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France To Rebuild Ruined Churches By Co-Operatives

This Will Obviate Delay Through Waiting For Indemnity Payments

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)
Paris, Feb. 17.—Ecclesiastical authorities in the devastated regions are considering the suggestion that some of the cost of rebuilding Catholic churches wrecked during the war be met from loans floated by "co-operatives" immediately and liquidated as the indemnities which Germany is obligated to pay become available. This suggestion was offered by M. Louis Martin at the recent meeting of Catholic Bishops and clergy of Nancy and the adjacent territory.

It was disclosed at this meeting that Canon Thouvenin, diocesan director of "Oeuvres," has adopted the principle advocated by M. Martin. Canon Thouvenin gave an account of the way in which he had conducted a large part of the work of reconstruction in Lorraine. The "co-operative" of Lorraine calls conferences of architects, builders and contractors, divides the work among them, files orders for materials of all kinds and then floats a loan. The necessary funds for the repayment of the debt is then collected. The French Government has awarded the Cross of the Legion of Honor to Monsignor Thouvenin in recognition of his work in Lorraine.

M. Martin, who reported the Budget of the Chamber of Deputies, was one of several members of Parliament at the meeting. They occupied seats near Monsignor de la Celle, Bishop of Nancy. "In accordance with the Treaty of Versailles, all the various sums needed for repairing the ruin caused by the war, are to be paid by Germany," said M. Martin. "Up to the present, however, the French government has advanced 35,000,000,000 francs to restore the roads and railways, build provisional shelters, and to supply the most necessary articles of furniture. Thus far no German gold has been forthcoming.

"It is impossible for France to provide any additional funds. Consequently, if the rebuilding of the churches is deferred until Germany pays the indemnities charged to her, reconstruction of religious edifices must wait a very long time. Another solution must be found."

M. Martin then proposed the organization of Catholic "co-operatives" to raise loans pending Germany's payment of installments of the indemnities.

Albany To Organize N. C. C. M. Council

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)
Albany, Feb. 28.—Permanent organization of the Albany Diocesan Council of Catholic Men will be completed at a mass meeting on April 3rd, according to P. W. O'Grady, field representative of the organization. More than one thousand Catholic men were present at the N. C. C. M. meeting held here last week. Right Rev. William Turner delivered a powerful appeal to the men to take up this vital work of the church. Many of the diocesan priests attended the gathering.

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Irish Children Are Starving, Society of Friends Reports

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)
New York, Feb. 28.—Six hundred children out of a total of six hundred and fifty attending St. Brigid's School, in Dublin, are among the five thousand children who are suffering acutely from the distress in Ireland, according to the cabled report of the first American unit of the Society of Friends, which has wired to the American Committee for Relief in Ireland the results of its investigation in Dublin.

The majority of these children, the report says, come from wretched tenement homes where the whole family lives in one room. Six hundred were found in need of a midday meal, as they got little else at home. Thousands of children in the city, says the report, are now subsisting on a scanty ration of bread and cocoa only. The Quaker unit, which is headed by C. J. France, brother of United States Senator France of Maryland, appealed to the American Committee for \$10,000, which will keep five thousand children alive for two weeks.

Catholic Home For Kansas City's Working Girls

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)
Kansas City, Feb. 28.—Working girls of this city have been provided with a large and convenient home through the gift of the former residence of the late James Lillis to the Sisters of Mercy, by whom it will be conducted. The building stands on a large plot of ground, in a good neighborhood, within walking distance of the center of town, and has sixteen rooms. Right Rev. Thomas F. Lillis, Bishop of Kansas City, is one of the heirs who gave the home, which is to be a memorial to their father. Although the new institution will be known as the Catholic Home for Working Girls, young women of all creeds will be received.

Admiral Benson Will Speak To Holy Name Union

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)
Grand Rapids, Mich., Feb. 28.—Admiral William S. Benson, U. S. N., retired, who was chief of the Bureau of Naval Operations during the war will be one of the speakers at the quarterly meeting of the Grand Rapids Diocesan Union of the Holy Name Society next April, according to an announcement of Martin H. Carmody, president of the Union. Admiral Benson is a member of the Holy Name Society of St. Paul's Church, Washington, D. C.

French Decision On Ownership Of Churches

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)
Paris, Feb. 17.—From the Court of Cassation has come a decision as to the ownership of Catholic churches in France. The court holds that the rector of a church is not the owner of the edifice, but simply has the free use of it so far as the requirements and practices of religion are concerned.

The question came before the court in a case which involved the responsibility of the rector for any damage to his church or for its destruction.

Press Month Stirs Country's Catholics To Apostolic Zeal

Evidence Of Interest From All Sections

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)
Washington, D. C., Feb. 28.—The Catholic Press Month campaign to be carried on during March already is stirring the Catholics of the entire country.

From all parts of the United States the Press and Publicity Department of the National Catholic Welfare Council is receiving orders for additional copies of the pamphlet, "Catholics, Do You Know?" These orders are coming not only from editors, but from priests and sisters who are volunteering in the campaign.

The Evangelist, of Rensselaer, N. Y., has called for 10,000 copies of the pamphlet, and Truth, of New York City, has ordered 500 copies. Orders for lots of 100 and 200 are too many to enumerate.

The large poster issued by the Press and Publicity Department in behalf of Press Month is being forwarded this week to all the dioceses of the country. This poster, printed in colors, is 32 inches by 44 inches. It is illuminated at the top by half-tone portraits of Cardinal Gibbons and Cardinal O'Connell and the Archbishops and Bishops who constitute the Administrative Committee of the National Catholic Welfare Council. It also bears the emblem of the National Catholic Welfare Council with the American flag. The flag is printed in the appropriate colors and the cross in the center of the emblem is yellow—the Papal color. The poster is, therefore, in three colors—red, blue and yellow—which, with the white background, produce a most attractive effect.

Three thousand copies of this poster are being sent out with the compliments of the Press and Publicity Department. Two thousand additional copies will be printed in anticipation of further orders—which will be filled in the sequence of their receipt by the Press and Publicity Department. The first order—which reached the Press and Publicity Department before the poster was off the press—came from Truth, of New York. This publication purchased eighty copies of the poster. As an indication of the spread of interest in the Middle West, may be cited the orders of the Catholic Bulletin Publishing Company for 500 additional posters and of the Indiana Catholic and Record, of Indianapolis, which called for 148 copies of the poster, in addition to its quota of 48.

Father Sigl, Redemptorist, Dead

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)
New York, Feb. 28.—A solemn high mass of requiem for the late Rev. Charles Sigl, C. S. S. R., who died last Monday in the rectory of St. Patrick's Church, Toronto, was celebrated at the Church of the Immaculate Conception on Thursday. Father Sigl was born in Rochester, N. Y., in 1853 and made his profession as a Redemptorist in 1871. He was ordained by Archbishop Spalding in 1876 and had parishes at St. Michael's, Baltimore; St. Peter's, Philadelphia and St. Alphonsus, New York. He gave many missions in western states and in Canada and for eleven years labored as a missionary in Porto Rico.

Catholic Students' Mission Crusade

St. Bernard's Seminary Unit

"The Sacred Heart for the World, the World for the Sacred Heart." This is the rallying cry of the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade which in the scant three years of the Crusade's existence has attracted 24,266 members from 240 Catholic educational institutions. The aim of the Crusade is to promote the interests of home and foreign missions, and in this laudable movement the St. Bernard's Unit of the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade is not inactive.

The student body of St. Bernard's Seminary in Rochester has ever manifested a commendable zeal in all things that concern the missions. The Church is Catholic and Apostolic; her mission is to evangelize all men; to carry the light to the nations that sit in darkness and superstition. This is the lesson first taught by Christ Himself. How well the lesson has been taken to heart is evidenced by the enthusiastic support given to all mission activities at St. Bernard's.

Prayer, study and alms are the means employed by the society in seeking to attain its noble purpose. A daily remembrance for the propagation of the Faith is made by each member, and on Friday of each week all spiritual exercises are offered for the spread of God's Name.

The fundamental activity of the Mission Society is the mission meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to acquaint the members with the actual conditions and needs of the mission work. Essays, illustrated lectures, posters, literature etc., all these are employed to arouse or sustain interest and to suggest ways and means of aiding the present day Apostles. The Society has its own library which contains the best obtainable books on Missionary endeavor. The students are indebted to the Fourth Degree members of the Rochester Council of the Knights of Columbus for the nucleus of this valuable adjunct to the society. Quick to appreciate the value of the Mission Crusade, with true knightly generosity, the members of the Rochester Council have given no little impetus to the work of St. Bernard's Unit.

In discussing the material aid rendered by the local Unit, President Edward Ball declared: "The success of a society of this kind cannot be measured in dollars and cents, nevertheless the unselfish response of our members to the various appeals made in behalf of the missions gives some indication of the generous interest with which the students of St. Bernard's support this Apostolic movement. Contributions in the past year have given some aid to practically every branch of home and foreign missions."

The Society is giving its members a more comprehensive vision as to the meaning of the Catholicity of the Church; with the natural result that their zeal will extend beyond any parochial or even national confines, but will rather embrace all nations.

No little credit for the success of the society is due to Rev. Geo. Kettell, who in the office of Moderator has enkindled enthusiasm in the heart of all. The student officers of the society are: President, Rev. Edward Ball, Rochester, N. Y.; Vice President, Mr. Joseph Griffin, Hartford, Conn.; Secretary, Mr. Edward Lyons, Rochester, N. Y.; Treasurer, James Gerrard, Fall River, Mass.

Motion Pictures On Probation Is Catholic Plan

Producers To Be Allowed Three Months For Voluntary Cleansing

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)
Washington, D. C., Feb. 28.—Putting Washington exhibitors of motion pictures on probation for three months, during which period they shall be required to expurgate from their films and entertainments everything offensive to public morals, is the plan that has been formally proposed to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia by the National Catholic Welfare Council and the Washington Federation of (Protestant) Churches, with the concurrence of other religious and civic organizations.

The scheme of probation, amounting to voluntary censorship on the part of the exhibitors, was submitted to the District Commissioners today by Charles A. McMahon, director of the Motion Picture Department of the Welfare Council, and Dr. Lucius C. Clark, executive secretary of the Washington Federation of Churches.

It was stipulated as part of this plan that if the exhibitors fail to cleanse their pictures and entertainments within the period allotted, the Welfare Council, the Federation of Churches and the other bodies concerned will urge censorship at the hands of a Board of Review, the expense of whose services will be collected from the proprietors of motion picture establishments. Violation of rules during the probationary period, it is demanded, shall be punishable by a suspension or forfeiture of the offending exhibitor's license.

Rules and regulations adopted and enforced by the State Board of Motion Picture Censorship of Pennsylvania, it is proposed, shall govern the exhibitors of Washington during their probation. These rules forbid the presentation of pictures or advertising portraying immoral scenes or situations, the unlawful traffic in drugs, the methods of criminals, offensive drunkenness, irreverence or disrespect toward religion or its ministers, brutal treatment of children and the like.

In addition to the inspection by the police, the Commissioners are asked to authorize the representatives of the Welfare Council, the Federation of Churches and other religious and civic organizations to submit reports regarding infringements of the regulations.

Various religious and civic bodies are demanding a rigorous censorship of pictures in Washington, where, in common with other cities, there has been much complaint about the exhibition of unclean, vulgar and positively indecent pictures. The Commissioners of the District, in whom is vested the police power and the authority to license motion picture exhibitors, have already declared that they "believe there is need for some further regulation or censorship of motion pictures."

It is believed that the plan proposed by the Welfare Council and the Federation of Churches, if carried into effect by the District Commissioners of the national capital, will serve as the basis for similar schemes of regulation in other communities.

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Stricter Divorce Law Is Urged By Ohio

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)
Cleveland, Feb. 26.—About eight of the ten reasons now constitute grounds for divorce, according to the law of Ohio, is advocated by Judge George P. Bear, presiding Judge of the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas. By doing so Judge Bear maintains that the number of divorces in Ohio will be cut more than ninety per cent. Cleveland, the Judge declares, has become the "Rome of the East." Hundreds of persons have established residences here for the sole purpose of evading the dissolving the marital contract. The Judge recommends that legislation in the matter of divorces, not only on the part of the State Legislature, but by Congress as well.

In an effort to curtail the fraud attendant upon the judges some time ago established the Bureau of Divorce Relations. The bureau registers all actions, and gives recommendations in the matter. During the time it has been functioning, divorces have cost twenty-five per cent.

Bishop Kelly Declines Having Favored Michigan School

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)
Grand Rapids, Feb. 28.—Right Rev. E. D. Kelly, Bishop of Grand Rapids, who is reported in press dispatches as having agreed to a bill submitted to the Legislature last week by Thomas E. Johnson, state superintendent of public instruction, providing for state supervision of private and parochial schools, Tuesday declared he was unacquainted with the measure and had not committed himself in favoring its enactment.

Although a Michigan newspaper and other periodicals last week carried the information that Bishop Kelly and Mr. Johnson "had discussed the bill," Kelly denies any knowledge.

Catholic Teachers To Be Informed About State Laws

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)
Washington, D. C., Feb. 28.—Laws and regulations governing teachers' certificates in the State in the Union, compiled by the United States Bureau of Education, are being published by the National Catholic Welfare Council and will be available for distribution in March, according to an announcement made today by Arthur C. Monahan, director of the Bureau.

The material promises to be of great value in view of the fact that Catholic schools in all parts of the United States are interested in having their teachers obtain certificates as those required for employment in public schools.

Famous Altar Destroyed

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)
Rome, Feb. 28.—The altar of the church of the world-famous St. Peter's, which was destroyed by fire in 1823, has been replaced by a new one.