy of New Government, They Say, Justifies Catholic Backing

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

Paris, Oct. 25.—Six French Cardinals have appealed to the people of France to support the new loan arranged by the Government for the reconstruction of the devastated regions and the reduction of the present harmful inflation. This act of patriotism on the part of the Princes of the Church in France bespeaks their confidence in the Government, and will give impetus to the proposal that France restore to the clergy at least some of the property of which they were deprived under the Law of Separation.

The Cardinal's Appeal

After rehearsing the charges made by the enemies of France that her people were "divided, weakened by indolence, and incapable of resistance" during the war, and that they were even now unable to "raise their country from its ruins," and recounting the proofs that these statements were untrue, the Cardinals proceed:

"We see now at the helm of the State men whose policy has, for the last eight months, received the constant approval of the two Chambers and of the whole country. They have accepted the laborious and thankless task of paying our war debts and of rebuilding our fortunes. It is the duty of all citizens to help them and to procure for them the funds indispensable for the accomplishment of their noble mission."

All this gives new point to the letter of a French priest who, writing in the Journal de Geneve, declared that Germany's disposition to restore property confiscated from churches has induced a prominent group of the Deputies of the Left in the French Chamber to give their promises of support to an attempt on the part of their Catholic colleagues to further a bill for the compensation of the French clergy for some of their losses under the Law of Separation.

Among the Deputies who are mentioned in this connection is M. Barthou. He is credited with having stated that such a restitution would be an act of justice and reparation which would be an honor to the Chamber and not by any means without precedent. If the Republic could see its way to restoring the property of the Orleans family, it is difficult to understand what is to prevent this example from being followed in regard to the Church in France, especially on the morrow of a war in which she admittedly showed herself one of the great factors that brought victory.

There are still signs of a rabid anticlericalism, especially among some of the older officials. Here and there some of them condemn the favorable terms in which the Government is dealing with the clergy in the matter of ecclesiastical property. This explains the protest of the Bishop of Vannes against the refusal, by a majority of one or two votes in the General Council, of his application for the return of the property of the Petit Seminaire. On the other hand, the Prefect of Grenoble, who had incited several communes of his department to increase to a prohibitive rate the

rental of the parochial houses for the clergy, has been removed from his post.

Mexico Defends Faith

Catholics Aroused By Work of Proselytizers Spreading Propaganda

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

Washington, D. C., Nov. 8.—The national crusade in defense of Catholicity, recently inaugurated in Mexico, is already having far-reaching effect among the Catholics of that country, according to advices received here.

Aroused by the boasts of small armies of proselytizers who have been conducting a vigorous and unscrupulous propaganda movement for the past few years in an effort to wean the Mexicans away from the true faith, there has sprung up a religious revival that promises not only to defeat the efforts of the proselytizers, but which is bringing many fallen-away Catholics back to the fold.

The Crusade, organ of the movement, in its first number, published last month, has outlined succinctly the aims of the Mexican Catholics who are rallying to preserve their religion. They are fourfold: (1) To defend Catholicity against the attacks of Protestantism, Socialism and Masonry; (2) to affirm and fortify the adhesion of Mexicans to Catholicity; (3) to propagate the faith among those who do not profess it, and (4) to foster the Christian life among individuals, families and societies.

The teaching of Christian doctrine, the creation and support of Catholic schools, the diffusion of Catholic periodicals and the fostering of missions, sermons and Eucharistic League are the means which the defenders of the faith have banded together to utilize in their struggle.

It is pointed out by the organ of the crusade that, one hundred Protestant schools are now functioning in the City of Mexico and that Protestant churches, spiritualistic assemblies, theosophic centers and even schools for children are being opened daily by the opponents of the faith. On the other hand, the Catholic clergy has practically been decimated by the revolution and by the recent series of epidemics. This leaves the work largely in the hands of the lay apostolate.

Already substantial progress has been made by the crusaders. Thirteen schools, including five night schools for workers have been established in a short time and twenty-one catechism centers have been inaugurated. Thirty thousand booklets on Christian Doctrine have been distributed and forty-five thousand pages of Catholic literature. Conferences have been given in penitentiaries, in schools of correction, and before social organizations.

In order to carry out the work more expeditiously the federal district has been divided into thirty-two sections, fourteen in the City of Mexico and eighteen outside the city, each of which will be in charge of a delegation. Seventeen of these delegations have started work already and three others are in the process of formation.

Added to the positive and insidious propaganda of the Protestants, Theosophists, Seventh Day Adventists, and free-thinkers, the crusade is combating local superstitions, immodest theatricals and indecent public spectacles.

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