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Holy See Warns Silesian Priests On Plebiscite

Threatened With Penalties If They Indulge In Propaganda

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Berlin, January 10.—Catholic priests of Upper Silesia have been forbidden by the Holy See to take any part in the propaganda in connection with the forthcoming plebiscite which is to determine whether this territory is to remain German or become Polish. Penalties are threatened in the case of any priest who disobeys the Holy See's warning.

The plebiscite was originally intended to be taken this month, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles, but it has been postponed, and no definite date has been fixed. A commission representing England, France and Italy is to supervise the plebiscite. The United States had the right to be represented in the commission, but declined to participate.

Monsignor Giovanni Battista Ogno Apostolic Commissioner for Upper Silesia, is still in close touch with the situation and is keeping the Holy See informed of conditions. Monsignor Ogno's announcement to the people and clergy of the territory is in full as follows:

"The Holy Father, who is greatly troubled because peace among the Catholics of Upper Silesia has been disturbed by political questions, has sent me to you to restore peace. This Christmas time gives me an opportunity to ask the Catholics not to reject peace, and to abandon political discussions. I make this request especially to the pastors, who have promised to fulfill their holy duties in a spirit of love and justice. I therefore order the following, in the name of the Holy Father:

"All priests, of whatsoever nation, are forbidden, under pain of punishment, from participating in propaganda in the territory of the plebiscite in Upper Silesia. This does not apply to their right to express their opinion privately, or to cast their vote in the plebiscite if the Treaty of Versailles gives them the right so to do. All pastors, both German and Polish, are also prohibited from using churches, schools, presbyteries or any land or building belonging to the Church for the discussion of questions pertaining to the plebiscite, as these places are only to be used in behalf of the religious welfare of the people. The same prohibition extends also to the ordinary rectores ecclesiarum. I reserve the right to modify the above decree, but I wish to state now that I will only grant modifications or exceptions in rare cases and on especially important grounds, for I am supporting no party, either Polish or German. If any priest should fail to obey this order, which God forbid, I shall be constrained, however unwillingly, to inflict upon him the punishment which I am empowered by the Holy See to elect."

10,000 Mary's Register For Shrine

Washington, D. C., Jan. 24.—Ten thousand Catholic women of the name of Mary have registered for the Mary Memorial Chapel of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at the Catholic University, according to an announcement of the Rev. Dr. Bernard A. McKenna.

New Head For N.C.W.C.'s Bureau Of Education

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

Washington, Jan. 24.—Arthur C. Monahan, lately specialist of the United States Bureau of Education, has been appointed director of the Bureau of Education, National Catholic Welfare Council, and has begun to carry out the purposes of the organization. The Bureau operates under the direction of the Department of Education of the Welfare Council. Most Rev. Austin Dowling, Archbishop of St. Paul, is chairman of the Department of Education.

Already Director Monahan has initiated the work of establishing a clearing house of information concerning Catholic education and Catholic education agencies; an advisory agency to assist Catholic education systems and institutions in their development; a connecting agency between Catholic education activities and Government education agencies; and an active organization to safeguard the interests of Catholic education.

Mr. Monahan was born in Massachusetts in 1877, and after attending the public schools of Framingham, was graduated from the Massachusetts Agricultural College. Subsequently he completed graduate courses in education given by the extension service of Amherst College. He has held the position of teacher, principal of high schools and supervisor in the public schools of Massachusetts, and was for a time instructor in the Massachusetts Agricultural College.

Million Dollar School For Girls Under Way In Concordia Diocese

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

Salina, Kansas, Jan. 24.—Work is being rushed on the new Marymount College for girls in this city, which, when completed, will be the largest girls' school in Kansas and one of the glories of the diocese of Concordia, to which the Rev. Francis Joseph Tief, of Kansas City, was recently appointed.

The new school will be under the direction of the Sisters of St. Joseph and will cost more than a million dollars. It will be modern in every particular. The site is the highest point in Salina County, just south of the Country Club and overlooking Smoky Hill Valley with its thousands of acres of wheat lands.

The Sisters of St. Joseph now have their headquarters in Concordia.

K. of C.'s Largest Council Burn Its Mortgages

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

Detroit, Mich., Jan. 23.—Burning of mortgages and bonds of the clubhouse marked the tenth anniversary of the occupation of its palatial quarters by Detroit Council, No. 305, Knights of Columbus, on Jan. 25.

Supreme Knight James A. Flaherty, of Philadelphia, and Deputy Supreme Knight Martin H. Carmody, of Grand Rapids, Mich., attended the ceremonies.

Detroit Council is the largest in the order. It has more than 8,000 members.

Vigil Lights To Symbolize Prayer For Pres. Harding

Will Burn in Shrine During Inauguration Week

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

Washington, D. C., Jan. 24.—Vigil lights to symbolize patriotic prayers for the divine guidance and support of President-elect Harding when he takes office as chief executive will burn in the Salve Regina Chapel of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception during Inauguration Week.

Catholics in all parts of the United States will be invited to participate in the acts of national devotion symbolized by the lights and to include in their appeals the special intention that through Our Blessed Mother the grace of God may come upon the new executive to light his way, especially that by his good counsel he may aid in lifting the yoke of bondage from suffering Ireland.

Bishop Shahan's Appeal

A special appeal to Catholics of the United States to participate in this devotion has been issued by the Right Rev. Thomas J. Shahan, rector of the Catholic University, under the title of a "Votive Light to Guide Our President."

Bishop Shahan's appeal is as follows:

"On March 4, President Harding will enter upon the administration of his exalted office of President of the United States of America.

"Never were wisdom and courage more needed by the head of our great American democracy. Every Catholic ought to offer on that day the earnest prayer that God will guide our chief executive wisely and well, that the evils of the late war may be abolished and our nation enter again upon the way of progress through justice and charity. The gravest problems call for the attention of the new President; problems both domestic and foreign, upon the solution of which depends the happiness of the American people.

"Let a vigil light express your patriotic prayers for divine guidance and support of the President during the four momentous years that open before him. May our Blessed Mother shield him and counsel him through love for this land of her predilection.

"Let us all join in this act of national Catholic devotion with a prayer for all nations struggling for a righteous peace. Let us also pray that through our Blessed Mother the grace of God will come upon him to light the way, for him to aid by his good counsel in lifting the yoke of bondage from Ireland."

President-Elect's Belief In Prayer

The inspiration of the burning of the vigil lights is President Harding's own declaration of his belief in the efficacy of prayer, and of its power to help him in the solution of the problems that will confront him in the White House.

The Rev. Dr. Bernard J. McKenna has sent out letters to Catholics in all parts of the country urging them to arrange for having vigil lights burn in their name in the Salve Regina Chapel. The lights will be burned for five days, from March 3 to March 8th.

How The Pope Distributed His Relief Fund

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

Rome, Jan. 12.—Germany received the largest share of the fund gathered and disbursed by the Holy Father for the relief of the suffering children of Europe and Asia in 1920. The sum distributed in Germany was 4,100,689 lire (normally \$791,432). Some of this amount went to Italian children resident in Germany.

Next to the children of Germany those of Austria were the chief beneficiaries. A total of 3,654,317 lire (normally \$704,283) was dispensed for Austrian relief. Poland received for the same purpose 2,052,000 lire; Hungary, 1,291,000 lire; Czechoslovakia, 1,075,000 lire; Jugoslavia and Bulgaria, 500,000 lire each; Rumania, 400,000 lire; Ukraine and Lithuania, each 350,000 lire; Armenia and Crimea (including sums for little refugees in Constantinople), 300,000 lire; Latvia, 200,000 lire; the Caucasus, 225,150 lire; Northern France, 200,000 lire; Silesia, 50,000 lire; Syria, 25,000 lire, and the provinces of Trent and Venice, 265,000 lire.

In addition to these specific sums for the sufferers of particular localities, the Holy Father gave also a total of 669,310 lire to the International Save-the-Child Union of Geneva for disbursement according to his instructions, and 75,000 lire to the same organization to meet the expense of distribution.

The accounting of the fund shows how impartial was the Pope's use of it. Although a great deal of the money distributed came from countries which were at war with the Central Empires, most of it was allotted to the sufferers of the latter states. The chief consideration with the Holy Father was the needs of the people, and as the condition of the children in Germany and Austria was conspicuously urgent and pathetic, they were accorded the principal share. Other countries obtained their due proportion. The devastated areas of France and Italy, for example, received an aggregate of 465,000 lire. In the accruing of these unfortunates there was no question of their class or creed.

Donations to the Pope's fund came from every part of the world. The largest gifts, aggregating 5,000,000 lire, or about a third of the total fund, were received from America. Spain gave 3,000,000 lire, Ireland 2,000,000, in spite of her own distress, and Italy a million and a half.

Mission Union Has Great Growth

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

New York, Jan. 22.—The Union Cleri—the association of priests organized in Italy and Holland for the development of Catholic Missions—has spread into Germany and secured the unanimous support of all the bishops. Several existing societies have been merged into the Union and an unusually strong interest has been manifested.

In a report received lately at the American Foreign Mission Seminary it is stated that in Italy eight thousand priests are now associated and in the last three months more new members were enrolled than in the ten years that have elapsed since the beginning of the movement.

Blue Laws' Sure To Prove Failure Says Fosdick

Law Cannot Take Place Of Home, School And Church

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

"The attempt to coerce men to render unto Caesar the things that are God's must always end in failure. The law cannot take the place of the home, the school, the Church and other influences by which moral ends are achieved. It cannot be made to assume the whole burden of social control. Permanent advance in human society will not be brought about by night-sticks and patrol wagons, but by the cultivation, in neighborliness and sympathy, of a public opinion which will reflect its soundness in the law it enacts and in the approval it gives to their enforcement."

RAYMOND B. FOSDICK.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 23.—In view of the present agitation for a revival of "blue laws" and the "Puritan Sunday," the new book by Raymond B. Fosdick, "American Police Systems" from which the foregoing statement is reprinted, will be of special interest. Mr. Fosdick, who lately resigned from the post of assistant secretary general of the League of Nations, gathered materials for his book in the course of an investigation in this country and in Europe on behalf of the Rockefeller Bureau of Social Hygiene.

An abstract of his book has been issued under the title, "Crime in America and the Police." In this abstract is found Mr. Fosdick's principal facts and conclusions regarding sabbatarian and sumptuary statutes.

Noted German Lutheran Pastor Becomes Catholic

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

Berlin, Jan. 10.—Dr. Albani, former pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the town of Bad Lausig, Saxony, who recently became a Catholic after two months' retirement in the Benedictine Monastery of St. Ottilie, near Munich, is now employed in a Catholic art dealer's establishment. His former Evangelical superiors have decided to grant him a pension even in the face of his "submission to Rome."

Those who had been watching Dr. Albani's efforts during the last two years to promote Christian unity in Germany, and his activities as a member of the High Church Association of Berlin, were not surprised at his entrance into the True Fold, notwithstanding the sacrifices and difficulties that his conversion involved.

Daily Communion Spread

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

Notre Dame, Ind., Jan. 22.—The spread of the practice of daily communion and devotion to the Blessed Sacrament among students in Catholic colleges is remarkably well illustrated in the figures compiled for Notre Dame University by the Prefect of Religion, who has just announced that 45,791 communions, a daily average of 458, were received by students from Sept. 13 to December 21 of the past year.

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Missioners' Status In British Lands Still Unsettled

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

London, Jan. 12.—The provisional arrangement, whereby the British authorities agreed to suspend all deportations of missionaries and religious sisters of former enemy nationality throughout the British dominions, came to an end on the last day of the old year. It had been hoped that the negotiations between the Holy See and the British Foreign Office, in which Mgr. Francis C. Kelley, of Chicago, has played the part of "liaison officer" with most beneficial results, would have been brought to a final and satisfactory conclusion.

Certain unlooked-for contingencies have arisen which, apparently, have postponed the results hoped for by this time, and the whole matter is practically at the same stage it was when Mgr. Kelley last left Europe for the United States.

Ten Commandments Fundamentals of Good Business

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

St. Paul, Jan. 19.—The Ten Commandments are the fundamentals of prosperity, Roger Babson, expert in economic statistics, told business men of St. Paul at a meeting in the Athletic Club here a few days ago. He was discussing the present conditions of industry and the problems of readjustment.

"There is nothing fundamentally wrong with business in the United States, and 1921 will be a prosperous year if we realize that the Ten Commandments are the fundamentals of prosperity," Mr. Babson said.

"All our troubles we owe to lack of religion. The future of the business of the country depends on the development of a moral soul of man."

First Relief For Belfast

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

Cleveland, Jan. 22.—What is thought to be the first money actually sent from America for the relief of Irish sufferers in Belfast, was cabled last Wednesday to the Irish Relief Commission by the Rev. James O'Leary, pastor of St. Colman's church. Father O'Leary's order was for \$1,550 and was cabled directly to Bishop MacRory of Belfast. The money was collected following a special appeal made by Father O'Leary at all Masses last Sunday. St. Colman's is one of the largest parishes in the Cleveland diocese, and is composed mainly of people of Irish birth and descent.

Priests In Accident

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

New York, Jan. 19.—Monsignor John Edwards, of St. Joseph's Church, and five other priests narrowly escaped death when an automobile in which they were riding overturned on the Schmalenburg road, near Northvale, N. J., last Monday evening, and pinned them beneath the vehicle. They were returning from Blauvelt, N. Y., where they had attended the funeral of the Rev. David A. Murray, when the accident befell them. A passenger in a tire was the cause of the mishap.

Monsignor Edwards was over 80 years of age.