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Prussian Minister Of Cults Statement Pleases Catholics

By Rev. Dr. Wilhelm Baron von Capitaine

(Cologne Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service)

Cologne, Germany, Nov. 30.—German Catholics are somewhat relieved, if not wholly reassured, by the public statements of Dr. Boelitz, new Minister of Cults of Prussia, with regard to his attitude toward education. A "kulturkampf," he declares, would be a crime against the people. While Dr. Boelitz's utterances were not designed and have not been received as a program, they are nevertheless somewhat programmatic.

Speaking before the Landtag, Dr. Boelitz said that while he could not commit himself at the moment to a definite course of policy and procedure, the stability of the school program was certain. He regarded himself as the minister of the Coalition and not of a party, he said, and would address himself primarily and principally to bridging the social contrasts.

Text books of history would have to be changed, Dr. Boelitz said, and he recommends a well written collection of facts and a book of sources. With reference to the training of teachers, Dr. Boelitz's views are practically those of his predecessor.

Dr. Boelitz's accession to the office of Minister of Cults is at least a refreshing change from revolutionary conditions which put Adolf Hoffmann in that office in Berlin and a laundress in the corresponding position in Brunswick. At last men of education and culture seem to be regaining the most important appointments under the government.

Dr. Guilday To Offer Dictionary Of U. S. Catholic History

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

Washington, D. C., Dec. 12.—Catholic historians and educators are looking forward with great interest to the forthcoming publication of the Dictionary of American Catholic History, written by the Rev. Dr. Peter Guilday of the Catholic University and which will contain about two thousand articles on leading personages, places and movements that have figured in the Catholic chronicles of the United States.

Dr. Guilday has paid special attention to the history of the different dioceses and the book will review the activity of Catholics in national and patriotic movements.

The same author has in preparation a work on "The Life and Times of John Carroll," covering the period from 1735 to 1815 and the part that the first Archbishop of Baltimore played in this country's history. The book is based on original documents, many of which are photographed, which have been secured in Rome, London, Paris, Stonyhurst and other places.

The Seminar of the Catholic University, of which Dr. Guilday is director, is now preparing a guide to the printed sources of the history of the Catholic Church in the United States which it is hoped will be completed next fall.

Catholic Women Prepare Program For Coming Year

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

Washington, D. C., Dec. 12.—Catholic women of the United States face the new year with every indication that it will prove one of the most fruitful in the work of social endeavor that they have ever experienced, according to reports from the executive office of the National Council of Catholic Women here, which has enrolled under its banner more than one thousand societies of Catholic women, throughout the country.

The program for 1921, which had for its ideal chiefly the affiliation of Catholic women's societies, was carried out with a high degree of success, as evidenced by the fact that eleven national, twelve state, thirty-one diocesan and 990 local societies were found enrolled on December 1.

During the coming year emphasis will be placed on the enrollment of individual membership and the fostering of the spirit of national as well as local service among the affiliated organizations. Among the national works to which the societies and individual members will be asked to pay close attention are the maintenance of the National School for Women's Service, and the aiding of immigrants who desire to make their home in the United States.

Fr. Slevin, S. J., Noted Jesuit Preacher, Dead

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

New Orleans, Dec. 7.—Rev. Thomas Slevin, S. J., who suffered a physical collapse due to hard work as chaplain in the army during the world war, died at Hotel Dieu here this week at the age of 63. The funeral took place yesterday from the Church of the Immaculate Conception, of which he had been pastor for many years. Burial was in the Jesuit cemetery.

Father Slevin was born in Ireland and came to this country in 1877. He was a scholastic and teacher at Spring Hill College until his ordination in 1895. In the course of his missionary labors throughout the south he became widely known to Catholics and non-Catholics alike. His ability as a preacher was everywhere recognized.

Circulating Library For Catholics Opens

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

New York, Dec. 12.—With a view to counteracting the harmful influences of bad books, a Catholic circulating library has been opened here under the direction of Miss Beatrice Ridder, a former pupil of the Convents of the Sacred Heart at Manhattanville and Maplehurst.

The scope of the library will be as broad and comprehensive as is consistent with sound religious principle and healthy morality. The reading room is located at Broadway and 81st Street and a splendid collection of books by both Catholic and non-Catholic authors has been arranged.

Irish Priests For Africa

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

Dublin, December 2.—Three priests belonging to the South African Mission, Cork, have just left for Nigeria, and three others for Liberia, in Africa.

Catholic Artist Given Laetare Medal In Paris

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

Paris, Dec. 2.—The French-American Welfare Center here was the scene a few days ago of an interesting ceremony, that attending the presentation of the Laetare Medal to Miss Elizabeth Nourse, the famous Catholic artist. Monsignor Cerretti, Papal Nuncio to France, was present and spoke.

The medal was presented to Miss Nourse by Rev. Father George Sauvage, procurator general of the Congregation of the Holy Cross, who acted for Notre Dame University, which awarded the distinction to her. In bestowing the medal, Father Sauvage said:

"There is special significance in the circumstance that the Laetare Medal crosses the sea on its way to you. While a large share of your life has been spent in France, the high service to which it has been dedicated is the ideal of every American Catholic. Loyalty to the faith has made your work as an artist loyal to the excellent traditions of Christianity, and therefore a heritage for the peoples of all the earth."

Monsignor Cerretti, who has sojourned in the United States, said it gave him particular pleasure to be present for the occasion in the Club dedicated to French and American unity.

"It has been my privilege to assist on a former occasion when the Laetare medal was presented to a distinguished and deserving subject, Miss Mary Merrick, president of the Christ Child Society. But today a faithful daughter of the Church living in France is the recipient."

Monsignor Cerretti referred to the French-American Welfare Center as "this little corner of the United States in France," and praised Miss Nourse's work as an artist.

Dr. Palmeri Praises N.C.W.C. Press Service

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

Brussels, Nov. 21.—High praise of the work and organization of the National Catholic Welfare Council is given in a recent article in the Catholic Historical Review of the University of Louvain, contributed by Rev. Dr. F. A. Palmeri of Philadelphia.

In speaking of the work of the N. C. W. C. Press Bureau the writer declares:

"In no way has the history of the Church in the United States been aided so materially as through the activity of the members of the press bureau and no doubt in time the press bureau will be able to furnish the Catholic press abroad with international news of the Catholic Church."

The University of Louvain Historical Review is regarded as the premier publication of its kind in the world.

JESUIT COLLEGE WINS JOURNALISM CONTEST

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

Prairie du Chien, Wis., Dec. 8.—In a competition in which more than twenty colleges including the University of Wisconsin were represented, a Campion College of this city won first prize in the magazine section for the excellence of its institutional publication, Campion.

French Government Approves Bishops Named by Vatican

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

Paris, Dec. 1.—For the first time the present French Government has had occasion to exercise the "droit de regard" in the appointment of bishops, which was granted by the Holy See. Through the intermediary of the Nuncio, the Sovereign Pontiff submitted for the Government's approval, before making the official announcement, the appointment of the Bishops for the vacant sees of Annecy and Meaux.

In the days of the Concordat, it was the Government of the Republic, which proposed to the Vatican its candidates for episcopal sees. After the separation this rule fell into abeyance automatically, and the Pope made the appointments without consulting the civil authorities. Last year, when Parliament was discussing the question of the re-establishment of the embassy at the Vatican, the Government made it known that the Holy See, upon the renewal of relations, would grant the "droit de regard," that is to say, the right to express an opinion on contemplated appointments.

The new bishops named after the agreement between the two powers are: Mgr. Gaillard, formerly vicar-general of Beauvais, now Bishop of Meaux, and Mgr. Florent du Bois de la Villerable, Auxiliary Bishop of Tours, cousin of Mgr. Andre du Bois de la Villerable, Archbishop of Rouen.

K. of C. Home Will Be Largest Club In U. S. For Young People

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

New York, Dec. 12.—New York's new \$2,000,000 Knights of Columbus home will be the largest club in the country for young folk as well as an edifice that can be a center of work for the poor and needy of the city.

The campaign for funds will continue this week with a bazaar at the Sixty-ninth Regiment armory which promises to eclipse anything of the kind ever held by a Catholic organization in the city.

The plans for the new building call for a structure that will include a swimming pool, bowling alleys, gymnasium and running track, billiard rooms, educational, relief and employment bureaus, executive offices, a library, public auditorium, banquet hall and roof garden.

It is expected that the new building will be completed in 1922 to commemorate the 490th anniversary of the discovery of America. The edifice will be located at Broadway and 50th streets.

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

Dublin, Dec. 1.—Fifteen of the Irish Bishops have made a rule that no students shall be ordained for their dioceses until they are able to preach and perform other religious functions in Irish. Some of the religious orders have in this matter followed the lead given by the Bishops.

Rev. Father Albert O. S. F. C., speaking in Dublin made an earnest appeal to those who knew Irish to use it on all possible occasions and to be proud to be able to speak it. He added that there would be no real progress until the Irish language held its rightful place in the churches.

Church Historians Are To Convene In St. Louis

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

St. Louis, Dec. 12.—Distinguished educators and writers from many parts of the United States will gather here this month to attend the second annual meeting of the American Catholic Historical Association, which starts December 27 and will last three days. The Association was founded in Cleveland in 1919 and held its first annual meeting in Washington last year.

Members of four other important historical associations, including the American Historical Association and the Mississippi Valley Historical Association will meet here at the same time and the reception committee of the American Catholic Historical Association has already made provision to have one thousand copies of the history of the diocese of St. Louis distributed among delegates and members of the different organizations.

The necessity for this practical form of work has been emphasized by the recent publication of volumes in which historical writers have displayed the grossest ignorance of Catholic history in the United States. Attention was recently called to a work of the Rev. Dr. Mode, professor of church history at the University of Illinois, who attempted to give a list of sources on the Catholic Church history of the United States. One critic of Dr. Mode's work declared that "from the second sentence of the section dealing with the Church, where the author mentions the 'Rev. John Gilmary Shea,' it would be hard to find a more compact display of ignorance."

Twelve Papers Ready
Twelve papers will be read at the meeting, notable among which are those by the Very Rev. Patrick J. Healy of the Catholic University, who will discuss the "Study and Writing of Church History" and that of the Very Rev. Dr. Peter Guilday of the Catholic University on "The Restoration of the Jesuits in the United States."

Dr. James J. Walsh, who was elected president of the Association at its last meeting in Washington, will preside at the session and will deliver a paper on "The Church and Peace Movements in the Past," which promises to be of unusual interest because of the conference now going on in Washington.

The reception committee here is headed by the Right Rev. Monsignor John J. Tannrath of the Old Cathedral and includes leading priests and laymen.

Archbishop Glennon will be guest of honor at the annual banquet of the Association and toasts will be responded to by Dr. De Menil of St. Louis, Dr. Emmett Kane of St. Louis and the Rev. Dr. Peter Guilday of the Catholic University.

Organization Spreads
The growth of the organization in the past year has been remarkable and indicates that Catholic America is finally aroused to the necessity of studying and propagating the story of the splendid part that Catholics have played in the upbuilding of the nation.

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Irish Freedom Prophecy by St. Malachy

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

Washington, Dec. 10.—News of the signing of a treaty which may lead to the settlement of the historic war between the Irish people and England recalls the prophecy ascribed to St. Malachy, famous Bishop, who is said to have foretold the liberation of Ireland from English dominion after a lapse of seven centuries. St. Malachy died in Clairvaux, France, in November, 1148.

In the Catholic Encyclopedia appears the following:

"The prophecy, (of Ireland's final freedom) which is distinct from the prophecies attributed to St. Malachy concerning the Pope, is to the effect that his beloved native island would undergo at the hands of England oppression, persecution, and calamities of every kind, during a week of centuries...."

"At the end of seven centuries she would be delivered from her oppressors (or oppressions), who in their turn would be subjected to dreadful chastisements, and Catholic Ireland would be instrumental in bringing back the British nation to that Divine Faith...."

Dom Mabillon, a Benedictine Monk, (1632-1707) claimed to have copied this prophecy from an ancient manuscript in Clairvaux. It is not mentioned by any of St. Malachy's biographers and there is grave doubt of its authenticity.

The agreement to submit terms of peace to their parliament was signed by the Irish and English representatives on the feast of St. Nicholas of Myra, who Irish country and some parts of Europe is identified with Santa Claus.

Lord Granard May Come to Fore In New Irish State

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

Dublin, Dec. 2.—The Earl of Granard, a Catholic nobleman who married Beatrice, the daughter of Ogden Mills, and niece of Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, of New York, is likely to play a considerable part in the political life of the new Irish state. It is announced that Lord Granard is to go to New York to spend the Christmas holidays there with Lady Granard and their children, who have preceded them.

The Earl, whose historic residence is at Newtownforbes, County of Longford, is one of the most prominent Catholic peers in Britain or Ireland. He is closely related to the great English Catholic family of which Lord Petre is the head, and is, through him, connected with the illustrious Catholic houses of Hereford and Norfolk. Lord Granard has held household appointments from the late King Edward and the present King George.

As special Ambassador Lord Granard went to foreign countries to announce the accession of George V in 1910.

Men of Many Creeds Unite to Honor to Christmas

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

New York, Dec. 10.—Men of every race and color gathered in the New Hippodrome last Sunday to pay tribute to Father Duffy, of the old 69th Regiment, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination.