

The Catholic Journal.

33rd Year, No. 14

Rochester, N. Y. Friday, January 6, 1922.

Vienna Churches May Lose Choirs Through Poverty

By Dr. Frederick Funder
(Vienna Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service.)

Vienna, Dec. 20.—Even church music, for centuries, the boast of Vienna, may be denied the people because of the economic situation, which has forced directors and organists to demand more for their services than the parishes are able to pay.

The choir directors of all the churches here have sent a circular letter to the ecclesiastical authorities declaring their inability any longer to continue their work in the churches at the rate of from 50 to 150 crowns a month. They demand henceforth a compensation some twenty times that amount.

Cardinal Piffli has admitted that the claims of these musicians are just. They are indeed very moderate, considering that youth of 18 years, devoid of any intellectual or technical training whatever, are receiving 80,000 crowns a month. Until now the expense of church music has been borne by special parochial unions in the various parishes, but these are without means to meet even the moderate demands just made on them, the more so as their members are recruited from the middle classes who are sorely tried and for the most part wholly impoverished by the social revolution now in progress.

The December prices are four and five times above those of October. It is impossible to predict how hundreds of thousands will manage to get food if the rise continues.

Catholic Prelates Contribute to Near East Relief Fund

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
New York, Jan. 2.—Two members of the Catholic Hierarchy were among recent contributors to the Near East Relief.

Archbishop Hayes of New York, in enclosing a check for \$5,000, wrote the committee:

"I am shocked to learn how terrifying are the present conditions in the Near East, especially in Armenia. A stop must be put by the Christian world to this reign of massacre, famine, disease, and horrors of every description. All must help."

The Right Rev. James O'Reilly, Bishop of Fargo, in enclosing a contribution of \$50, declared:

"I believe the tragedy now taking place among those unfortunate peoples for whom you appeal in the name of humanity is one of the saddest ever enacted in the history of the whole world."

Protestant Clergy Support Free State

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Dublin, Dec. 25.—Protestant bishops and clergy and the Protestant community in general in the South of Ireland have expressed loyalty and good will to the Irish Free State. Rev. Dr. Osborne of the Presbyterian Church declared:

"I never had any fear of suffering injustice at the hands of my fellow-countrymen."

The Board of Trinity College, Dublin, has also offered its support to the Irish Free State.

Noted Catholics Called By Death During Year 1921

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

Washington, D. C., Jan. 2.—During the year that ends this week, Catholics of the United States were called to mourn the loss of the most eminent churchman of the American Hierarchy and the most distinguished citizen in public life among the Catholic laity. In addition to these two figures—James Cardinal Gibbons, who died on Holy Thursday, March 24, at the age of eighty-seven, and Chief Justice Edward Douglass White, who died on May 19 at the age of seventy-five—the church sustained the loss of more than a score of distinguished clerics as well as many lay leaders.

Included among the members of the hierarchy who passed to their reward during the year were the Right Rev. John P. Farrelly, Bishop of Cleveland; the Right Rev. Henry Gabriels, Bishop of Ogdensburg; the Right Rev. Matthew Harkins, Bishop of Providence; the Right Rev. Joseph M. Koudelka, Bishop of Superior; the Right Rev. Charles E. McDonnell, Bishop of Brooklyn; the Right Rev. Thomas O'Gorman, Bishop of Sioux Falls; the Right Rev. James Schwabach, Bishop of LaCrosse; the Right Rev. James Trobec, retired Bishop of St. Cloud; the Right Rev. Thomas Grace, Bishop of Sacramento.

Irish Race Olympic To Be Held In Dublin

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

Dublin, Dec. 23.—In the field of athletics Ireland has always held a foremost place. Under a decree of Dail Eireann an Irish Race Olympic will be held in Dublin in August of next year.

This athletic event will extend over a whole week. From all quarters of the globe where Irishmen have found a home, athletes, hurdlers, cyclists and boxers will be sent to participate in the competitions. This is the biggest and most ambitious scheme ever conceived by the Athletic Association of Ireland.

It is probable that the Olympic may synchronize with the inauguration of the Irish Free State.

St. Joan of Arc's Feast Day Changed

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

Paris, Dec. 24.—Msgr. Touchet, Bishop of Orleans, some time ago asked the Sovereign Pontiff, in the name of the French Hierarchy, to consent to fix the religious celebration of the Feast of Saint Joan of Arc for the second Sunday in May, instead of the Sunday in the octave of the Ascension. This change would permit the liturgical feast to coincide with the French national feast of Joan of Arc, established by law on the second Sunday in May of each year.

Pope Benedict XV kindly granted the change sought by Msgr. Touchet. The Bishop of Orleans has just made this change known in a letter to all the bishops of France.

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)
Washington, D. C., Jan. 2.—Georgetown Visitation Convent is mourning the death of one of the most venerable members of its community, Sister M. Fidelis, who died here at the age of 83.

Sacramental Wine Not In Danger, Says Director

Internal Revenue Bureau Head Denies Change In Law Is Contemplated

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

Washington, D. C., Jan. 2.—Authoritative announcement that the Internal Revenue Bureau is "in no wise concerned with the enactment of laws which would tend to do away with the use of wine for sacramental purposes" has been made here by Commissioner of Internal Revenue, H. D. Blair.

The announcement comes in the form of a letter to the National Catholic Welfare Council which had inquired regarding recent statements attributed to Prohibition Director R. H. Day, of New York, who was quoted as saying: "We are planning to do away with sacramental wines for all faiths."

Director Day has since denied making any such statement and Commissioner Blair has emphasized this denial by saying that any statement that the Bureau is interested in any such plan is "preposterous" and by the further declaration that he "can not believe that any prohibition director made any contrary statement."

In denying the statement attributed to him, Director Day declared that there was a committee of Jews, acting entirely on their own initiative, endeavoring to formulate plans to prevent the illegal use of sacramental wines and that this committee had conferred with four chief rabbis to see if it were possible to change the church laws which now require Jewish families to use fermented wines in home ceremonies.

The letter addressed by Commissioner Blair to the National Catholic Welfare Council is as follows:

"Reference is made to your communication relative to the alleged announcement of a prohibition director to the effect that there is a plan on foot to do away with sacramental wines for all faiths."

"In this connection your attention is called to the following provision of the National Prohibition Act:

"Nothing in this title (Title II) shall be held to apply to the manufacture, sale, transportation, importation, possession or distribution of wines for sacramental purposes, or like religious rites, except section 6 (save as the same requires a permit to purchase) and section 10 hereof, and the provisions of this Act prescribing penalties for the violation of either of said sections."

"The Internal Revenue Bureau is concerned only with the enforcement of the laws which it is charged to enforce. It is in no wise concerned with the enactment of laws which would tend to do away with the use of wine for sacramental purposes. Any statement that it is interested in any such plan as you mention is preposterous. I can not believe that any prohibition director has made any contrary statement."

According to the New York World, Director Day, when he made his original statement was asked if the Catholic Church was included and he said yes, that all faiths were. In Mr. Day's written statement, according to the

World, he said that "the great divergence in the practice of the various schools of religious thought made a general regulation more difficult. One branch does not use sacramental wine in their services and even among the Orthodox there are a very large number who use unfermented wine made of raisins or grapes." There was no hint in Mr. Day's written statement that other than those of Jewish faith were involved.

Intolerant French Officials Rebuked by Council of State

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

Paris, Dec. 21.—The Conseil d'Etat, the highest administrative jurisdiction in France, has just handed down a decision in favor of a certain number of Catholic inhabitants of the village of Vauchrestin in Anjou, against their mayor, against the prefect of the department of Maine-et-Loire, and even against the Minister of the Interior himself.

The Catholics in question had asked the mayor to give them a piece of ground in the municipal cemetery for the erection of a religious monument in memory of those who died in the war.

The mayor refused, stating that the municipality had erected on the village square a monument in memory of the dead, without distinction of creed. This monument had no religious emblem.

"We want a cross," the families declared.

"The co-existence of the two monuments would create divisions in the community," answered the mayor.

The families sent a protest to the prefect, who declared that the mayor was responsible for the care of the cemetery and was therefore justified in refusing to make a concession. The same answer was given by the Minister of the Interior.

But the Council of State, to whom the appeal was carried, decided that the mayor had exceeded his authority, and that his refusal would have been justified only if public order had been threatened or if the arrangement of the cemetery had been disturbed.

"In reality," said the decision, "he obeyed motives of a purely political and religious order. He should not have done so."

Catholic Bureau Aids Romance

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

New York, Jan. 2.—Young Lochinvar came out of the west to claim a bride at the National Catholic Welfare Council Bureau of Immigration the other day.

John Thomassen was young Lochinvar, and he drove his modern steed, a high-powered car, from Nebraska to New York to claim Miss Magdalena Mayer, whose love he had won in Germany while a member of the army of occupation.

The marriage ceremony was performed at the Leo House by the Rev. Anthony J. Rothlauf, after the immigration requirements had been satisfactorily completed by the Bureau. Mrs. Thomassen, who was taking her first trip in an automobile, started on her honeymoon journey to Syracuse, Nebraska, with complete confidence in the driving capabilities of her husband. The marriage marked the third army romance in which the N. C. W. C. Bureau has rendered assistance within the past few months.

Pope Orders Triduum

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

Rome, Dec. 26.—In a letter soon to be published by the Congregation of the Propaganda, an announcement will be made that the Holy Father is to celebrate Pontifical Mass at the Vatican Basilica on Pentecost and pronounce a homily commemorative of the third centenary of the founding of the Congregation and the first centenary of the beginning of work by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

His Holiness directs that in all the cathedrals and principal churches of the world these anniversaries be celebrated by a triduum at Pentecost and he grants to bishops and rectors the faculty of bestowing on this occasion the Papal Benediction. The Holy Father is composing a prayer for the triduum.

A group of officers and men of the U. S. Battleship Utah, which is at anchor in Naples, attended midnight mass at the North American College Christmas.

FATHER BLACKMORE CELEBRATES GOLDEN JUBILEE AS JESUIT

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

Cleveland, Jan. 2.—The golden jubilee of the entrance of the Rev. Simon A. Blackmore into the Jesuit Order was celebrated here last week, Bishop Schrembs and prominent clergymen taking part in the exercises, which included solemn services in St. Mary's Church.

Father Blackmore, who is professor emeritus of English at St. Ignatius College, has taught in many of the principal Jesuit universities and colleges throughout the land, including St. Louis University, Woodstock College, Md.; St. Xavier's College, Cincinnati; Marquette University, Milwaukee; Creighton University, Omaha; Campion College, Wisconsin; and Loyola University, Chicago.

He gained particular prominence by advancing the discussion of the Catholicity of William Shakespeare and many critics have agreed that Father Blackmore has brought a wealth of evidence to uphold his contention that the Bard of Avon was indeed a member of the true Church. Father Blackmore entered the Order in 1871 and was ordained by Cardinal Gibbons in 1885.

Church Which Had Origin in Bigotry

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

Aberdeen, Md., Jan. 2.—Mass in the new St. Joan of Arc church erected here as a reply of the Catholics of this community to the attacks of a bigoted anti-Catholic lecturer, was celebrated for the first time at midnight Christmas. The church was formerly a K. of C. war hut, which was moved to Aberdeen. Catholic men dug the foundations for the structure after business hours. The Rev. Francis X. Siggins, mixed the concrete.

Mass here was formerly celebrated in the American Legion hall, from which the anti-Catholic lecturer, an apostate, tried to have the congregation ejected.

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Los Angeles, Jan. 2.—Los Angeles new central Catholic high school for girls will be named in honor of the late Right Rev. Thomas J. Conaty, Bishop of Los Angeles from 1908 to 1915.

8,000 Divorces In Chicago In a Year

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

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 2.—Eight thousand Chicago divorces have been broken up by divorce in the year just past, according to a report of the judges of the Superior and Circuit courts.

Judge Charles A. McDonald of the Superior court, a Catholic, declares there is a lesson in the home-breaking that every one may well ponder. Sin, says the judge, is the cause of all these martial wrecks, and he enumerates the big quartet of evils—"drunkenness, cruelty, desertion, and infidelity." Violation of the laws of God, and the easy divorce feature of the laws of man then combine to make for this city a record that is not creditable.

"The mills that grind out the grist of divorce decrees have never stopped this year," said Judge McDonald. "There has been no lack of business and no unemployment in this matter."

"Same old reasons: Drunkenness, cruelty, desertion, and infidelity. Always the same. The war, moonshine, the depression in business, the desire for easy living and little work, all have helped. Everything helps, nothing hinders."

The average is about 100 divorces a week in each of the two courts of concurrent jurisdiction.

Washington Club To Aid Augustinians In Constantinople

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

Washington, D. C., Jan. 2.—Aid for the Mission of the Augustinians of the Assumption in Constantinople has been pledged by the Amite Club, a Catholic social organization of the District of Columbia, which will immediately forward a substantial contribution to the Holy Land to aid the work which has been practically ruined by the war.

The houses, schools and churches of the Augustinians were occupied during the conflict and when returned were left empty of their fixtures and furniture and were uninhabitable. Most of the buildings will have to be demolished and reconstructed, a work that will require \$700,000.

The superior, the Rev. P. Clement, has appealed to Americans to come to the assistance of the mission.

CHURCH FIRE AVERTED BY CHOIR MASTER'S QUICK WORK ON ALTAR

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

Boston, Jan. 2.—The presence of mind displayed by Choir Director Charles H. Schmidt averted what might have been a serious conflagration while Mary's Church, Harvard's Norfolk streets, Cambridge, was crowded at high mass. The decorations had been lighted a candle when Schmidt stepped on the altar steps and started the blaze. He was burned about the face, but quick work by his assistants and persons in the choir prevented anything unusual from occurring.

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Mary McCarthey continued to work for the poor and the oppressed.