

K. of C. To Erect An \$800,000 Club-House In Baltimore

Baltimore, Md., June 27.—With a novel plan calculated to eliminate the "charity" idea, the Knights of Columbus of Baltimore have just put far "over the top" a \$800,000 campaign which will insure Baltimore one of the finest fraternal homes in the country. Placing their figure at \$800,000, the Knights have collected \$577,700, and returns are still rolling in.

The proposed building and grounds will constitute a \$1,000,000 project and will provide a K. of C. home and in addition a Catholic social center and educational and athletic headquarters. The improvements will cost \$800,000.

The plan devised by the Baltimore Knights was highly unusual. It evolved into a straight-out business most prominent bankers of the city, whereby those who helped the project merely invested in sound lucrative bonds. A loan is to be negotiated with a Baltimore financial house on a first mortgage, and second mortgage twenty-year 6 percent gold bonds were disposed of to members of the order and their friends. These bonds were sold on their merits as investments, with the commendation of a group of bankers. The canvassers took a short course in bond selling before they started their work. The returns from the building itself, it was shown by careful figures, will care for the bonds and free the home of debt eventually.

Going out with this proposition a rousing inaugural meeting at which Archbishop Curley and Governor Ritchie of Maryland expressed wholehearted commendation, the canvassers made short work of their task.

The new structure will be erected in three units, and will combine every modern facility of a Catholic club and center. The first unit will be a club and hotel, exclusively for men, with 135 bedrooms, and will have seven stories. The other two units will contain a great auditorium seating 1,600, with a stage, a gymnasium, a swimming pool, reading and meeting rooms, locker rooms and a library. It is hoped the club house will be ready in 1926.

Belfast Education Act Is Protested By Presbyterians

Dublin, June 27.—Presbyterians are up in arms against the education act passed by the Belfast Parliament. The act stipulates that religion is not to be taken into account in the appointment of teachers, and provides explicitly that the education authority shall not provide religious instruction in any elementary school. At the Presbyterian General Assembly this provision was denounced in vigorous terms and the Belfast Government was also subjected to some outspoken criticism.

Rev. J. Donaghy declared that the Belfast Parliament, judged by the way it treated religion, was a Godless parliament. A resolution was adopted calling upon Presbyterians to make every effort to bring about an amendment of the act and recommending Presbyterian owners and managers not to transfer their schools to the Government unless and until the act was amended.

Rev. W. C. Hunter said: "It was a terrible thing for the Six-County Parliament to be playing into the hands of the Free State. Men are now asking what is the good of remaining separated from the people of the South."

The same speaker asked Presbyterians to go out in opposition to the Government and to wipe it out of existence.

Four Divine Word Scholastics Raised To The Priesthood

Techny, Ill., June 17.—At the Quigley Preparatory Seminary Chapel on Saturday, the Rt. Rev. Edward F. Mohan, D. D., raised four scholastics of the Society of the Divine Word to the missionary priesthood. They were:

The Rev. Arthur F. Dingman, S. V. D. of McKees Rocks, Pa.; the Rev. Joseph A. Jansen, S. V. D. of Green Creek, Ill.; the Rev. Ladislaus A. Pawlowski, S. V. D. of Toledo, Ohio; and the Rev. William Nicholas Schwalle, S. V. D. of Ripley, Ohio.

All four newly ordained pursued their entire course of thirteen years study in St. Mary's College and Seminary, Techny, with the exception of Father Pawlowski who spent two years in the College of St. John

San Francisco, Cal., June 27.—Frank W. Healy, of San Francisco, who last season managed the tour of Monsignor Rella's Roman Choir, is arranging a new tour of a group of twelve singers, selected from Monsignor Rella's choir and other choirs of Rome, and will give concerts of classical and sacred music.

Receives His First Communion At His Son's First Mass

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Washington, D. C., June 20.—The novel spectacle of a young priest saying his first Mass, his brother, already a priest, assisting him, his sister, a nun, attending, and his father, recently a convert, receiving his First Communion from his son's hands at the Mass, was enacted here Thursday.

In addition, the Mass was said at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, the director of which, Dr. Bernard A. McKenna, once had the newly-made priest as an altar boy.

The young priest was the Rev. Bertrand Johannesen, of Philadelphia, who had been ordained in the Dominican order the day before. His brother also is a Dominican, and his sister a member of the Immaculate Heart order.

Notre Dame Men On Olympic Team

(N. C. W. C. News Service) South Bend, Ind., June 20.—Tom Lieb and Gene Oberst, students in the Boy Guidance Department at Notre Dame University, recently established by the Supreme Council, Knights of Columbus, to train college graduates for work with boys, were selected to represent the United States in the Olympic games now in progress in Paris.

Lieb won the discus throw at the trials held in Boston Saturday, breaking the Olympic record for that event, and Oberst placed fifth in the javelin throw. Both will return to Notre Dame to resume their studies in September.

Hotel Guests Given Copy Of Declaration And Constitution

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Washington, June 27.—A booklet containing the Declaration of Independence, the Federal Constitution, and the Bill of Rights, has been placed in each room of the Willard Hotel here. This action was taken at the instance of Gen. T. Coleman du Pont, one of the owners of the hotel.

It is reported that the booklets will also be placed in the rooms of other hotels in which General du Pont is interested. These include the Waldorf-Astoria in New York, and the Bellevue-Stratford in Philadelphia.

Abyssinian Regent To Visit Vatican

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Rome, June 20.—Pas Tafari, Regent of Abyssinia, is to be received at the Vatican with ceremony appropriate to his rank. It was learned here yesterday after the ceremonial reception he will be received in audience by Pope Pius XI.

The Abyssinian Prince who is now living at the Quirinal will not go directly from the Royal Palace to the Vatican. He will drive to the Grand Hotel in a state automobile and there enter a Papal car bearing the Papal colors for the remainder of the journey. Prince Tafari is a Catholic of the Coptic Rite.

CATHOLICS ARE SCHOOL LEADERS IN INDIA'S MOST LITERATE STATE

Ernakulam, India, May 23.—Travancore, which is an Indian State ruled by a Hindu Maharaja, can boast it is the most literate part in India. The Catholics have contributed not a little to this advancement. For they own and manage 15 out of 34 high schools, 25 out of 40 middle schools and 714 out of 2992 vernacular schools in the State. Besides all these, the Catholics conduct a College of Arts also in Travancore.

It should be recalled in this connection that there were Christians in Travancore from the earliest centuries of the Christian Era, and that the little State of Travancore has within its borders one million Christians out of the four millions in the whole of the vast continent of India.

Holy Year Committee Operates Rome Office

Rome, June 24.—The Central Committee for the Holy Year has established its headquarters at 24 Via Gregoriana, Rome. A survey of the city is being made to provide housing facilities for the numerous pilgrims who are expected in the Eternal City throughout the year 1925. Hotels, boarding houses and inns are being listed and hospitality will be offered to visitors in many private homes and in numerous religious and civil institutions. A special service is being organized to provide aid and information to pilgrims and reduced railroad rates and special train service are being arranged.

National Committees for the Holy Year and provide information in the various countries have already been formed in Austria, Egypt, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland and Hungary.

German Socialist Free School Closed

Cologne, June 23.—The Socialist "free schools"—schools without religion—are more and more losing sympathy. In many towns, teachers at Hagen, a large Westphalian industrial town, there were four "free schools," with twenty-five forms and classes and ten senior teachers, eight assistant teachers and two governesses. In the last year, most members of their staffs have abandoned the four "free schools" and returned to the denominational schools. Communist pamphlets filled with bias, pheny and hatred of religion are given out and read at these institutions.

The rest of the teachers a month ago refused to teach these impetuous, longer, and demanded that they be permitted to teach in denominational schools. The town government decided that parents could not obligate teachers to teach against their convictions and see the schools become propaganda places for atheism and social hatred, and accordingly closed down all the "free schools."

In today's paper I see starting hideously up as the suicide of my old pal, the well known writer, Peter Clark MacFarland. Just a year ago he and I were in merry epistolary controversy about some of his writings. He made a Scriptural faux pas in his story, "Mercy," which was running in a magazine. He said that St. Peter, leaving his cloak in a detaining hand, ran away from the Crucifixion. All students of the Bible know it was not St. Peter that did that, having already enough courage to his credit, but St. Mark. Mr. MacFarland wrote:

I certainly had a whiff coming to me for what I did to poor old Peter. Smashed out on a typewriter in four days in a hotel room as "Mercy" was, there was not much time for misgiving about anything; yet I did have one about that young man flying without his cloak, but it was such a darn good figure, and I was so wrought up over the story that I never turned to the Gideon's Bible in the room to check myself up. Had my Synoptics been at hand, it would have been so easy to do. Thank you for calling my attention to the error, as you are quite right, I wouldn't want to perpetuate the slur on the great fisherman in a bound book.

An glad to be able to tell you that I've always been rather strong for Peter myself. He was the most intelligent of the disciples, the most eager to learn and apply practically what he had learned, that was why he rebuked his Master about going up to Jerusalem—he couldn't under almost a duty on all Irish people who stand. His Master had said: "Have ye any swords?" and he thought that meant fight, but when he used one of those swords, his Master called him down severely. Peter was all mixed up then—he was a coward simply because he couldn't understand, as WE ARE ALL COWARDS.

IN THE DARK Peter's psychology is most interesting and comprehensible. I get huffy when I hear sermons on Peter as a man of falling faith because of the water-walking incident. Why Peter was the only man in the whole crowd who had faith enough to put a leg over the side of the boat.

I envy you your confessional. Sitting myself for seven years in the Protestant confessional, I heard few stories myself, while as a journalist and interviewer, I have got some confessions out of the greatest in the land in many fields of achievement, still I can see that you are up against the raw edge of life, where it is generally salvaged as I touch it now.

What a game life is! And what a privilege to get our chance to play it to the best of our ability! I always feel sad at watching a ball game, realizing I'm not "out there" anymore playing the game myself. You're playing the game for all you're worth I can see.

And this week poor Peter MacFarland stood at the steps of the San Francisco morgue and shot himself dead. "I have been broken on the wheel of the soul's effort to express itself," he wrote in a note found with his bleeding body. "Nothing remains but to dynamite the ruins."

And so he shattered the tenement that housed his immortal soul, and sent that God-given spirit of his hurtling out to judgment before his time. Poor Peter. He was brilliant, and had depth to him; but did he play life's game honestly with God and himself? The sequel would say.

He broke his soul, a delicate creation, trying to express himself. Peter's mind was too hard. He was too much his own spiritual master. He can't help feeling that if Peter MacFarland had listened to the voice of God, he would have met the guide he and all the rest of us require—authority in religious teaching, the Bible and the living voice to interpret for even the most naturally enlightened. His mind was cowardly, because he was in the dark.

Poor, clever Peter! I hope when his confused, misguided, startled soul rushed into the presence of the Master, a great, gentle pity shone from the Eyes that make the splendor of heaven.

Calvert Club Formed in Chicago

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Chicago, June 27.—Definite information of the Calvert Club of Chicago was decided upon at a meeting of several hundred leading Catholics of this city, recently, at the Hotel Auditorium. Dr. John A. Lapp, president. Addresses were made by Dr. John A. Lapp, Rev. Claud Perrin, S. J., Mrs. James F. Bremner, Miss Laura Wright, and Michael Williams, the chairman of the National Membership of the Calvert Associates.

More than two hundred new members of the Calvert Club joined the organization on Sunday. Dr. Lapp explained the main objects of the club. Its membership comprises both clergy and laymen, men and women devoted to the promotion of Catholic literature, art, sociology and other cultural interests. The new weekly organization on Sunday. Dr. Lapp explained the main objects of the club. Its membership comprises both clergy and laymen, men and women devoted to the promotion of Catholic literature, art, sociology and other cultural interests.

The new organization will give important lecture courses and engage in other intellectual works. Dr. Lapp was elected as the president of the Calvert Club of Chicago. Mrs. James F. Bremner, who actively cooperated with Dr. Lapp in founding the club, is vice-president, and Miss Laura Wright, secretary-treasurer. Miss Raphael Foran also is actively associated with the organization.

Mr. Williams announced that the national membership of the Calvert Associates was now more than 2,500. Clubs similar to the one formed in Chicago will be established in other cities.

Another remarkable case is that of a woman from the Midlands. A wounded hand had become septic, and had contracted so that she could not open it. For seventeen months there had been constant suppuration. As a last resource, before having the hand amputated, the woman decided to go to Lourdes to seek Our Lady's aid.

Tornado Wrecks Indian Missions

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Washington, D. C., June 19.—News has just been received by the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions of the tornado June 14 which destroyed the church, barn and shop of the immaculate Conception Indian Mission School at Stephens, S. Dak., where Father Pius Boehm, O.S.B., has been a missionary for half a century. Fortunately, the Indian children had been dismissed from the boarding school the day previously. Considerable damage was also done to the chapels at Big Bend and Fort Thompson, which are attended by Father Justin Snyder, O.S.B. Others damaged were probably also damaged and supposed alleviation of a sick pilgrim's condition can rightly be regarded as a miraculous cure.

Former Swiss Premier Sees Lourdes Cures Formally Attested

Paris, June 12.—A dispatch from Lourdes announces that M. Motta, former president of the Swiss Republic, who came to Lourdes with the pilgrimage from Fribourg, was present at the Bureau of Medical Conclusions when five miraculous cures, an energetic protest against the indecency of the posters pasted on the walls was made by a priest before a large crowd. Having noticed, four of the beneficiaries of these cures were afflicted with Potts disease. They are Mademoiselle Angele Jean Vuillet, member of the "Conseil Supérieur de la Natallie," went to Lourdes, 27 years old, of Baulon, department of Ille et Vilaine, the mother of three children; Paul Merat, 14 that he was guilty of an infraction of the law and asked him to accompany him to the police station where the agents registered his name and in (Ille et Vilaine). The fifth cure was that of a member of the Bellegarde pilgrimage, Albert Gerard, 31 years old, from France-les-Couvains. He had been ill since 1917 as the result of being struck with the butt of a rifle, he was paralyzed, and the X-ray showed a tubercular deterioration of the vertebrae. Since May 18, however, the movement of the vertebrae column has been supple and free from pain. His extraordinary cure has been certified by three Belgian doctors.

This series of cures is one of the most remarkable which has ever been recorded.

Abbe Violet Tears Down An Indecent Poster

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Paris, June 16.—In the heart of Paris, on the Boulevard des Capucines, an energetic protest against the indecency of the posters pasted on the walls was made by a priest before a large crowd. Having noticed, four of the beneficiaries of these cures were afflicted with Potts disease. They are Mademoiselle Angele Jean Vuillet, member of the "Conseil Supérieur de la Natallie," went to Lourdes, 27 years old, of Baulon, department of Ille et Vilaine, the mother of three children; Paul Merat, 14 that he was guilty of an infraction of the law and asked him to accompany him to the police station where the agents registered his name and in (Ille et Vilaine). The fifth cure was that of a member of the Bellegarde pilgrimage, Albert Gerard, 31 years old, from France-les-Couvains. He had been ill since 1917 as the result of being struck with the butt of a rifle, he was paralyzed, and the X-ray showed a tubercular deterioration of the vertebrae. Since May 18, however, the movement of the vertebrae column has been supple and free from pain. His extraordinary cure has been certified by three Belgian doctors.

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Card Hayes Offered Prayer At Democratic Convention's Opening

New York, June 20.—Patrick Cardinal Hayes, Archbishop of New York, delivered the invocation at the opening of the Democratic National Convention at Madison Square Garden here Tuesday morning. Announcement that the Cardinal had accepted the invitation extended to him by convention officials was made by Cordell Hull, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, and confirmed by Monsignor Donahue, the Cardinal's Secretary.

Chicago Catholic Charities Leader Is Made A. K. S. G.

Chicago, Ill., June 27.—County Clerk Robert M. Switzer, who since his organization six years ago, has been vice-president and general manager of the Associated Catholic Charities of the archdiocese of Chicago, was officially made a Knight of St. Gregory, Cardinal Mundelein officiating in an impressive ceremony at the Our Lady of Sorrows Church here, confirmed by Monsignor Donahue, the Cardinal's Secretary.

English Pilgrims Report Extraordinary Results At Lourdes

London, June 12.—Extraordinary things happened to some of the pilgrims who returned from Lourdes with the National pilgrimage this week. But no one associated with the pilgrimage will speak of a "cure," or even whisper "miracle". This cautiousness is born of experience, for it is the custom of the secular press to make mountains of mole-hills, and when a much lauded "miracle" is finally analyzed it often falls far short of the description.

But there is the evidence of reliable witnesses that strange things occurred to several of the pilgrims who took part, with over 1,400 laymen, eighty priests and four bishops, in the season's biggest English pilgrimage to the Pyrenean shrine of Our Lady.

In one outstanding case a crippled man who could only walk with difficulty on the outward journey, took his place as a stretcher bearer on the way back. He comes from Midleborough, and is a Knight of St. Columba.

As the result of a fracture at the hip, his right leg had for twelve years been affected with what was described to the N.C.W.C. correspondent by an official as "a severe restriction of movement." This sentence will indicate the cautiousness of the officials; for the man himself says the leg was positively immovable.

The man came back walking with the utmost freedom. Whenever the train stopped on the return journey he got out and wandered about to demonstrate and to enjoy his newfound freedom. At Boulogne he helped to carry a stretcher with a sick pilgrim on it.

Another remarkable case is that of a woman from the Midlands. A wounded hand had become septic, and had contracted so that she could not open it. For seventeen months there had been constant suppuration. As a last resource, before having the hand amputated, the woman decided to go to Lourdes to seek Our Lady's aid.

The suppuration ceased entirely for the second time, and the amputation was rendered entirely unnecessary.

These facts are undeniable. Yet no responsible person here will admit that "cures" have been effected. They are content to await the report of the Bureau at Lourdes, which submits such cases to the most rigid scrutiny before admitting that a sick pilgrim's condition can rightly be regarded as a miraculous cure.

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