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## Michigan Bigot Revives Bill Against Parochial Schools

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)  
Lansing, Mich., Feb. 18.—Overwhelming defeats mean nothing in the life of James Hamilton, Michigan's archbigot. Hamilton was leader of the Wayne County Civic Association, which advocated the anti-parochial school amendment to the state constitution, repudiated by a two-to-one vote at the November elections. Nothing daunted, he has taken preliminary steps to bring the issue to a vote again a year from next November. The draft of the new amendment has been approved as to form by Merlin Wiley, attorney-general, and Hamilton will immediately set out to obtain signatures to place it on the ballot. The proposed amendment is practically identical with the one defeated in November except that a provision enforcing attendance at the school "in the district in which the pupil resides" has been stricken out. The amendment, providing for new sections 16 and 17 of article ten, reads: "From and after Aug. 10, 1924, all children resident in the State of Michigan between the ages of 7 and 16 years, shall attend the public school until they have graduated from the eighth grade. The legislature shall enact all the necessary legislation to render this section effective."

A compromise bill designed to frustrate the desires of opponents of the parochial school in Michigan, whose leader is James Hamilton of Detroit, was introduced into the State Legislature here today.

The bill, to which Bishops Gallagher and Kelly and Superintendent of Public Instruction Thomas E. Johnson have agreed, provides for state supervision of parochial schools. Under its terms, teachers in private and parochial schools must show the same qualifications as those in the public schools by Jan. 1, 1923. In addition, the state will prescribe courses of study and will inspect the institutions.

## Bishop Of Porto Rico Dies In Philadelphia

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)  
Philadelphia, Feb. 18.—The Right Rev. William A. Jones, Bishop of Porto Rico and a member of the Augustinian Order, died here yesterday in St. Joseph's Hospital from a tropical malarial fever from which he had been suffering since he came to the United States last September.

Bishop Jones was consecrated for the diocese of Porto Rico in 1907. He had under his jurisdiction 1,000,000 Catholics, included in the islands of Porto Rico, Vieques and Culebra, and was the fifty-first occupant of the episcopal see at Porto Rico, which was erected as a diocese under Julius II in 1511.

## Two Aged Nuns Die

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)  
Wheeling, W. Va., Feb. 18.—Two aged nuns died at the convent of St. Joseph here during the last week. They were Mother M. Anna, 97, and Mother M. Victoria, 81. Mother Anna had professed 52 years and Mother Victoria, 48 years.

## Father Ryan Favors Neither "Open Shop" Nor "Closed Shop"

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)  
Chicago, Ill., Feb. 18.—The Rev. Dr. John A. Ryan of the Catholic University at Washington, and chairman of the social action division of the National Catholic Welfare Council, talking before several hundred businessmen at the City Club, Wednesday, denounced the present "Open shop" campaign as a drive to crush the principle of collective bargaining, and therefore to end the efficiency of unionism. "The open shop advocated by the great industrial leaders and their organization simply means that union members may work in these shops but that the unions will not be allowed to function," he said and his declaration was heard with deep attention by the employers present. "Their plan for an open shop does not include collective bargaining, and without collective bargaining the value of the union is lost. It is therefore a blow directly at unionism."

"On the other hand, I am not in favor of what the unions term the 'closed shop', and I believe that the sooner they give up this policy, excepting where they are forced to adopt it through unfairness of the employer, the better it will be for labor."

"And the sooner the employers give up their 'open shop' campaign and come to an agreement with the unions on a real open shop, the better it will be for them."

"This is the real way to industrial peace. The peace that might come through crippling of the unions would not be good for the employer, the employee or for society."

Father Ryan was in Chicago attending a conference of the social action division and was accompanied to the City Club meeting by Bishop Muldoon, the Rt. Rev. Michael J. Splaine of Boston and the Rev. Frederick Seidenberg, head of the department of sociology of Loyola University.

## For Relief In Ireland

New York, Feb. 5.—The Executive Committee of the A. C. R. I. has fixed March 17th to 28th as the period during which the people of the United States will be appealed to give aid to the distressed Irish people. It is planned to conduct an intensive money raising campaign in every state in the Union.

During the past week the Committee dispatched into twenty states expert organizers to lay plans for intensive drives in those states.

A letter sent to state organizations today, summarizing the information as to conditions in Ireland, obtainable up to date, says that the number of men, women, and children in want in Ireland totals 200,000, and that it is estimated that property damage to date in the devastated areas amounts to from two to three hundred million dollars.

## Catholic Chaplain Resigns

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)  
Washington, D. C., Feb. 19.—Rev. Father E. T. McNally, who has been serving as chaplain in the American Army on the Rhine, has resigned his commission and will be returned to the United States by way of China and the Philippines. He is attached to the diocese of Sioux City, and has been a chaplain since 1917.

## Catholic Gains Stay Election In Czecho-Slovakia

Enemies of Church Start Anti-Catholic Propaganda

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)  
Prague, Czecho-Slovakia, Feb. 4.—Fear of further gains by the Catholic party at the elections which were deferred from last autumn until next month March, has prompted their postponement for the second time.

At the instance of President Masaryk, one Bienert, a high official of the police establishment, has investigated the relative strength of the several political parties, and now reports that the Catholic organization is commanding wider sympathy and showing rapid growth. In order, therefore, that the Catholic representation in the National Assembly shall not be increased, the elections are indefinitely delayed.

The lease of time gained by the adjournment of the elections gives opportunity for a general secret propaganda designed to withdraw Catholics from the Church. There is to be a registration of all individuals in the Republic on February 16, the object of this being the enumeration of the people according to their respective religious and national identity. Enemies of the Church hope to reduce the number of Catholics to a minimum.

Notices are in circulation among the officials of the government urging them to leave the Church before the day of registration. Many of these officials and their families, in the desire to insure their tenure, are forsaking their faith. Other defections are observable.

In spite of the delay in fixing the date of new elections, there is a strong opposition to the present government and its bureaucratic methods, and a demand that a new poll be taken to determine the correct proportional strength of the various political groups. Several of the parties hesitate to risk an election. The Socialists are afraid that the left wing of their party—those of Bolshevik inclinations—will register an increase. The Agrarians doubt their ability to maintain their present representation, and all fear a heavy gain by the Catholic party. The pressure for a new election is coming from all the elements that expect to profit by it—and these are many.

## Priest for Bengalese Arrives in Rome

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

Washington, D. C., Feb. 21.—The first priest of the Congregation of the Holy Cross to leave this year for the Bengalese missions has arrived in Rome, according to advices received here, and will leave this week for Calcutta. He is the Rev. Maurice Norckauer, of Kenia, Ohio, who completed his studies at Holy Cross College here last year and left early this month for Europe. Father Norckauer is the first of a group of eight Holy Cross missionaries, including three priests and two lay brothers, who have been designated for the Bengalese missions this year. Two lay brothers from the Canadian province, Brother Ambrose and Brother Bertin, preceded him to India.

## Pope's Interest In Catacombs

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

Rome, Feb. 8.—His Holiness, Pope Benedict, is taking great interest in the preservation of the Roman catacombs and in furthering the work of excavation which claimed so much attention from his predecessors. In order to insure safety, access and facility for carrying on the work he has purchased extensive strips of grounds in two parts of the catacombs.

One is near the Catacombs of St. Callixtus, famous for the cubicle of the Passion and because it was in them that the body of St. Januarius was found. This cemetery is already partially restored, and it is hoped to open it to the public shortly.

The other strip of ground is on the old Via Salaria. Professor Marucchi recently found that parts of the catacombs there were crumbling and the Holy Father has made an appropriation for repairs.

## Priests Faithful Unto Death When Ship Is Wrecked

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

Corunna, Spain, February 4.—Among the demonstrations of magnanimous charity and fortitude witnessed when the S. S. Santa Isabel sank off the Island of Salvora, in January, the most remarkable heroism was displayed by two priests, Father Antonio Pescador and Monsignor Francesco Mondiguren, the former the chaplain of the ship and the other a passenger on his way to the Argentine, where he was Vicar General of the Diocese of Corrientes.

According to the testimony of one of the survivors, as soon as the ship crashed against the Pagar rock, the two priests rushed to the deck where they were immediately surrounded by a crowd of passengers and seamen begging for absolution and blessing. Without the slightest thought for themselves, they devoted every moment to their traveling companions, giving absolution and blessing.

When one of the seamen offered a life preserver to the Chaplain, he refused, saying "I cannot abandon the ship while I still have my sacerdotal duties to perform." A wave washed him from the deck and dashed him against the side of the ship. His body was later found on the beach at Muros, and was given the place of honor in the cemetery among the other victims of the disaster.

## Efforts To Abolish Columbus Day

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

New York, Feb. 19.—Supreme officers of the Knights of Columbus declare that advocates of so-called blue laws are attempting to abolish Columbus Day as a legal holiday in reprisal for the Order's opposition to a "Puritan Sunday." The recent passage of a bill by the Idaho legislature to repeal the law establishing Columbus Day as a holiday in that state is ascribed to this animus. The Governor vetoed the bill.

Supreme Director William P. Larkin of the Knights of Columbus says the Order is alert to defeat like efforts to deprive Columbus Day of legal sanction as a holiday in thirty-nine other states.

## American Martyrs To Faith Number Over Hundred

New Mexico Scene of More Martyrdoms Than Any Other State

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)  
St. Louis, Feb. 21.—New Mexico, whose soil has been crimsoned by the blood of thirty-four Catholic missionaries, leads all the States of the Union as a place of martyrdom for the apostles of the faith within the present confines of this country. This fact and other interesting details of the early missionary efforts in the United States are contained in "An American Martyrology" compiled by the Rev. Father F. G. Holweck of this city.

Processes of Canonization Begun

In all, Father Holweck enumerates one hundred and eighty priests, brothers and lay folk who gave their lives for Christ or for some Christian virtue while laboring within the limits of the United States. In this number were several native Indians, one of them a woman. Father Holweck expresses the hope that at no distant date the "United States and Canada will kneel at the altar of duly canonized American saints." The processes of canonization have already been undertaken in the case of several of these heroic apostles.

Florida, with a record of seventeen martyrdoms within her borders, stands next to New Mexico in Father Holweck's list. Texas, with ten martyrs, comes third, and Virginia, which Catholics have not been accustomed to regard as a theater of devotion and death in behalf of their faith, takes fourth place with eight. The labors of Jesuit missionaries in the northern tier of States, from New York westward, have been made familiar to Catholics, but it is in the South and the West that most of the martyrs of the Church in the United States are to be found. But four martyrs are credited to New York in Father Holweck's compilation.

Many of what are now the most conspicuously Catholic States have not had the blood of martyrs as the seed of their faith. Massachusetts and the other States of New England, save Maine, and Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Missouri, in the central section, and Montana, Washington and Oregon, are in this category. In addition to the States already mentioned as having furnished "American martyrs," there are included California, with six; Wisconsin, with six; Arizona, with five; Mississippi, with four; Illinois and Louisiana, with three each; Maine, with two, and Colorado, Georgia, Minnesota, and Michigan, with one each.

One Woman Among Martyrs

Kansas and Nebraska dispute the honor of giving the United States their protomartyr. This was Father Juan de Padilla, O. F. M., who was done to death in 1544 by the Indians at Quivira, which by some is supposed to have been in the present Hall County, Nebraska, and by others believed to have been near Junction City, Kansas. The first, and thus far the only, woman to suffer martyrdom for the faith in the United States was Frances Gonzales, an Indian. She was tortured to death at Onandaga, in what is now New York, in 1692.

## Catholic Congress For Ireland To Be Considered

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)  
Dublin, Feb. 10.—Towards the end of February a meeting of various Catholic organizations in Ireland will be held in Dublin to consider the project of establishing a Catholic Congress for Ireland.

Last October, at the Conference of the Catholic Truth Society, Professor O'Rahilly, of Queen's University College, advanced this proposal with great strength and cogency of argument.

Cardinal Logue, approving of the suggestion, said: "It is an effort was made to establish a Catholic Congress or a Catholic Federation, not only would it have my sanction, but it would have my most earnest cooperation."

The project has since been carefully considered in all the dioceses by the management committees of the Catholic Truth Society, and as a preliminary to the achievement of the project, it was decided, after consultation with the President of the Catholic organizations, to consider the organization.

The aim of the committee is to make the projected Congress worthy of Ireland and of its people, not only an achievement of our time, but one which will adequately represent the most important place which Irish Catholics claim holds in the world. Prof. O'Rahilly, Monsignor Caffrey, the President of the Society, and the clergy members of the conference in October reported the federation of existing Irish Catholic Associations, were influenced greatly by the plan of organization adopted by American Catholics.

It is felt that the federation and adjustment of social problems such a Federation is destined to play a useful and valuable part. Above all, it will be an agency for countering the influence of secret societies and other agencies against Catholicism.

## School Chapels In Prague Closed

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

Prague, Czecho-Slovakia, Feb. 4.—As part of the systematic persecution of the Catholics in Prague, the chapels in the various schools have been closed and the children are now compelled to go to parochial churches. On the other hand, much favoritism is shown to the "Catholic Church"—the schismatic and heretical organization which the state has been encouraging.

School buildings are being used for the new "national" meetings of parents. The purpose obviously is to use these gatherings as means of seducing Catholics from their faith.

Test has been lodged by the police with the authorities, thus far it has been without result. The official publication of the Teachers' Union, which is a member of that organization, "never all the with the 'liberation' from the hostile propaganda of the 'liberation' is one of the new tactics of the 'liberation' in what is now New York, in the year 1692.