

Lenin's Thoughts On Catholicism Told By Priest

GERMAN ECCLESIASTIC, OLD FRIEND OF DICTATOR, PUBLISHES AN INTERESTING MEMOIR By Monsignor Enrico Pucci

(Rome Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service)

Rome, September 3.—A German priest, a contributor to the "Osservatore Romano" has sent that paper this interesting article regarding the death of Lenin:

"The recent publication of Lenin's will has directed the attention of the whole world to this singular figure. Lenin, the massive and severe St. Rocco in the parish church of the mausoleum in Moscow still dominates the frightful happenings of that unhappy country. The comments caused by that publication persuade me to give the readers of our authoritative journal some pages from my diary, which cannot fail to interest and which can enable the thoughts of the celebrated founder of Russian communism to be better understood.

Old Friend of Dictator

"I had known Lenin many years ago at Paris, and our personal meetings, derived from our common journalistic profession, were quite frequent and cordial. A few months before his death, I went to Moscow to see my old colleague, who welcomed me to his private apartment in the Kremlin with his former affability, so much so that it encouraged me to repeat my visits as often as possible when-Logue ever I could do so without difficulty. Everyone, with the exception of Lenin, was ignorant that I was a priest. According to our old custom, our conversation was really more of a discussion of Blackrock, County Louth. I allowed myself to be drawn into discussion because my interlocutor had conserved all the simplicity and frankness of his private life. He was a friend and journalist rather than an impressionist as the author of one of the most terrible revolutions in history.

St. Peter's Circle Is To Be Paved By Italian Government

Rome, Sept. 3.—After a controversy lasting since the downfall of the temporal power of the Papacy in 1870, the municipality of Rome has appropriated money to repair the pavement of the circle in front of St. Peter's. These repairs will be a part of the general dressing up of the city in anticipation of the crowds expected here for the Holy Year of 1925. The square in front of the great Basilica has been badly in need of repair for many years. On the theory that it formed an integral part of the city, the civil authorities have to supply the necessary work. On the other hand the Vatican has contended that the square is one of the public places of Rome, that it is sentiments as a private man to leave open to the public at all times and, as he believed to deliver the city to attend to its upkeep.

74 Organizations Unite In Seattle Women's Council

Seattle, Wash. Sept. 14.—Seventy-four women's organizations from every part of the Diocese of Seattle gathered here recently for the organization meeting of a diocesan council of the National Council of Catholic Women, a constitution was adopted and officers were elected for the year. Mrs. Arthur H. Gerbel, chairman, opened the meeting, and Bishop O'Dea, Father Theodore M. Ryan, Chancellor of the Diocese, and Dr. Anne Nicholson, of the national C. C. W. organization, spoke. Bishop O'Dea praised the National Catholic Welfare Conference in the highest terms and paid high compliment to the National Council of Catholic Women.

His View of Catholicism

"You see," he said to me another time, "humanity fatally walks towards sovietism. . . . It is a question of time. Within a hundred years there will be no other form of government which exist amongst civilized peoples. However I think that amongst the ruins of the actual institutions of the Catholic Hierarchy will still live because the education of those destined to direct others is systematically accomplished in it. Bishops and Priests are not born, as up to now, Princes, Kings or Emperors have been born. To become a chief or governor in the Catholic Church must first be given of capacity. It is in this wise constitution that the great moral strength of Catholicism may therefore, resist all the tempests for two thousand years and which will render it invulnerable in the future. The strength of your Church is entirely moral and not coercive. Mankind has need of a moral force."

Sale of Spades Used In Turning Earth For School Yields \$1,051

Cleveland, Ohio, Sept. 12.—The novel device of selling spades with five years as one of the most important of the endeavors of the National Catholic Welfare Conference is being carried out here this week. The school here this week yielded the sum of \$1,051 for the project. William Hamlin bought the first spade for \$375, but declined to use it in favor of the pastor, the Rev. John T. Farrell. Mr. Hamlin then turned the second spade. The spades ranged down to \$5 each.

Catholics Urged To Go To Polls On November 4

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Washington, D. C., Sept. 12.—A nationwide appeal that every qualified voter go to the polls November 4 as a personal responsibility to his country, is being made by the Civic Education Bureau of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, in the interest of the Get-Out-the-Vote campaign.

Bust Of Benedict XV Unveiled In Rome

By Msgr. Enrico Pucci (Rome Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service)

Rome, Aug. 30.—A commemorative tablet and bust of Pope Benedict XV were unveiled this week in the Oratory of the Archconfraternity of St. Rocco in the parish church of the same name here. The late Pope was a member, guardian, and dean of the Archconfraternity during the greater part of his life as a priest. When he became a Cardinal he was made Protector of the organization and expressed the wish that he might retain the Protectorship even after his elevation to the Papacy.

Cardinal Lega, the present Protector of the society, presided at the unveiling ceremonies. Among those who attended the ceremony were the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Eugene M. Murphy and the Rev. James T. Higgins of Philadelphia, both of whom were en-rolled as members of the Archconfraternity.

Cardinal Lega Restored to Health

Priests and people of the Archdiocese of Armagh were joyous to so that it encouraged me to repeat my visits as often as possible when-Logue ever I could do so without difficulty. Everyone, with the exception of Lenin, was ignorant that I was a priest. According to our old custom, our conversation was really more of a discussion of Blackrock, County Louth. I allowed myself to be drawn into discussion because my interlocutor had conserved all the simplicity and frankness of his private life. He was a friend and journalist rather than an impressionist as the author of one of the most terrible revolutions in history.

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Additional Prizes In Chemistry Given By Francis Garvan

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Ithaca, N. Y., Sept. 12.—Six new chemistry prizes will be added to those already offered through the generosity of Francis P. Garvan, prominent Catholic layman and head of the Chemical Foundation for several years, and Mrs. Garvan, it was announced at the convention of the American Chemical Society, in session here this week. The continuance of the prizes for another year and the addition of the new ones was voted by the Society after a report that the contests in the last year have been highly successful. Six \$20 gold pieces and six scholarships at Yale amounting to payment of fees and \$500 each are given each year, by the terms of the donation, which is administered by the Society. The six new prizes will be awarded to undergraduate students for exceptional ability in the study of chemistry. The purpose of the gifts is to stimulate a healthy general interest in chemistry education and chemical industries.

Irish Passionists Head Warns North On School Policy

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Dublin, Sept. 2.—A solemn warning against any attempt further to secularize education was made by Very Rev. Malachy Gavin, Provincial of the Passionist Order in Ireland, at the formal opening of St. Bridget's Abbey, the new boarding school for girls, at Ballycastle, County Antrim. He said, as Obligated in chemistry education and secular industries.

Cardinal Mercier Calls On Optimism To Generate Energy

New York, Sept. 11.—Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Malines, the great war Primate of Belgium, re-posed his confidence in a happy outcome of the readjustments through which the world has been going since the Armistice. In a letter written to George L. Duval of this city, the Cardinal expresses himself as follows: "The world at this hour is a great invalid. All eyes are turned to the physicians, all lips anxiously asking: 'Is there hope of recovery? Have you a remedy, the remedy? The physicians have no concrete answer, or rather, they give divers answers all at once. The more the consultations and remedies multiply the more we realize that we are at a standstill. Optimist or pessimist, which shall it be? From a hypothetical consideration of the situation in the present premises there is something to justify and explain either tendency. In my humble judgment under the broader view which should prevail, optimism must prevail. Be confident in spite of all, were my fellow-citizens at one of the darkest hours of recent history. No matter how troubled, how close to disaster and despair conditions may be, let every one keep his head erect and his heart steady because discouragement and energy breed defeat. O, ye young men, compatriots of the people and representatives of the people whether of Belgium or of other countries, do ye wish to help your brothers, the men of yesterday, in the struggle for peace? Then be men of energy, should some vacillate or yield, be the controlling majority, at all events steadfast."

Card O'Connell To Repent Pope At Holy Name Rally

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Rescue of Priest's Dog Brings Sailor Three Medals

London, Sept. 8.—Three medals have been awarded to a sailor who saved the life of a priest's dog. The dog, belonging to Father Hickey, of Quernsey, fell down the Silver Mine Pit, Isle of Sark, and had been imprisoned there, at a depth of 80 feet, for three days and nights. At great personal risk Joseph Hamon went into the pit and brought the dog to safety. Medals have been bestowed upon him by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, National Game Warden and our Dumb Friends League. Father Hickey will present the medals at a public ceremony.

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St. Louis Hostesses Announce Plans For N. C. W. Convention

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) St. Louis, Sept. 12.—An information bulletin giving data on the forthcoming national convention of the National Council of Catholic Women has been issued by the St. Louis Archdiocesan Council, N. C. W., which will be hostess to the delegates. The convention will be held November 9 to 12, with headquarters at the Hotel Statler.

Franciscans Open New College—Full Theology Courses

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Chicago, Sept. 12.—All four courses in Theology will be opened in September, 1925, at the new College and Monastery of St. Francis, at Lemont, near here. It has been announced following the impressive blessing and laying of the foundation stone last week. The new institution will be headquarters for the Franciscan Commissariat of the Holy Cross. It was founded with the aid of the Slovaks, Slovenes and Croats of the United States, who number more than a million, and the project was fostered by priests of those races. The object is to provide Franciscan missionaries and secular priests for these nationalities. The college and monastery, which will be housed in a temporary structure for the time being, will stand in the midst of a beautiful site of 138 acres. Despite the fact it rained, large numbers from Chicago, Lemont and Joliet attended the ceremonies. A field Mass was celebrated by the Very Rev. Math Sava, of Shakopee, Minn., a Slovenian pioneer of Minnesota, assisted by the Rev. Victor Blahunka, prominent Slovak priest and editor of a Slovak magazine, and by Father Plaznik, of Harvey, Ill. The blessing and laying of the foundation stone was performed by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. F. Bobal, venerable Bohemian Priest of Chicago. Addresses were given by the local pastors of Lemont, who welcomed the Fathers to their community. The local city council was officially represented. Father Sava expressed the joy of the Slovaks of the United States at this action of the Franciscans, who already have done so much for the Slovenian Catholics. Father Blahunka greeted the Fathers in the name of the Catholic Slovak. Benediction closed the impressive ceremony. Lemont K. of C. Council attended in a body. The Fathers of the Commissariat are publishing the "St. Francis Magazine" in English, the "Ave Maria" in Slovenian and "Listy Sv Fran-tiska" in Slovak. The community has existed only a few years, but has made great progress.

Observatory Head Sails For Europe

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Washington, D. C., Sept. 12.—The Rev. John Gippich, director of the astronomical observatory at Oberlin, Ohio, has sailed for Europe to attend a national conference of Jesuit scholars on cosmogony. With Father Phillips, dean of the College of Theology at Woodstock, who already has sailed Father Gippich will represent the teachers of the Maryland—New York Jesuit province.

Site Of Donar Oak, Which St. Boniface Cut Down, Disputed

By Rev. Dr. Wilhelm Baron von Capitaine (Cologne Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service) Cologne, Sept. 1.—Celebration of the 1200 anniversary of the famed cutting down of the sacred oak of the German god Donar by Saint Boniface, has raised a strange controversy. It has been generally believed that the oak stood at Geismar, in Hesse. But the inhabitants of the Eichsfeld have advanced the contention that it was at Geismar in the Hulsberg, in the Eichsfeld district, and not at the Hessian Geismar, that the saint defied the pagan god. St. Boniface was thoroughly convinced of this, and he was in their town for three days and nights. At the famous incident took place, that a great festival has just been held in their chief city, Helligenstadt, to commemorate it. Helligenstadt also is named as the place where the poet Heine abjured Judaism and was baptized a Christian. The Bishop of Paderborn spoke at the celebration.