

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

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Friday, April 27, 1923.

TELEPHONE MAIN 1547

Second class mail matter.

Martyrs.

Francis McCullough was able to smuggle out of Moscow a graphic account of the trial before the Russian Soviet of the Catholic prelates that shocked the civilized world. This account was published in the New York "Herald" and from it we reproduce a few paragraphs of the conclusion of the trial in order that our readers may see that the Soviet war upon all religion:

The proceeding ended amid the most dramatic circumstances. A witness, Smirnov, had testified that the priests had celebrated mass after he had cleared their churches and notified them they must not carry on public worship until they had received permission from the soviet government. Gelkin, the presiding judge, asked the prisoners if this was so, and they admitted it was.

Now you must choose once and for all, yelled a savage faced expert on the scarlet bench. Are you going to continue say for mass?

It was a tense, dramatic moment. Each priest was questioned in turn. Each stood up and declared calmly, firmly and proudly that he would continue to say mass and teach children the catechism, no matter what the consequences to himself.

The judge savagely questioned one young man who had been ordained in 1914 when 23 years old. Do you teach children the catechism?

Yes, I know that.

And will you continue to teach the catechism?

Yes, with God's help, I will. It is my duty to do so, no matter what the consequences may be. If a father asks me to teach his child the catechism I cannot refuse.

Gelkin, himself a renegade priest, scowled darkly. He had selected the younger priest, thinking he would yield and practically abjure his faith, but he found himself struggling against a rock.

Some teaches you this, yelled Gelkin, and soviet Russia teaches the contrary. Which will you choose, Rome or red Russia?

In the deep silence that followed the voice of the young priest rang out like the voice of an early Christian in the Flavian amphitheatre.

Rome, he said with a smile. And the electric light overhead shone upon a face that might have been the model for the great medieval picture of St. Sebastian in the national gallery in London.

The Knights of Columbus are to refute the silly charge that part of their funds are to be used to break down the Methodist and other non-Catholic sects. A charge carries its own refutation. Any way, as any man of the World War will testify, they are not.

Help.

This excerpt from the closing section of the annual report of St. Vincent de Paul Conference in a near-by city may explain to curious persons one reason why Catholic doings do not figure largely in the Monday morning reports of the Sunday services or in the current Sunday "Radio programs":

"Houses were rented and Sunday schools opened in parts of the city remote from churches. The results were consoling. Churches now exist in the same localities. In great thoroughfares the poor stranger may be too easily imposed upon by the designing and unprincipled. The conference very frequently had the consolation of throwing the protection of St. Vincent de Paul around the injured, the exposed or oppressed stranger, sustaining some in their rights, saving others from loss and protecting many poor females from impending ruin, worse than any pecuniary loss. Satisfied with doing good in the most silent, unobtrusive way, the conference has as yet made no publication of its action. It would prefer that the left hand should not know what the right hand doth."

But it is His glory we think that a new order should begin, with renewed fervor for good works, which God awakens among us, hence we judge it right to affix this notice to the new edition of the rules, and to require at the close of the year a synopsis of the works of this society to be read to the conference and entered in its archives, and that a copy be transmitted to the Central Conference in Paris."

Lutherans in the West are waking up to the danger of the Oregon anti-parochial school law.

Fact Getting.

In these latter days we are confronted with the dishonest analyst of statistics who presents "half figures"—those which tend to substantiate the particular argument he is putting forth and carefully concealing or holding back the remaining figures which might puncture or weaken his argument. The same fault may be found with the publicity artist who bolsters up his case with half a statement torn from its qualifying or explanatory context.

These assertions are prefatory to the following editorial in a recent issue of "Columbia":

Archbishop Hayes of New York does not mince matters when he has anything to say. He fulfills Cardinal Newman's definition of worthwhile utterance—something worth uttering said in the simplest and smallest number of words. Recently the Archbishop addressed a meeting of Catholic educators in New York, and to them he declared that without God education was not only incomplete but a failure. There are statistically inclined gentlemen who disagree with his Grace, who go to jails and tabulate their occupants according to educational antecedents. Recently one such visited a California prison and announced that thirty per cent. of the felons attended private schools which gave religious instruction. He said nothing about the remaining seventy per cent., all of whom a later and more exacting investigator found to have attended only public schools. These figures have not so much force as an argument as a warning, that those who bravely and boisterously demand education free from the "trammels" of religious dogma are not even honest in their protest, to say nothing of their principles.

It begins to look as if we were to have an up to date boys high school and college in Rochester.

Approved.

That President Harding's vigorous protest against the Russian Soviet's war on religion is appreciated is evidenced by the following despatch from Washington to the National Catholic Welfare Council's News Service:

Archbishop Hanna of San Francisco, chairman of the administrative committee of the National Catholic Welfare Council, and Bishop Peter J. Muldoon of Rockford, called at the White House recently to thank President Harding for the action of the American government in protesting against the death sentence imposed upon Archbishop Zepliak and Msgr. Butchkevitch by the soviet authorities. Archbishop Hanna, as chairman of the administrative committee, signed the telegram sent to the President asking the American government to intervene on behalf of the two Russian prelates, and the message of protest addressed by the Welfare Council to the soviet commissar of foreign affairs.

President Harding received the two prelates cordially and informed them that the government authorities had been glad to do all they could to save the lives of Archbishop Zepliak and Msgr. Butchkevitch. The President, it is understood, declared that the action taken by the United States government was prompted by a realization that the issue was a matter of "human justice."

"Protestants Only"

The Brooklyn "Tablet" has unearthed a peculiar transaction in New York city. An employment agency, called the Personnel Company, of 9 Church street has been advertising for "bank help, inserting the line "Protestants only." When asked by the Tablet what was the idea of such discriminatory advertising, L. Stanley Fellows, manager of the company, replied that business firms wanted to keep a balance between Protestant and Catholic help so as not to be known as a Catholic or Protestant house. Mr. Fellows added in his letter that the Personnel Company also published "Catholics only" advertisements. In replying to this, the Tablet remarked that the balance idea was almost unbelievable and asked for the banks' names in order to further investigate the same, and also requested copies of "Catholics only" want ads. In reply to this, Mr. Fellows refused to give further information.

This is the kind of sub-cellar work that we should follow up and expose whenever and wherever we can. The concern or corporation or person who wants only Protestant employees should be confined solely to Protestant trade and receipts. Catholics should be forewarned and stay away from such concerns, corporations or persons.

Bishop Henderson of the Methodist Episcopal Church renews Cardinal O'Connell's assertion that there is so much irreligion to be combatted in the United States that we should all center our efforts here, instead of trying to inject religious animosities between the Christian peoples of Europe but the Cardinal's position is absolutely correct and fair-minded Methodists agree with his Eminence.

The Klu Kluxers hate to leave Rochester which is classed as a splendid fraternal field without picking up a bundle of easy money.

Msgr. Hendrick Improving in Health in South

Geneva, April 24.—Rev. Monsignor Joseph W. Hendrick, rector of St. Francis de Sales Church, who is spending some time in Florida for his health, writes that he is getting better every day and is very much improved by his stay in the South.

Dates of Important Catholic Assemblies

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.) Washington, D. C., April 23.—Dates and places of important national conventions of Catholic societies and federations announced for this year are as follows:

June 25-30—Catholic Educational Association at Cleveland. June 26-27—Catholic Conference on Industrial Problems at Milwaukee. June 29-30—Catholic Press Association at Indianapolis. July 18-21—Ancient Order of Hibernians and Ladies' Auxiliary at Montreal. August 7-10—Knights of Columbus at Montreal. August 9-12 Catholic Students' Mission Crusade at Notre Dame, Ind. August 19-22—National Catholic Central Society at Milwaukee. September 9-14—National Conference of Catholic Charities at Philadelphia.

The dates for the annual conventions of the National Council of Catholic Men and the National Council of Catholic Women have not yet been set. Cincinnati has been suggested as the scene of the N. C. C. M. Convention, which will probably take place in October. Among the important international gatherings of Catholics will be the International Eucharistic Congress at Paris, July 4 to 8.

Four Protestant Churches Are Now Used by Catholics

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.) Richmond, Va. April 23.—Four Protestant churches in Richmond and the vicinity have been "converted" into Catholic churches during the past few years and are growing rapidly.

St. Paul's Church so called by the Right Rev. Denis J. O'Connell, in honor of the first great convert to Christianity, was formerly the Barton Heights Methodist Church. Established less than a year ago, St. Paul's parish, in addition to a thriving congregation, has already a parochial school with six grades and a kindergarten, and has an attendance of seventy-five children.

The Rev. Dr. E. P. Shaughnessy is pastor of St. Paul's. St. Francis Church at Claremont, St. Anthony's Church and St. Peter Claver's the last for colored Catholics, were all formerly used by Protestant congregations.

Bishop Schrembs Honored by Fribourg

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.) Cleveland, April 23.—Word has been received here that the University of Fribourg has conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon the Right Rev. Joseph Schrembs, Bishop of Cleveland. Bishop Schrembs is being congratulated by many friends on his new honor, which is for an American, a rare distinction, as the standards of Fribourg are very high.

Irish Civic Guard Consecrated

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.) Dublin, April 18.—The Civic Guard, the police force organized by the Free State Government, has been consecrated to the Sacred Heart. The consecration ceremony took place in the Depot, Phoenix Park, Dublin. Fifteen hundred officers and men drawn up in hollow square were present on the occasion.

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