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Passion Play to Be Resumed at Oberammergau

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

Oberammergau, Bavaria, June 6.—Most of the men and women who had principal parts in the Passion Play on the occasion of its last production here in 1910 will appear in the cast when the sacred drama is presented again in 1922. Formal announcement that there will be thirty performances of the Play, beginning May 11, 1922, and concluding September 24, 1922, has been made by Mayor Wilhelm Rutz, head of the committee in charge of its presentation.

The assignment of the roles will not take place until next October, but it is likely that Anton Lang will be seen again as Christus. There will be a new Mary, owing to the marriage of Ottilie Sewink. The tradition forbids a man from assuming that character. Eighty villagers lost their lives in the war, but not all of these were in the casts of the Passion Play. Several members of the orchestra and the choir were, however, among the slain. The principals in the drama were for the most part exempt from military service by reason of their age.

The general director of the Play is Mayor Rutz. Serving with him on the committee are Sebastian Bauer, who was Pilate in 1900 and 1910, and Monsignor Schroeder Herr Bauer is now 70 years old. Ludwig Lang, a former director, now 78 years old, and the son of Hans Mayr, who was Herod in 1910, are also on the committee.

Owing to the age and infirmities of Ludwig Lang it was necessary to fill his place on the general committee, and he has been succeeded by George Lang, a young sculptor, who is a graduate of the Munich School of Arts.

Mayor Rutz has decisively set at rest reports that the Passion Play is to be subsidized by outside interests or individuals. The cost of the production next year, as formerly, will be borne by the villagers, who hope to recoup their expenses by the fees charged for admission to the performances.

Much of the scenery used in the last presentation of the Play has undergone renovation at a considerable outlay. In consequence of that fact and the continuance of hard times in Oberammergau, the fees for admission to the performances of the Play next year will be slightly increased.

Capital Catholics In The

Y. M. C. A. Number 277

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

Washington, June 20.—Two hundred seventy-seven Catholics are members of the Young Men's Christian Association in the District of Columbia, according to a recent census taken of the membership of that organization. There are 2,920 members in the District.

The Methodists lead in point of numbers with 457, with the Episcopalians and Presbyterians second and third. The Catholics rank fourth. There are 10 Moravians, 95 Hebrews, one member of the Church of New Jerusalem, and one advocate of Free Thought. Two hundred and sixteen members did not designate the denomination of their choice.

First Catholic Social Study Club Organized

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

Washington, June 20.—Delegates from thirty parish councils of the National Council of Catholic Men in the District of Columbia met at the national headquarters of that organization last Monday night to form a Social Study Club. Meetings will be held regularly each Monday night during the summer months, and in the fall it is planned to form similar clubs in each of the parishes with the members of the present club as nuclei. The organization is the first of its kind in the National Capital and is one of the very few similar bodies in the United States.

"A Catechism of the Social Question," a book compiled by the Rev. Dr. John A. Ryan and the Rev. R. A. McGowan, both of the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Council, is being used as a text for study by the club members. No lectures are given. The meetings are limited to one and one-half hours each. The first hour is devoted to questions and answers based on the "Catechism," and the remainder of the time is utilized in discussion of the important points brought out during the first period. Several questions are assigned to individual members at the close of each meeting and reports are presented on these questions at the next ensuing meeting.

Celtic Cross Sends \$2,000 to the O's in Ireland

An old Irishman on being asked the name of a recent visitor, scratching his head and failing to recall the name said, "Sure it was neither an O' or a Mc, so its not worth remembering." This week the O's have it.

The Celtic Cross has just sent \$2,000 over to Ireland, \$1,000 to Most Rev. Charles O'Sullivan, Killarney, and \$1,000 to Rev. Michael O'Flanagan, Roscommon, for the relief of the distress that is so prevalent in those two sections of the country.

In a recent letter to the Celtic Cross, Bishop O'Sullivan writes: "Generous and kindly as our people at home are, it would be utterly impossible for them, without organized help from abroad, to cope with the distress caused by the wanton destruction of life and property, and I deeply appreciate the whole-hearted manner in which the Celtic Cross Association has come to the relief of our women and children."

Unique Indian Book,

Written by Priest, in Museum

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

Washington, June 20.—A copy of what is believed to be the only book in existence printed in the hieroglyphics of the Micmac Indians, has been placed on exhibition in the division of graphic arts of the National Museum. The characters were invented by Father Leclercq, a missionary to the Micmacs, who was born about 1630 and died about 1696. During and after Father Leclercq's stay among the Indians these characters were in use in manuscripts, but it remained for another Catholic missionary, Rev. Charles Kauder, a member of the Redemptorist Order, to employ them in printed form.

Bigots Destroy Films of Catholic War Picture

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

Washington, D. C., June 18.—Two exhibitions of the motion picture, "American Catholics in War and Reconstruction," have been prevented in two southern communities within the last few weeks by the theft of the film in one case and of the lens of the projecting machine in the other. Reports of these thefts have been made by the representatives of the National Catholic Welfare Council, under whose direction the exhibitions of the film have been given during the last several months in all parts of the country.

The pictures were shown in a theater in Wallis, Texas, on May 31, under the auspices of the Guardian Angel Church, of which Rev. W. Demel is pastor. The following day it was discovered that five of the six reels constituting the film had been removed from the machine. Apparently the sixth reel had been overlooked by the thieves.

Five days after the disappearance of the films, boys swimming in the Brazos river, about three miles north of Wallis, found three of them in the water. They were useless, but Father Demel had to pay a reward of \$80 he had offered for their return. The other two reels have not been recovered. The five reels were valued at \$200. Father Demel received little or no cooperation from the sheriff or the municipal authorities in the detection of those guilty of the theft.

On the eve of the showing of the pictures in Meridian, Miss., a few weeks ago, the lens of the projector was stolen and the exhibition had to be abandoned. The police were asked to help in the recovery of the lens, but it has not been found. No one has been charged with the theft.

The picture, "American Catholics in War and Reconstruction," gives an animated report of the war and reconstruction activities of the National Catholic Welfare Council, both in this country and in France, Belgium, Italy, and elsewhere. An attempt to prevent the exhibition of the picture in the public high school in San Antonio, in the latter part of April, was defeated by the board of education with whom the protest of certain anti-Catholics was lodged.

Students Active In Czecho-Slovakia

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

Prague, June 4.—New evidences of a Catholic revival in Czecho-Slovakia were given on the occasion of the recent celebration of the fifteenth anniversary of the Catholic Academic League. The Catholic students are showing a splendid example of energy and fidelity. They are serving a useful purpose in using the public platform to refute the allegations made against their faith.

To Show Work Done For Disabled

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

San Francisco, June 20.—An exposition showing work done for and by disabled service men in the Public Health Service hospitals will be held here during the first week in August in connection with the thirty-ninth annual convention of the Knights of Columbus. It is believed that the proposed exposition will be the first of its kind to be held in the United States.

Baltimore Seminary Is Damaged By Fire

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

Baltimore, June 17.—St. Joseph's Seminary, an institution connected with the historic St. Mary's Seminary and devoted to the training of priests for work among the negroes, was partially wrecked by fire of undetermined origin yesterday afternoon.

Many of the students lost all of their possessions and one, Robert Curley of Detroit, lingered in his room too long attempting to remove some of his belongings and finally was rescued by a ladder. Rev. Louis Pastorelli, president of the seminary, said last night that the damage could not yet be estimated. Arrangements have been made to house the students in St. Mary's Seminary adjoining the wrecked building.

Death Of K. of C. War Secretary

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

Topeka, Kans., June 12.—James J. Lannan, who, although an old man when the United States entered the war against Germany was eager to serve his country in some capacity and became a Knight of Columbus secretary at Camp Funston, was buried here last Tuesday from Holy Name Church. The funeral was attended by many officials and members of the Knights of Columbus from Kansas and Missouri. Mr. Lannan had been Faithful Navigator of the Fourth Degree Assembly and Grand Knight of Topeka Council for several years.

Dr. Morrissey's Body Arrives

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

New York, June 13.—The body of the late Rev. Dr. Andrew Morrissey, C. S. S., former president of Notre Dame University arrived this morning on the Steamship Savoie. Father Morrissey died in Paris, May 28. A requiem mass was sung in St. Andrew's Church Tuesday, June 14, by the Rt. Rev. Monsignor Luke J. Evers, a classmate of Father Morrissey.

Following the mass, the body was taken to Notre Dame, Indiana, where a Pontifical mass was celebrated Thursday, June 16th, at the University by the Rt. Rev. P. J. Muldoon, Bishop of Rockford, also a classmate.

Strasbourg Priests To Publish Review

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

Paris, June 7.—The professors of the Catholic Faculty of Theology of the University of Strasbourg, have decided to publish a Review of Religious Science. Among the contributors will be M. R. Ruch, Bishop of Strasbourg, several professors of the Catholic Universities of Strasbourg, Lille, Paris and Lyons, professors of the Sorbonne, the dean of the Faculty of Letters of Clermont-Ferrand, Mgr. Mercati, prefect of the Library of the Vatican, Father Delehey, Bellandis, Dom Wilmart and Dom Gougoud, Benedictines.

The Review will publish studies, articles on doctrine and current events, and will keep its readers informed of all the latest publications.

Washington, D. C., June 16.—At the thirty-second annual commencement of the Catholic yesterday, degrees were conferred on 178 candidates.

State Aid Asked For The French Parish Schools

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

Paris, June 7.—The General Society of Education and Teaching, an organization composed of all Catholic educational institutions and movements in France, has just held its general assembly in Paris under the chairmanship of Cardinal Dubois.

Colonel Keller, chairman of the committee reporting on the Catholic schools, made it known that there are 12,000 parochial schools in France, with 29,000 teachers and one million pupils. Unfortunately, expenses have tripled since the war, and the material existence of these schools is in a precarious situation, for the resources have not increased in like proportion. In fact the recruiting of teachers and the maintenance of the schools is threatened unless some remedy is found.

Catholics, of course, will make sacrifices as generous as those made in the past, but Colonel Keller could not fail to observe that their charity is urged for numerous other works, and that there is a limit to their resources.

In order to insure the future of the Catholic schools he therefore asks for a double reform:

1. The legal re-establishment of teaching orders, as the maintenance of religious congregations costs much less than that of lay teachers.
2. A modification of the school law, in order that the government budget, which receives in taxes from all alike, may contribute to the support of all schools alike, and not the government public schools only.

The Chairman emphasized the fact that the Versailles treaty obliged the Polish budget to make provision for the Jewish schools. By virtue of the same principle he thought it was absolutely just that Catholic schools in other countries should receive the same privilege.

BIG FALLING OFF AT PROTESTANT SEMINARIES SHOWN

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

New York, June 18.—Protestant theological seminaries are showing a decline in attendance, compared with the years before the world war, and the prospect is for a greater decrease. In some instances the number of students in these institutions has fallen more than a third below the enrollment in 1916. This scarcity of ministerial material is coincident with thousands of vacancies in Protestant pastorates in all parts of the country.

These statements are summaries of information gathered by the Evening Post of New York. This paper has collated statistics from what it states are official sources and presents them in the first of a series of articles which it will publish.

While Protestant theological institutes are reporting smaller and decreasing attendances, with no likelihood of recovering lost ground, the enrollment in Catholic seminaries of the country is much greater than ever before, and has shown a steady gain.

In all the various theological institutes in this country—Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish—in 1915 there were 10,533 students. Of this total 6,944 were in Catholic seminaries.

President DeValera Gives Interview

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

Chicago, June 20.—(Special) In an interview which President Eamon DeValera of the Irish Republic granted to the Chicago Tribune correspondent at the White House, he clearly set forth the views of the people of Ireland in the present struggle for freedom, and set aside for all time the report that Ireland would accept the Dominion form of government from England. For reasons known to the editors, the Tribune did not publish the interview which their correspondent secured at considerable trouble. A stenographic copy of the conversation between President DeValera and the correspondent just been received here.

"What is the present position of the Irish Republic?" President DeValera was asked.

"In view of the results of the elections it is scarcely necessary to ask that," the Irish Republic chief answered. "The growth of the Republic over a period of five years now is the best proof that it has taken root. As you know, it was proclaimed in December, 1919, only a provisional government. In December, 1920, it adopted its constitutional provisions, and was put to a vote of the people and definitely ratified by a overwhelming majority. The proclamation was made in January, 1921, when the elected representatives of the people met in the National Oireachtas in the National Capitol, and declared Ireland a free and independent State."

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