

Week-Day Teaching Of Religion Seen As A Vital Need

Catholics and Non-Catholics Take Part in Discussion of Important Question in Indianapolis

Indianapolis, Jan. 16.—The Conference for Week-Day Religious Instruction which met here this week, at its final business session, voted unanimously to endorse a bill now pending before the State Legislature which would provide for the release of all children from public schools for two hours a week for sectarian religious instruction in places of their choice.

Both Catholic and non-Catholic speakers addressed the Conference in support of some plan whereby the element of religion could be brought into the life of children without infringing upon the non-sectarian character of the public schools. The speakers included: Dr. W. P. Dearing, president-elect of the Indiana State Teachers' Association; Rev. O. D. Foster, Secretary of the Church Board of Education of Chicago; the Rev. John Cavanaugh, C. S. C., former president of Notre Dame University; Louis Howland of the "Indianapolis News"; Dr. David M. Edwards, president of Earlham College; J. A. VanOsdol, of the Indiana State Bar Association; Dr. Hugh McGill, general secretary of the International Council of Religious Education, and Dr. William Lowe Bryan, president of Indiana University. Dr. H. N. Sherman, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, presided.

One of the remarkable incidents in connection with the conference was a statement made by Dr. Foster, a Dunkard, who said, following an address by Father Cavanaugh: "I am deeply impressed with what Father Cavanaugh said about the religious atmosphere in the schools. I am frank to say that having this in mind, I sent my two daughters to St. Xavier's Academy, Chicago, a Catholic institution. Both graduated from there and both were undoubtedly benefited by the impress of the reverent religious surroundings."

Dr. Dearing's Views
Speaking on "Why Indiana Needs Weekday Religious Education" at the opening day's session Dr. Dearing said the need exists because religious instruction, now limited largely to Sunday, is not adequate. It would help a great deal, Dr. Dearing said, if parents would attend church themselves and take their children with them. Religious instruction in youth is needed, he declared, because religion is a basic part of man's experience and, to bring about proper results, instruction must begin early in life.

F. Cavanaugh's Address
Father Cavanaugh said in part: "Those who are interested in relating religious training to education are influenced by the principle that as a matter of history and experience, neither law, civilization nor life can grow or endure without some form of religion. The church, the school and the home are the three vital essential forces in the formation of youth's mind and character. Not to teach religion at school in some definite time, manner and degree is virtually to teach irreligion. The pupils' reaction naturally is 'well if religion is as important as they say it is, why don't we ever hear about it in school?' All pedagogues know that the best teaching is that which correlates all power and knowledge newly acquired by the pupil to all his former power and knowledge and then correlates the sum total with life.

"Moreover the school occupies a large part of the time and activities of boys and girls during the impressionable periods of life in the periods in which ideals are fixed, character is formed and the entire attitude of an individual toward life and destiny is established."

The Ideal Solution
Summing up his conception of an ideal solution of the problem of religious instruction in the schools, Father Cavanaugh said:

"I feel as sure as you do that such modification of our school system as would permit all religious denominations to have their separate schools supported by taxation is for the present at least, out of the question. I am also convinced no such proposal will ever be made unless it is made by the Protestant denominations. But in pursuing my policy of frank speech, you should people be seized with cold shivers at the very thought of it? That is not a scientific attitude. My first suggestion as it is practiced, for example, in England and Canada, by some of the wealthy and powerful strong denominations, is a possible effect their own schools similar to ours."

Cardinal Hayes Plans Probation System Along Modern Lines

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) New York, Jan. 16.—One of the most thorough and scientific attempts in the country to bring the probation system to peak efficiency and efficacy will be undertaken here immediately by the Catholic Charities under the direction of Cardinal Hayes.

The Cardinal announced the putting of the system into effect this week, through his Secretary for Charities, the Rev. Robert F. Keegan. Edwin J. Coffey, Chief Probation Officer of the Magistrates Courts, and one of the country's leading authorities on probation will have charge of the work, with ample financial backing and with a staff so complete and scientifically manned that it may be regarded as a model. He will have a mental clinic, employment bureau, a large group of social workers and every other facility to make the system a success.

The system has been hailed as an "historical demonstration" and has the enthusiastic support of officials. Mr. Coffey was granted special leave of absence from his official position to undertake its direction and Judge Cornelius F. Collins has praised the project highly.

Launching of this system is a part of Cardinal Hayes' general reorganization scheme for Catholic charities and correctional endeavor in the Archdiocese. The new staff of experts under Mr. Coffey will take up the work formerly done by Catholic agencies, but hopes to be more effective because of its organization and scope. It will confine its attention to Catholic offenders, and it proposes to do its work with humaneness but without coddling Catholic workers in this field have in the past been assigned by the General Sessions Judges Protestant and Jewish bureaus also are maintained, and it is possible these agencies will follow the lead of the Catholics in broadening their work.

Protestants To Issue An Encyclopedia

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Philadelphia, Jan. 13.—A Protestant Encyclopedia which will contain the histories, doctrines and aims of the numerous Protestant sects of the present day is now in process of compilation by a committee headed by former Governor Carl W. Milliken of Maine. Prominent leaders of many denominations are cooperating in the enterprise. It is planned to issue the Encyclopedia in twelve volumes of about 1,000,000 words each.

"Despite the hundreds of Protestant religious books now in circulation Mr. Milliken says, there is pressing need for a work of the kind contemplated. "There is no adequate up-to-date encyclopedia, or reference work, making available accurate knowledge of the Protestant Christian message and program in its entirety," he said.

"The Catholic Encyclopedia and the Jewish Encyclopedia have done this work admirably for their respective faiths. Nothing exists from the Protestant viewpoint, except an English and German work, technical in character and fast getting out of date."

The Advisory Council which is cooperating in the compilation of the encyclopedia includes in its membership: Chief Justice Taft, Dr. David Starr Jordan, Dr. John R. Mott, Dr. Robert E. Speer and Dr. Joseph Cullen Ayer of this city.

address as follows:

"Finally, I should like to see this conference agree upon some plan which, without violating the principle of separation of Church and State, and principle of entire freedom of conscience, could be recommended as providing our public schools with as many as possible of the spiritual and moral advantages which it is possible to offer in professedly religious schools."

Tolerant on Fundamentals
At the outset of the conference here the 150 delegates voted to accept, as a basis for the deliberations, the principle of the separation of church and state, the inalienable right of every one to worship God according to the dictate of his conscience, the freedom of religious instruction, and the mutual responsibility of the home and the church for the moral training of youth with the recognition of the obligation of church and state to each other in the development of righteous citizenship.

All Catholic News will be published by us if sent in by Wednesday.

Loyola To Use Radio To Make Basketball Tourney A Success

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Chicago, Jan. 16.—Radio will be invoked to make a success of the second annual National Catholic Interscholastic Basketball Tournament, to be held here March 19, 20, 21, and 22 under the auspices of Loyola University. The tourney, at which the best Catholic teams in the country compete by invitation, already has become a recognized sports classic of the year.

Results of drawings will be broadcast from Station KYW probably Sunday night, March 15, at 7:30. Loyola officials in charge of the tourney have announced that all competing teams will be invited to the University. It has just issued a pamphlet containing complete information on the event.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors and committees for the tourney, just held here, it was decided to limit the number of teams to be invited to thirty-two, although the ruling will cause difficulties because of the large number of teams which already have applied. It also was ruled that only nine players for each team shall be allowed to participate in tournament play, and that the age limit shall be twenty-one. Any player under twenty-one on the opening day of the tourney will be called eligible. Added committees were created at the meeting to care for details of the classic.

Loyola already is working out details for the tourney, during which all competing teams will be invited to the University. It has just issued a pamphlet containing complete information on the event.

Darrow Doctrines Denounced Before Women of St. Paul

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 16.—Modern naturalism and the doctrine of human self-sufficiency were denounced by the Very Rev. Thomas E. Cullen, President of St. Thomas College in an address before the annual convention of the Minnesota Division, National Council of Catholic Women here.

Such principles, according to Father Cullen constitute "Sovietism and the doctrine of naturalism to the last degree." "We have seen the application of that principle at work in Russia for the past ten years," he said. "It has been offered us in terms of political economy and today it is taking a scientific aspect. What our boys need and what we are aiming to give them in our schools is a consciousness of God along with their other training."

"The most damnable talk ever given in these parts," was the way Father Cullen characterized Mr. Darrow's speech containing the remarks quoted.

"There is no such thing as conscience. Heredity and environment are all that count."

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N. C. W. C. Finds Teacher for Mexico On Demand of Agriculture Dept.

Washington, Jan. 16.—The Department of Education of the National Catholic Welfare Conference has just been able to assist the United States Department of Agriculture, through its Bureau of Teachers' Registration.

The Government Department received a request that it suggest the name of a Catholic who spoke Spanish and who was capable of taking charge of a Catholic agricultural school which persons in Mexico proposed to establish in that country. The Department turned to the N. C. W. C. agency, which made a canvass of institutions with which it is in communication. The specific qualifications required of the man were difficult, but the names of five were collected, together with their qualifications, and forwarded to the Department of Agriculture. The N. C. W. C. agency has been informed that the data thus collected have been sent to Mexico as the Government Department's reply to the request.

New Irish Primate Has The Reputation Of Great Ability

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

Dublin, Jan. 12.—The Pope has conferred the pallium upon the Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland. He is thus confirmed as successor to Cardinal Logue in the great office of Archbishop of Armagh.

The See of Armagh, which is that of St. Patrick, has beheld many distinguished bishops installed in its throne. It has seen St. Malachi in the twelfth century, who was written of by St. Bernard of Clairvaux; it has seen the Blessed Oliver Plunkett, the martyred prelate. It has had a long succession of Primates who gave lustre and dignity to the Church in Ireland.

The late Cardinal will long be remembered as an eminent churchman; a good Irishman and a fine character. His successor in the Primate's See has established for himself a high reputation as a churchman and a patriot. He has been identified with many administrative bodies in the Irish convention of 1917-18 he was acknowledged by Protestants like the Provost of Trinity College, to be the ablest member of that assembly.

The O'Donnells have given many great men to Ireland. The clan is celebrated not only in the story of Ireland but in the history of Spain.

Socialist Overture To German Elements In Czech Parliament

Prague, Jan. 10.—The decision of the recent Socialist Congress at Brno to work for a coalition with the German elements in Parliament for the purpose of effecting a complete separation of Church and State in Czechoslovakia, is regarded here as being merely a political maneuver in anticipation of the coming elections. The Socialists adopted a resolution declaring:

"We must join the Germans and the minority government must bring about the separation of the Church from the State."

This action attracted considerable attention from the local press. It was regarded as all the more remarkable because the Socialists have always been hostile to the German elements. It is the prevailing opinion that the Germans will not be persuaded to form an alliance with the Socialists, inasmuch as most of the Germans are not antagonistic to the Church. While there may be some minor changes in the governmental attitude toward the Church, there is a disposition to regard the whole affair as an attempt to frame a Socialist campaign slogan.

Bishop Tied To Be Spiritual Director Of Rome Pilgrimage

Washington, Jan. 16.—The Franciscan Fathers of the Commissariat of the Holy Land here have announced that the Rt. Rev. Francis Tied, D. D., Bishop of Concordia, Kansas, will accompany their third American Catholic Pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Rome as spiritual director.

The tour is to start from New York March 10, and will include a cruise of the Mediterranean and an optional extension tour of Europe, including Northern Italy, Southern France, the Riviera, Lourdes, Paris, the battlefields, Lisieux and London, with Ireland and Germany as further optional. The pilgrims will spend Holy Week and Easter in Jerusalem; will visit all the Holy Places in Palestine; spend twelve days in Rome with an audience with the Holy Father and ample opportunity to fulfill the conditions for the gaining of the Holy Year Plenary Indulgence, and make excursions in Egypt, Syria, Greece, Algeria, Italy and the Azores. Seventy-eight days of travel will be included in all.

Old Spanish Mission

Oakland, Calif., Jan. 16.—The third of California's famous old Spanish missions is to undergo renovation soon, the first it has had in its century and a quarter of existence. Mission San Jose, picturesque landmark thirty miles south of here has been selected for the furnishing. It was erected by Spanish priests in 1791. It is famed for its ancient historic records of the time when the white man was establishing himself on this coast of the continent. It also has a graveyard in which are buried many historic pioneers.

Carmel Mission, in Monterey county, and San Juan Baptista Mission, in San Benito county, already have been restored. It is at the former that the famous Fra Junipero Serra is buried.

Former Congressman Fordney of Michigan Becomes A Catholic

Saginaw, Mich., Jan. 16.—Joseph Warren Fordney, for almost a quarter of a century a member of the national House of Representatives from Michigan and for many years a leader of that body, has become a Catholic. His formal reception into the Church was kept a secret until Christmas Day as a surprise to his family. On that occasion, it has now become known, he approached the Communion rail with his wife and children, much to their astonishment. For many years, however, Mr. Fordney had accompanied his wife to Mass regularly.

Mr. Fordney was elected to Congress in 1901 and returned regularly until his retirement two years ago. He was a co-author of the Fordney-McCumber tariff act in the early part of the Harding administration, and in the last Congress was chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, one of the most powerful committees of the House.

A resident of Michigan since 1869, he entered the lumber field when young, has extensive interests in that industry and is a widely known authority on it. He has taken an active part in civic life in Saginaw, having held the office of vice-president of the Saginaw Board of Trade and served two terms as alderman. He was married to Miss Catharine Haren in 1873.

Catholics In England Placed At 5,000,000 By Passionist Priest

London, Jan. 12.—The total of baptized Catholics in England is millions in excess of the official figure in the opinion of Father Plus O'Carroll, C. P., a well known preacher in the North.

Father Plus stated in the course of a public address that the number is near 5,000,000 in his opinion. The official estimate is only 2,000,000.

Aked for his reasons for thinking the official figure so inadequate, Father Plus said the matter had been occupying his attention for four years. He had heard Mr. Belloc state that the Catholic population of England was 7,000,000 and the late Canon Hughes had given an estimate of 5,000,000. That had set him thinking and enquiring.

"The discrepancy," he says "may be explained for the most part by the diverse meanings attached to the word Catholic in the official statistics the aim seems to be to include only practicing Catholics. One can easily see the wisdom of thus estimating our strength, but if we enlarge the scope of the word Catholic so that it means anyone validly baptized and possessing the true Faith, I think our numbers would be nearly five millions.

"In almost every parish of any considerable extent there are hundreds, sometimes thousands, answering to this definition. They are Catholics who have neglected Mass and the Sacraments.

"Their neglect is due, in the vast majority of cases, to the fearful and degrading poverty of their lives and the insufficiency of priests. But they belong to God and to His Church, and they should certainly not be left out of the estimation of the growth of the Church in this land."

Father Plus says he knows of one city parish, the Catholic population of which is returned as 7,000, where there are 15,000 baptized Catholics. This parish is not an exception, he says.

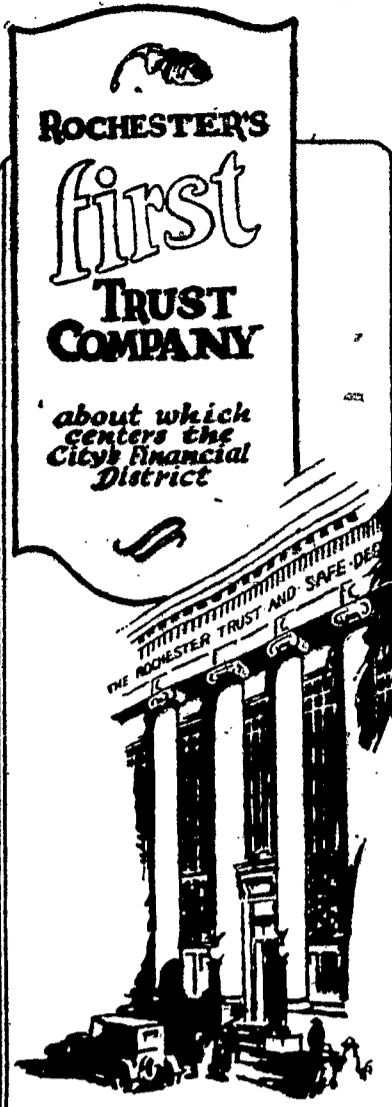
"Margins of 2,000 and 3,000 between the official figures and the actual population are common up and down the country, and make a great difference to the total figures."

If Father Plus' estimate of baptized Catholics, and the official estimate of practicing Catholics are both correct, the leakage will be seen to be appalling. As in the United States, there is no mention of religious affiliation in the official census returns. The official estimate of the Catholic population is compiled from returns submitted by pastors. It is probable that in many cases these are not carefully revised from year to year.

Cardinal Protests Burning Of Paper's Office By Fascisti

London, Jan. 16.—A Rome dispatch to the Daily Telegraph says that Cardinal Maffi, Archbishop of Pisa, has issued a manifesto protesting against the burning of the office of a Catholic newspaper there and other alleged instances of violence on the part of the Fascisti.

The Cardinal declares the paper whose office was burned has always remained aloof from partisan politics. Other Catholic ecclesiastics have joined in the protest, according to the dispatch.



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