

"It was with you...
missions and build
schools, if you are not
able to yield the offensive,
and defensive weapons of
a loyal Catholic Press."
— Pope Pius X

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Catholic Trend In Germany Seen By Former Premier

Declares German Catholicism Can Be An Important Factor In The World's Evolution To Better State

By Hugo Count von Lerchenfeld

Washington, March 12.—Count Hugo von Lerchenfeld, former Premier of Bavaria, is at present touring the United States. He is here to tell of the renewed strength of the Catholic movement in Germany which, he says, is one of the most important developments growing out of the World War. In his article written exclusively for the N. C. W. C. News Service, the Count gives his ideas concerning the fundamental and underlying causes for the development of the situation which he describes.

War and revolution not only changed the face of Germany physically but they also stirred the minds of the people very deeply. There had been considerable unrest many years before. Since the second half of the last century, social problems had brought an element of fermentation into the widest strata of the German nation which, by rapid industrial development, its high standards of education and by its natural tendencies towards theory and criticism, was inclined to new social doctrines. Marx and Lassalle, the fathers of modern Socialism, were both Germans, though of Jewish blood.

Unfortunately present conditions are most difficult. The depreciation of German money and the occupation of the Rhineland by foreign troops hampers some of our Catholic activities in a most distressful way. Good Catholics of all nations ought to contribute to help ameliorate these conditions.

War and revolution, as I said, changed the situation of the Catholic Church considerably throughout Germany. On the one hand, Germany lost important provinces with Catholic majorities in the West and East. On the other hand the Socialist parties, which came into power in 1918, could not deny their principles so far as to carry on certain restrictions against the Church which had formerly weighed upon it: i. e., the law against the Jesuits and other religious orders. At the same time the energy of the Catholic voters prevented the Socialists, who on the whole are in support of an unfriendly separation of Church and State, from adopting any measures unfavorable to religious activity.

But we must try to enter deeper into the problem. The growth of interest in religious questions is an undeniable fact. If I remarked in my introduction that the events of the last few years had deeply stirred the minds, I may go one step farther and say there goes a yearning throughout humanity to be released from the present chaotic and distressful conditions and this yearning is more deeply felt by those nations which are most affected by these conditions. No wonder, that people shaken in the belief turn towards ideals forgotten, yes, despised in the past.

Let us learn from what history, the impartial judge, teaches. German Catholicism hampered or wiped out would mean an irreparable loss to Catholic thought and to humanity.

Mussolini Orders Seizure of Obscene Literature In Rome

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Rome, Mar. 12.—On the order of Premier Mussolini, the police seized all the obscene books, pamphlets, postal cards and pictures they could find in the city, arrested scores of notorious characters who have been roaming the streets of Rome, rounded up drug peddlers and deported many known vagabonds.

Certain French authors were particularly hard hit by the order to confiscate immoral books. Signor Mussolini directed a special raid on Victor Marguerite's "La Garconne," which had been hastily translated and widely advertised immediately following the announcement that its author had been expelled from the Legion of Honor for writing it. The biggest book stores were not immune from the clean-up and the works of some thirty German, Italian and French writers were seized.

Secretary Of Academy Receives Last Rites

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Paris, March 2.—The historian Frederic Masson, Perpetual Secretary of the French Academy, has just died. Before his death, while in full possession of all his faculties, he received the last sacraments from the hands of his fellow Academician, Mgr. Baudrillart, rector of the Catholic Institute of Paris.

Three Sisters Will Enter Catholic Mission Order

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Brooklyn, Mar. 12.—Three sisters from this city are to join the order of the Missionary Servants of the Most Blessed Trinity simultaneously. They are the Misses Katharine, Ann and Isabel McGrate. Each is a woman of unusual intellectual and professional attainments.

Big Bequests Nearly Lost to Church

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Harrisburg, Pa., Mar. 12.—The will of the late David E. Tracy probated here disposes of an estate amounting to more than \$1,000,000 of which the greater part is left to the various charitable and educational institutions of the Harrisburg diocese. These gifts just missed becoming invalid by a margin of three days.

K. OF C. OATH

New York, March 12.—With half the period of sixty days elapsed during which the Knights of Columbus offered rewards to

totaling \$25,000.00 who could prove that the so-called "blood and thunder" oath attributed to the Knights was an authentic part of any K. of C. ceremonial, no claimant has yet come forward, although Supreme Advocate Hart of the K. of C. has evidence that the bogus oath is still being freely circulated in various parts of the country. Five rewards of \$5,000.00 each remain deposited in Texas banks by the Knights for the next thirty days.

"A fight to the finish will be made not only on purveyors of this heinous oath, but on all who slander the Knights of Columbus," Supreme Knight Fishary formally declares. "This applies to the various organs and centers sympathetic with the Ku Klux Klan and other bigoted organizations, who spread the libel that the K. of C. in the \$1,000,000.00 endowment for welfare work in Rome, are using the K. of C. war fund. The Roman welfare work is paid for out of private funds; the war fund is devoted solely to educational and hospitalization work for ex-service men of all denominations. Any statement to the contrary is a lie for which the Knights of Columbus will hold the liar responsible."

Detroit Merchants Will Close For Three Hours On Good Friday

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Detroit, March 10.—The Good Friday closing movement is well under way by the Holy Name Society, here, with John Sullivan acting as chairman of the campaign. Everything points to an absolute cessation from business on the "Three Hours" of Good Friday. The Detroit Retail Merchants' Association, representing the larger stores of the city, has replied to letters sent out by the society, agreeing to close places of business from 12 to 3 on that day. The theatres and moving picture houses have fallen in line. The matter of closing will now be taken up in the residential districts, with the householders, as well as the merchants, one asked not to buy, the other not to sell, during the hours when the Good Lord suffered and died on Calvary's Cross.

Uses Encyclical For Lenten Pastoral

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
London, March 1.—Instead of publishing his usual Lenten Pastoral the Bishop of Middlesbrough, who is the dean of all the Catholic Bishops in the British Empire, directed that the recent Encyclical of Pope Pius XI should be divided into three portions, and in that manner read from all the pulpits in the diocese on three successive Sundays in Lent.

San Diego, March 12.—Easter Sunday has been chosen as the date of the official dedication of the new \$65,000 K. of C. home-

Catholic Colleges New Offer Courses By Correspondence

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

Washington, D. C., March 10.—Three Catholic colleges have now fallen in line with approximately eighty State universities, colleges, normal schools, and other institutions of higher learning, offering courses by correspondence for which credit toward degrees is given. These are the Catholic University of America, Loyola University, Chicago, and DePaul University, Chicago. The courses in all three institutions are given primarily for the teaching student, although they are open to all persons on the same terms. The DePaul University courses are under the immediate charge of Miss Ann Roescher, who for over a year was a member of the staff of the National Catholic Welfare Council. Three courses are now being prepared: Methods of Teaching in High Schools, Methods of Teaching in Junior High Schools, and Methods of Teaching in Elementary Schools.

Veteran Of Paris Army Dead In Dublin

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Dublin, Mar. 12.—The last survivor of the Paris Commune, a Frenchman who fought in the trenches of the First World War, died in Dublin today. He was 85 years old. He had been blind for many years and was unable to work. He had been living in a small room in a tenement house in Dublin. He was a member of the Holy Name Society.

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Mass Kits Provided

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
San Francisco, Mar. 11.—Passenger steamers of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha line, lying between San Francisco and Honolulu, Yokohama, Kobe, Nagasaki, Shanghai, Hong Kong and Manila, will hereafter carry complete Mass kits for the convenience of missionaries and other priests who may be traveling to the Orient.

Although I have... I am glad... The small... Particularly... You may... Nevada... The... Without...

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