

Canceled Stamps Help Support Belgian Father Missions in Pagan Land

By Rev. J. Vanderheyden (Louvain Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service)

Louvain, Aug. 21.—Between the years 1891 and 1923 four hundred and twenty-five thousand francs were secured to the Belgian missionaries in pagan lands through the sale of canceled postage stamps collected by the seminarians of the six Belgian diocesan seminaries.

The work "L'Oeuvre des Vieux Timbres," as it is called—is still going on, and with yearly results, as against those of years immediately preceding the war, increased fivefold. The credit for originating it belongs to the students attending the Liege Seminary during the scholastic year 1891-92. They were prompted to it by a feeling of comradeship for college chums who had answered King Leopold's appeal for Congo missionaries. Of the total earnings three hundred thousand francs are ascribed to the Liege Seminary. They served to found in the Congo six Christian villages, one hospital and twenty-nine so-called "Fermes Chapelles," to which the missionary appointed black catechists for the teaching of religion and other pious books to lead in agricultural pursuits. He visits these foundations at regular intervals, supplies them with farm implements, seeds, plants, etc., and views and directs. The chief who grants the use of the land retains the title to the property, whilst the Christian neophytes, who form a sort of community around the small chapel, enjoy the usufruct.

Next in importance to the O. V. T. of the Seminary of Liege, is the S. Amandus-Work of the Bruges Seminary. It was started in 1902. During the first twenty years of its activity it averaged annual receipts that barely reached the 2,000 franc mark; but after the war, it took a fresh start, so that for the year 1923 a tenfold increase in net profits was reported.

The Seminaries of Malines, Ghent, Namur and Tournay entered the stamp-collecting field later and their contribution to the Mission Fund, while small yet, is steadily increasing.

Values of Canceled Stamps When the initial appeals for canceled stamps were made, people wondered what could be done with them and how they could be converted into money. It is a secret no longer; for the stamp-collecting craze exists the world over and the dealers in stamps for collection purposes are the principal clients of the enterprising seminarians. The ambition to possess rare specimens is responsible for prices running all the way from a few centimes to hundreds of thousands of francs, sometimes to the sums paid for famed pictures by the old Masters.

At the late International Exhibition of Postage Stamps held in Brussels, one and two-penny stamps from Mauritius Island were listed at 300, 000 francs apiece—more than enough to pay the year's salary to seven members of King Albert's Ministry.

At the same exhibition, the sale, in blocks of four, of the five-franc stamp issued to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the use of the first Belgian postage-stamps brought a million francs. To preclude a corner and give all collectors a fair chance to add the coveted sheet to their collection, each purchaser was allowed but four stamps at a time. As their numbers ran into the thousands, they were made to penetrate Indian files into the office where the sale took place. There were those who spent days going round, succeeding in getting to the wicket from seventeen to twenty-two times a day. A Paris stamp dealer, it is said, had fifty men on the ground, to make sure to secure the eleven hundred and seventy-five blocks for which he had advanced orders from his customers.

A few days after the exhibition the demand for the stamps was so great that they were sold by the dealers at 125 francs. The 50,000 sheets of four stamps, at 20 francs a sheet, set aside by the postoffice authorities for sale during the Exhibition Week had all been disposed of, netting a gross profit to the State, considering its indebtedness of forty billion francs, it has good use for all the money it can get, and it may well thank the stamp collectors for helping it so readily to a million.

Three years ago, the Minister of Railways, Post and Telegraph took advantage of a new issue of 50-centime stamps to reserve for the collectors 10,000 sheets of twenty-centime stamps, obliterated with a special mark used only during the exhibition. The stamps were sold at 20 francs a sheet, netting a gross profit to the State, considering its indebtedness of forty billion francs, it has good use for all the money it can get, and it may well thank the stamp collectors for helping it so readily to a million.

There are other uses for canceled stamps than the making of book collections. They are used also for making mosaic designs on columns, walls, souvenir plates, glassware, etc. In Liege an artist has continually exhibited pictures of landscapes, reproductions of tableaux by the Old Masters, portraits, etc., made of postage stamps exclusively.

A few years ago, Mr. J. Bisset, the manager of the Mission Stamp Company of the United States, located 1883 North Avenue, Bridgeport, Conn., in making an appeal for obliterated stamps, discontinued the sending of stamps from England, France and all the larger countries below the seven-penny and one-franc denomination, also of all the lower issues of current U. S. stamps. Their value may be infinitesimally small, it is true, but for all that, they are turned into coin, and therefore gratefully accepted by the stamp-gatherers of the O. V. T., Grand Seminaire Liege, of the St. Amandus-Work, Groot Seminarie, Bruges, and of all the Seminaries of Belgium.

Mr. Bisset's circular ended with the recommendation that boys be interested in collecting specimens of Rowland Hill's invention for the three following reasons: It is a good investment, for stamps are continually increasing in value; it is an excellent means for learning geography and history; it is a good way to help the missions. The old adage "Little things do little wings take little souls to Heaven" finds application here. Thanks to those little squares of paper carried upon the wings of our letters, churches, schools, and hospitals, are erected in pagan lands and missionaries supported through whose instrumentality souls are introduced into the Kingdom of the Church thence to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Masons' Influence Over Czech State Politics Exposed

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

Vienna, Aug. 22.—Czech Catholic papers in Prague have just printed information that shows the serious situation of the Catholics of Czechoslovakia. They point to the fact that in the recent oil syndicate legal procedure, a witness, Lieutenant-Colonel Weassely, stated he was convinced that in the accepting of bids for supplies of benzine, there were at work powerful agents of the secret Mason-who was then Premier, replied that he lodged, "Jan Amos Komensky." To this right could not be contested.

There has been a change in this respect since the new majority has come into power. A paper received from M. Francois Albert, Minister of Public Instruction, the following circular:

I have been questioned as to whether measures should be taken with regard to those officials who believe that they should entrust the education of their children to private schools. I have no intention of affecting, in the person of officials, the right possessed by every father of a family to choose for his children the school which suits him. However, I cannot but regret that public officials do not show the education that it deserves. And, if there are any such officials in your Department, I beg you to express this regret to them.

It is quite evident that there is now some restriction of the freedom of public officials if the Prefect is to supervise their choice of schools for their children and, if they are to be blamed for selecting private schools, they are to be exposed to the danger of having unfavorable reports made of them and of losing promotion.

To Visit Highland Catholics Of Canada

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

London, Sept. 1.—The Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, who left on August 22 for Canada to visit the settlements of Highland Catholics in Canada. Many of these groups of Catholics remain, after a hundred years, their Scottish inter-ests and Gaelic speech in one or two remote parts they have impressed their culture on the whole district, and some years ago a Scottish priest, visiting the settlement, found colored men talking Gaelic at their native

City of Dublin Is Building 3,000 Houses in Suburbs

Dublin, Aug. 25.—Plans for building immediately 3,000 houses in Glasnevin and Drumcondra, suburbs of Dublin, to relieve the acute housing shortage in the capital have been completed by the paid commissioners who succeeded the old Municipal Council of Dublin.

These houses, which will have all modern conveniences and will contain five or six apartments, will be given to the tenants on a purchase plan so that the humblest worker will be the owner of his home when he has paid the equivalent of ten to fifteen years' rent.

The new houses are being built on virgin soil, a plan which has several advantages. Previously, it was thought best to pull down old tenement houses in the slums of the city and replace them with new ones. Now, however, fresh, clean sites have been obtained, and, in addition, the land is already owned by the city, obviating the delay and expense of acquiring privately-owned sites. Several new roads are being laid out, so that dwellers in the new houses will be able to reach the seaside in a few minutes' walk.

Archbishop Byrne, solicitor for the spiritual welfare of the occupants of the new development, already has had a chapel erected in a central position in the district.

About 500 houses have been completed and handed over to their tenants in the last few weeks, as many more are in process of completion, and the new plans involve the erecting of houses at the rate of more than a thousand a year for many years to come. The project is expected to lead to much development throughout the city.

It is estimated that no less than 20,000 houses will be needed in Dublin before housing will be normal. But the offer of the Southern Government to bear a large part of the cost is aiding materially. Building also is going on on a smaller scale throughout the country, with the aid of a Government subsidy to private builders.

French Change Attitude Towards Catholic Schools

Paris, Aug. 30.—Questioned a year ago as to the right of public employment and officials to send their children to private schools, M. Poincare, powerful agent of the secret Mason-who was then Premier, replied that he lodged, "Jan Amos Komensky." To this right could not be contested.

There has been a change in this respect since the new majority has come into power. A paper received from M. Francois Albert, Minister of Public Instruction, the following circular:

I have been questioned as to whether measures should be taken with regard to those officials who believe that they should entrust the education of their children to private schools. I have no intention of affecting, in the person of officials, the right possessed by every father of a family to choose for his children the school which suits him. However, I cannot but regret that public officials do not show the education that it deserves. And, if there are any such officials in your Department, I beg you to express this regret to them.

Klan Still Bars Jews' Imperial Wizard Writes

New York, Sept. 2.—The qualifications for membership in the Ku Klux Klan have not been changed according to a letter from H. W. Evans, Imperial Wizard of the Klan to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in this city.

The Jewish Agency wrote Mr. Evans inquiring if reports were correct to the effect that the Klan had modified its policy with regard to Jews who served in the American army, and if it were now possible for a Jew to become a member of that organization.

In his reply to that letter Mr. Evans wrote: "The Klan is a Christian organization, and as a prerequisite for membership therein require that applicants be native born, white, gentle, Protestant American citizens of good moral character."

"We recognize the right of all men to associate themselves together. The particular group which we are endeavoring to associate comes under the prerequisites heretofore given in this letter."

Pope Recalls Early Oxford Connection Of Friars Minor

London, Sept. 1.—The Franciscans of England will celebrate at Canterbury on September 10 the seventh centenary of the first coming of the Friars Minor to England. The Pope has sent to Cardinal Bourne a long letter in connection with the event, recalling the early history of the Franciscans in England, and particularly their connection with Oxford.

In his letter the Pope says: "If the university quickly gained a preeminent place and became conspicuous among the universities of Europe, this is attributed by learned and sagacious men to the friendly and almost family intercourse which continuously existed between the 'Studium Generale' of the Friars Minor and the University."

The Pope represented the Vatican at Oxford at the celebrations in honor of Roger Bacon before the war, and was honored as the principal guest of the university on that occasion by the Chancellor, Lord Curzon, and the Vice-Chancellor. He has maintained a great interest in Oxford ever since, and on a recent occasion discussed with Fr. Cuthbert O. S. F. C., the biographer of St. Francis, and Head of Grosseteste House, Oxford, the position and prospects of Catholicism in the University.

British Labor Party Not Foe Of Church, Avers Card. Bourne

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

London, August 22.—The interview given by Cardinal Bourne to the Amsterdam paper De Vrijd had attracted great attention in view of the question whether the British Labor party and the Government come under the Catholic condemnation of Socialism or not. The Cardinal said to the interviewer:

"I assure you most emphatically that our Labor Party has nothing in it against religion. Obviously, there are some extremists among them, but the party, as such, has nothing in common with Socialism on the Continent. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald is neither a materialist nor a Marxist, and that is true of all the leading Labor men. I speak from definite information. The Labor Party is the outcome of a reaction against the egotistical Manchester school, and it approaches in its view of society more and more the view of the Catholic Church. They, in common with many who are not Catholic, get ever nearer to us in the matter of doctrine, although neither they nor the others are aware of it. They strive to do what is right, and all those who do that must, even unconsciously approach the Catholic Church."

Speaking on international questions, the Cardinal said: "We have been at war, but now we have concluded peace. And peace means peace. Thanks be to God, we English people have the virtue of not cherishing hate permanently; and personally I intended to show that we are earnest in the matter of the common bond of Christ: 'Love thy neighbor.' When the Archbishop of Cologne was elevated to the Sacred College of Cardinals, I went to welcome him in Rome, and now I have invited this noble German prelate to be my guest. The peace of Christ in the Reign of Christ—such is the will of our Holy Father the Pope, and we ought to show that we understand what he wills. We in England have sent help to the Rhineland during the famine, and we did that to show that we made peace in earnest."

Two New Catholic Cemeteries Opened By Card. Mundelein

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

Chicago, Ill., Sept. 10.—The new 360-acre cemetery of All Saints, located a short distance northwest of Des Plaines, Ill., was dedicated in the presence of a vast crowd on the morning of Labor Day by His Eminence, George Cardinal Mundelein.

This is the second of two cemeteries opened under the direction of the Cardinal following the announcement that Calvary, in the heart of the Sheridan Road fashionable district, had become completely filled. The other cemetery is that of the Holy Sepulchre, located on what formerly was the Worth race track, and containing 360 acres.

His Eminence was assisted in the Labor Day ceremonial by Rt. Rev. Msgr. E. J. Fox and Rt. Rev. Msgr. William D. O'Brien. Solemn High Mass was celebrated by Rt. Rev. Msgr. C. J. Quille.

The cemetery is not far from the Catholic institutions of St. Mary's Training School at Des Plaines, and the band from the school played, while the orphan children aided the choir from the Quigley Memorial

Record Broken In Observance Of German Jubilees

By Rev. Dr. Wilhelm Baron von Capitaine

Cologne, Aug. 23.—The year 1924 in Germany has been the most remarkable year of jubilees and anniversaries the country has seen. There have been celebrations in a dozen places commemorating events of the Middle Ages.

At Fulda, in Hesse-Nassau, the German bishops celebrated the 1200th anniversary of the cutting down of the pagan sacred oak by St. Boniface. In the same year, Boniface Swint, not on the call of an individual, but as the result of a call from the entire Hierarchy of the United States. He emphasized the need for organization of the laity particularly the Apostle of Bavaria, and Freiburg, in Baden, already has observed and defended. The most precious heritage of a Catholic is his Faith, he continued, and if this Faith is to be preserved, there must be Christian education. He blamed many of the evils of the day on the lack of Christian education.

In the course of his address, Bishop Swint announced that a Catholic high school course was being inaugurated in Wheeling. Every member of the two national councils of laity should be a subscriber to the N. C. W. C. Bulletin, Bishop Swint continued, "keep in touch and to learn something of the Catholics of the 800th anniversary of Pomerania's Christianization." In paying dues in their two through the saint and Bishop Otto, Halberstadt, now a Protestant town, this year celebrated the 700th anniversary of the building of the venerable Church of St. Catherine. Clubs and the continuance of immigration follow-up work in the diocese, which became Protestant 400 years ago, has had a notable Catholic celebration. Since the so-called Reformation was espoused in Hamburg M., and thirty-two groups of women 400 years ago, the procession on Corpus Christi day had not been held. But in 1924 it was held and per cent affiliation of its units in the Hamburg Catholics made of the West Virginia.

The gathering opened with a Mass at St. Joseph's Church, at which the Rt. Rev. Magr. H. B. Altmeyer was master theologian and doctor of the medieval times, Thomas Aquinas, preached. At their business session, the officers, Miss Ella Hughes, of Wheeling, is president of the N. C. W. C.; Mrs. Andrew Whitstead, of Parkersburg, vice-president; Miss Mayme G. Carey, of Wheeling, secretary, and Mrs. Marie Carney Kelly, of Clarksburg, treasurer. The men's organization reflected James Altmeyer, of Wheeling, president, and J. L. Puls-kamp, of Huntington, treasurer, and chose Dr. Swint, of Charleston, vice-president, and Francis A. Laird, of Wheeling, secretary.

Miss Agnes Regan national executive secretary of the N. C. W. C., addressed the gathering on the plans of the national N. C. W. C. organization were reviewed at the Jubilee Congress of Czechoslovakian Catholics at Brunn two days ago. Professor Drobný was the chief speaker. He recalled the destruction of Mary's Column, the similar fate of many statues and images throughout the country, the introduction in the State of schools of "Lay Morals" as a compulsory subject and the almost total suppression of religious teaching. Reminding his hearers that Catholics represent 80 per cent of the population of the country, Professor Drobný declared the fact that in the will of the Legislature there are scarcely 20 per cent of practical Catholics.

Czech Catholics Protest Against Minority's Abuses

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

Prague, Czechoslovakia, Aug. 17.—Assaults on the Catholic religion since the Revolution of the national N. C. W. C. organization were reviewed at the Jubilee Congress of Czechoslovakian Catholics at Brunn two days ago. Professor Drobný was the chief speaker. He recalled the destruction of Mary's Column, the similar fate of many statues and images throughout the country, the introduction in the State of schools of "Lay Morals" as a compulsory subject and the almost total suppression of religious teaching. Reminding his hearers that Catholics represent 80 per cent of the population of the country, Professor Drobný declared the fact that in the will of the Legislature there are scarcely 20 per cent of practical Catholics.

Professor Drobný recommended social and charitable action, support of the Catholic press and organizations for the young, as remedies for existing conditions.

The Congress was opened by Prelate Barina in a hall crowded with distinguished ecclesiastical and lay figures. Members of the Hierarchy present included Dr. Klein, Bishop of Brunn; Bishop Kupka, Dr. Jantusch, Administrator Apostolic of Trnava; Monsignor Hrdy, Vicar Apostolic of Niche; Abbot Hlobil, of Rajhrad, and Dr. Rosposil. Dr. Bottinelli led the French delegation, and Mr. Hafner the Slovenians. There were also present many Czechs from Vienna, Minister of Health Monsignor Gramlek, and numerous Catholic deputies and senators and members of the Municipal Council of Brunn.

As the sessions opened, Dr. Hruban, deputy, who was elected president of the Congress, recalled the array of departed Catholics who prepared the way for the present-day Czech Catholics.

The Charity, Social, School and Women's sections held enthusiastic meetings and presented a series of resolutions. All those attending the Congress received Communion at a special Mass at the Church of the Redeemptorist Fathers as the Congress closed.

Support N. C. C. M. And N. C. C. W., Plea Of Wheeling Bishop

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

Huntington, W. Va., Sept. 5.—Strong approval of the National Council of Catholic Men and the National Council of Catholic Women was given by the Rt. Rev. John J. Swint, Bishop of Wheeling, and the hope expressed that every Catholic organization in the diocese affiliate with them, at the joint diocesan convention of the two bodies here Sunday.

The Bishop emphasized the need for organization of the laity particularly the Apostle of Bavaria, and Freiburg, in Baden, already has observed and defended. The most precious heritage of a Catholic is his Faith, he continued, and if this Faith is to be preserved, there must be Christian education. He blamed many of the evils of the day on the lack of Christian education.

In the course of his address, Bishop Swint announced that a Catholic high school course was being inaugurated in Wheeling. Every member of the two national councils of laity should be a subscriber to the N. C. W. C. Bulletin, Bishop Swint continued, "keep in touch and to learn something of the Catholics of the 800th anniversary of Pomerania's Christianization." In paying dues in their two through the saint and Bishop Otto, Halberstadt, now a Protestant town, this year celebrated the 700th anniversary of the building of the venerable Church of St. Catherine. Clubs and the continuance of immigration follow-up work in the diocese, which became Protestant 400 years ago, has had a notable Catholic celebration. Since the so-called Reformation was espoused in Hamburg M., and thirty-two groups of women 400 years ago, the procession on Corpus Christi day had not been held. But in 1924 it was held and per cent affiliation of its units in the Hamburg Catholics made of the West Virginia.

The gathering opened with a Mass at St. Joseph's Church, at which the Rt. Rev. Magr. H. B. Altmeyer was master theologian and doctor of the medieval times, Thomas Aquinas, preached. At their business session, the officers, Miss Ella Hughes, of Wheeling, is president of the N. C. W. C.; Mrs. Andrew Whitstead, of Parkersburg, vice-president; Miss Mayme G. Carey, of Wheeling, secretary, and Mrs. Marie Carney Kelly, of Clarksburg, treasurer. The men's organization reflected James Altmeyer, of Wheeling, president, and J. L. Puls-kamp, of Huntington, treasurer, and chose Dr. Swint, of Charleston, vice-president, and Francis A. Laird, of Wheeling, secretary.

Miss Agnes Regan national executive secretary of the N. C. W. C., addressed the gathering on the plans of the national N. C. W. C. organization were reviewed at the Jubilee Congress of Czechoslovakian Catholics at Brunn two days ago. Professor Drobný was the chief speaker. He recalled the destruction of Mary's Column, the similar fate of many statues and images throughout the country, the introduction in the State of schools of "Lay Morals" as a compulsory subject and the almost total suppression of religious teaching. Reminding his hearers that Catholics represent 80 per cent of the population of the country, Professor Drobný declared the fact that in the will of the Legislature there are scarcely 20 per cent of practical Catholics.

Campion College Has New Military Training Officer

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

Prairie du Chien, Wis., 2.—Campion College has a new army officer in charge of its department of military tactics and science. Captain Bernard F. Hurless, U. S. A., has just arrived from Fort Benning, Ga., to assume his duties as professor of military tactics. He succeeds Col. Daniel G. Berry, U. S. A., who for the past four years was in charge of this department. As the law allows an officer only four years' duty away from troops, Col. Berry returned to duty with troops at Fort Benning, Ga.

Before entering the regular army, Capt. Hurless attended the University of Nebraska. He enlisted as a regular in 1917 at Fort Snelling, Minn. Two years later he went with the army of occupation in Germany. In 1923, he returned from Europe and served at Fort Moultrie, Ga., for seven months. From there he went to Fort Benning, Ga., and came to Campion. The new instructor is very much pleased with the prospects of Campion and is greatly interested not only in all that concerns the school's military training but in its other studies and its sports, as well.

The retiring officer, Col. Berry, carries with him the respect and esteem and the affection of members of the faculty, the student body and the alumni.

BRIGHTON PLACE DAIRY CO. Milk-Cream Buttermilk Both Phases