

Michigan State Senate Has Adopted Liberal Prayer Plan

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Lansing, Mich., Jan. 26.—The Michigan State Senate, opening its session here, has passed a resolution providing that the opening prayers at its sittings shall be said by ministers of the various faiths. The resolution, introduced by Senator George M. Condon, is as follows: "Resolved, that the pastors of the several churches in the city of Lansing and other cities be invited to conduct appropriate religious services at the opening of the daily sessions of the Senate."

This plan differs from that of most State legislatures, where a single chaplain is designated. Both the Senate and House of the Michigan Legislature have been following the plan and Catholic priests have several times offered the prayers.

New Bible Reading Bill in Oregon

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Salem, Ore., Jan. 26.—State Senator Sam Garland has introduced a bill in the Oregon legislature providing for the reading of selected excerpts from the Bible in the public schools of the State, and for a commission to make the selections. It is proposed that one member of the commission be a Catholic, one a Jew, one a Christian Scientist, the remaining four to be Protestants of varying denominations. It is Senator Garland's purpose to promote good morals and respect for law, not to provide denominational teaching.

Chapel In Different Diocese To Church By Which It Is Served

(N. C. W. C. News Service)
London, Jan. 26.—A curious situation arises out of the creation of the new diocese of Lancaster. St. Wilfrid's Church, Preston, is in the newly-formed diocese, but a chapel at Penwortham across the river Ribble, which is served from St. Wilfrid's, remains in the archdiocese of Liverpool. Consequently the priests at Preston will have souls to care for in two dioceses.

The secretary of the Archbishop of Liverpool states that for the time being the parent church will be under the jurisdiction of the new See of Lancaster, while the chapel will remain under the care of the Liverpool Diocese.

It was further stated that if a day of abstinence is observed in Liverpool and not in Lancaster the people of Penwortham will have to observe the Liverpool regulation although their pastor who comes from across the river will not have to abstain.

Another interesting situation will arise when Pastoral Letters are issued simultaneously. If the priest celebrated Mass at Preston he will read one Pastoral and when he crosses the river to say Mass at the chapel he will read an entirely different Pastoral.

St. Louis U. Lists Hard Gridiron Foes

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 30.—Army, Carnegie Tech, Iowa, Loyola and Detroit appear on the stiff 1925 football schedule announced here for St. Louis University. There are nine clashes all told, and should St. Louis come out of the season's scramble with a long record of games won, it will be a remarkable feat.

The dates are Oct. 3, Springfield Teachers, St. Louis; Oct. 10, Iowa, Iowa City; Oct. 17, Drury College, St. Louis; Oct. 24, Army, West Point; Oct. 31, Rolla Miners, Rolla, Mo.; Nov. 7, Detroit, Detroit; Nov. 14, Loyola, St. Louis; Nov. 21, Carnegie Tech, St. Louis; and Thanksgiving Day, Vermont, St. Louis.

Czech Bishops Move To Fight Dress Evil

Prague, Jan. 21.—The Bishops of Czechoslovakia have taken steps to stop the wearing of immodest dress by women and questionable dancing. It is said these evils have been growing in this country for some time past. The Bishops have joined in an admonition to the Catholics of the nation on these two subjects and warnings have been posted on Church doors throughout Czechoslovakia.

Praises Canadian Catholics

London, Jan. 26.—Captain Leonard Wide, who just returned from a 35,000 mile tour through Canada, declares that the only church organization doing any real constructive emigration work, is the Catholic Church. He paid this tribute in an address to Rotarians at Nottingham.

German Protestants Acknowledge Debt To The Center Party

By Rev. Dr. Wilhelm Baron von Capitaine.
(Cologne Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service).
Cologne, Jan. 8. In the onslaught against the parties in power, which has characterized recent political maneuvering in Germany in the search for a head of the Government, the Center or Catholic party has found able defenders among the Protestants of the country. Of recent days, Protestant papers have been reprinting the words of eminent authorities on the inestimable service rendered Germany by the Center in the great crisis of 1918.

Following is one of such estimates of the Catholic party, published shortly after the crisis in the Munich monthly, Hochland, and now being reprinted: "The parliamentary work of the Center in the Coalition government has been a triumph for the Catholic Church. Even Protestants must acknowledge that the Catholic Church, by its representatives in the Center party, has in the terrible crisis of the Revolution done the greatest good for the realm of God and the salvation of our people."

The Protestant Neue Sachliche Kirchenblatt reprints the following: "Had we not had the Center Party November 9, 1918, to represent and defend ecclesiastical interests, the Protestant Church without a doubt would have been bankrupt. It was not the friendly attitude of the three other civil parties, the German Nationalist, German People's and German-Democrat, toward Christian culture or Christianity, that saved the day, because those parties are not built and based upon the masses which prevail in a democracy. It was the Center alone which compelled respect and reserve toward religious and ecclesiastical problems with the crushing power of a mass politically collected and united."

It is only just that these grateful expressions should now be reprinted. For it is true that in that great crisis the Center was alone in opposing the waves of revolution when thrones and crowns were falling, and in spite of huge opposition became powerful enough to frustrate many radical measures and later on to take the reins from the hands of the extremists.

Chicago Fire Marshal Dies After Leading Men At Church Fire

Chicago, Jan. 28.—Fire Marshal E. J. Buckley is dead, as a result of his efforts fighting the fire which practically destroyed St. Francis de Sales Church here last week. Mr. Buckley, although ill at the time, led his men to the fire and it is thought that the smoke which aggravated a stomach trouble from which he had been suffering, brought on death. The Marshal entered the Chicago Fire Department 37 years ago and through conscientious service and numerous manifestations of heroism worked his way to the top. Arrangements are being made for the funeral in the Cathedral of the Holy Name. Mr. Buckley's wife and two sons survive.

It was in the fire at St. Francis de Sales Church that the aged pastor the Rev. J. P. Smith nearly lost his life in an attempt to rescue the Blessed Sacrament. Father Sueth was rescued by firemen after he had been overcome by smoke on the altar steps.

"Alberic Of Ghent" Will Be Presented By Fordham Players

New York, Jan. 29.—The drama "Alberic, Archbishop of Ghent," written by the Rev. Thomas B. Chetwood, S. J., will be presented by the Mimes and Mimmers, the Fordham University Dramatic Society, on the evenings of March 23, 24, 25 and 26, in this city. The play, a drama of romance and adventure, during the Middle Ages, with a strong religious theme, was completed last year, and as a fitting memorial during Lent, of the Jubilee Year of 1925, will be presented for the first time on any stage. Cardinal Hayes is expected to attend one of the performances.

A cast of 45 men, composed of the students of the University, is at work rehearsing the play, under the direction of Edward B. Dunn, S. J., moderator of the Mimes and Mimmers. Plans have been made to advertise the play extensively as a celebration of the Jubilee Year.

Another young man has risen from the ranks in the person of William T. McCaffrey selected as President of the National Bank of Rochester.

Young K. of C. Men Training To Lead Columbian Squires

Chicago, Jan. 23.—More than 100 young Knights of Columbus from Chicago, its suburbs and a few out-side cities of Illinois are training this week in the first class of "Boy Life" students, preparatory for leadership in the "Columbian Squires", a boy training movement authorized by the supreme council of the Knights of Columbus at Montreal in 1923.

Brother Barnabas, executive secretary of the movement for the K. of C., is in charge of the classes, which were organized under the direction of the Chicago Chapter, Knights of Columbus.

A large number of leaders and instructors in Boy Scout work, were engaged to conduct the classes, which are being held at the Elks Club, beginning with supper at 6 p. m. and following with practical instruction until 9 p. m. The classes will close with a trip to Fort Sheridan over the week end, where the indoor lessons learned will be given practical outdoor exemplification.

Supreme Directors Martin Carmony of Michigan, and Edward Houlihan, of Chicago were also in attendance at a number of the classes, with President Harry P. Kenney, and Chairman McKian of the Chicago chapter.

The local councils of the Knights, to which the students belong are paying the expenses of the classes.

Nun First In Thirty Competitors In State Test of Pharmacists

Cleveland, Jan. 29.—Sister Mary Paul Johnston, of St. Vincent's Charity hospital this city led a class of thirty in a test held recently by the State Board of Pharmacy. Sister Paul's grade was 91.6. Forty-two took the examination and thirty were successful.

Winning high honors has become a habit with Sister Paul and the present instance is one of several in her career of less than ten years as a Sister of Charity.

Sister Paul was graduated with highest honors from the school of pharmacy of Western Reserve University, Cleveland, in 1923. By leading her class she received three prizes: an alumni award, the valedictorian honor and a prize offered by a local drug firm. While making her studies in pharmacy, Sister Paul continued her work as a nurse in Charity Hospital. Her home is in Meadville, Pa.

Elkhart, Ind. Gives Another Example Of School Cooperation

Elkhart, Ind., Jan. 30.—While assaults on Catholic schools have been in progress in the Indiana State Legislature, an admirable example of cooperation between public and parochial school authorities has been flourishing in this Indiana city. Mutual benefit and satisfaction has been the result.

Three instances of this cooperation have taken place in the last few years.

Four years ago, a junior public high school was opened three blocks away from the parochial school of St. Vincent's Church. Father P. J. Jansen, the pastor, made application to the superintendent of the pupils of his school in the seventh and eighth grades to take manual training and domestic science in the new public school. The application was received cheerfully, hours were arranged and the children have been attending the classes ever since.

For the last two years, a Bible course has been used in the high school here, confined to boys. Father Jansen teaches his Catholic boys and the high school gives them credit for the course.

At first, graduates of the parochial school were requested to take an examination for admission to the public high school. The pastor requested a member of the School Board to preside at a final examination of his pupils, and he reported to his fellow Board members that in his opinion, with an examination most of the parochial school graduates were fit for the second year of high school. Since that time graduates of the parochial school have been admitted to the high school upon presentation of their diplomas.

Cleveland Negro Home Given \$200 By Bishop Schrembs

Cleveland, Jan. 30.—To the campaign under way in this city to raise \$600,000 for the Phyllis Wheatley Home, Bishop Joseph Schrembs contributed \$200. The home is the center of welfare work for negro girls and the fund will be used to erect a new building to meet increasing requirements. The fund was started with a donation of \$100,000 from John D. Rockefeller, Jr., on the condition that the balance be raised locally.

Mrs. Sophie Kernan, Convert Who Kept Former Friends, Dead

Washington, Jan. 30.—Mrs. Sophie Kernan, a gentle little old lady, died Tuesday in her ninety-first year. Three bishops, of two different faiths, expressed their sorrow at the loss of a personal friend, two universities mourned her almost as they would a beloved member of their own communities and scores of persons prominent in the Capital grieved at her passing.

Mrs. Kernan died a Catholic. A convert in her seventy-eighth year after she had reared three of her children as Catholics and lent her earnest encouragement when four other members of her immediate family returned to the faith of their fathers. The esteem in which she was held and the unusual circumstances of her conversion won her, two years ago, a personal birthday blessing from the Vatican.

Born at Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Mrs. Kernan was the daughter of devout Moravian parents. Her mother was one of the first women of the South to organize a war hospital for the Confederacy, and a similar institution was later named for her. After being graduated from the old Salem Female Institute, the daughter taught there for a time, then was married to Dr. Thomas Dickinson Kernan, who was Stone-wall Jackson's physician in his last illness.

Dr. Kernan's family had originally been Catholics, but when they moved to the South, with no churches available they had ceased to practice their faith. When the family came to Virginia, however both Dr. Kernan and his father, with Mrs. Kernan's encouragement, resumed the practice of their Catholicity, and three of the children were reared as Catholics. Later, two more of the children were received into the Church.

At Easter time, in 1910, Mrs. Kernan, who lived in Washington for sixteen years after her husband's death, herself became a Catholic, at St. Patrick's Church. Her conversion was not a result of a sudden conviction, but of gradual leaning toward the faith of her family. Until her death she retained the close friendship of Bishop Ronsdhaler, one of the Moravian prelates in the United States.

Bishop Russell of Charleston and Bishop Turner of Buffalo also had been her warm friends for years. She had a faculty, by her tranquil, happy outlook on life and her intense and varied interests, of attaching friends to her. Thus, despite her age, she was known personally by almost the entire faculty of the Catholic University near her home, and by many at Georgetown University, where a grandson was educated. Students by scores dropped in at her home for a word of bright wisdom from her, and on the occasion of her ninetieth birthday, she received more than a dozen telegrams from students of the two institutions in various parts of the country.

But while she was especially beloved by the university communities, she had many friends in other walks of life. Cardinal Gibbons knew and revered her, and lent her his own autographed picture. At her last birthday observance, Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, daughter of Theodore Roosevelt, and Mrs. Woodrow Wilson were among those who sent felicitations. Hundreds of others joined in the Requiem Mass for her Thursday at St. Patrick's Church here.

Contrast Of Catholic Doctrine With Sects Theories Made Plain

Dublin, Jan. 23.—Pastorals on the Holy Year have been issued by several of the Irish Archbishop and Bishops. Most Rev. Dr. Cohalan, Bishop of Cork, takes occasion in his letter to combat and expose certain Protestant theories. Dealing with what the Catholic Church teaches about the remission of sin, he says that one can speak of Catholic "doctrine". But one can only speak of Protestant "theories", because different authors hold different views on the subject of justification. The theory of justification by faith, accepted by Protestants generally, is destructive and immoral theory.

Whatever is sound, and in accordance with Divine teaching in the various separated Christian sects, he says, is found in the teaching and practice of the Catholic Church. And the reason is obvious: for every sect that separated from the Catholic Church took with it some portion of the church's teaching. Further, he remarks:

"Protestants think that sacramental efficacy, priestly absolution and the doctrine of merit imply a denial of the all-sufficiency of the merits of Jesus Christ. But on the contrary, the Protestant theory is an awful belittling of our Divine Redeemer and of His Work."

Crowley, Notre Dame Football Star, Makes Progress In Hospital

Chicago, Jan. 25.—The condition of Jimmy Crowley, star player of the "four horsemen" backfield combination of the Notre Dame football team, who collapsed two days after the Gold and Blue's victory over Stanford on the Coast New Year's Day, was still so serious when he reached Chicago that he was taken to Mercy Hospital in an ambulance. It was thought advisable to send for his relatives.

Crowley has now rallied, however, and is reported making progress toward health. His mother, who is a widow, came here from their home in Green Bay, Wis., when she was informed of her son's condition. He also has two uncles living here, Dr. John E. Crowley and James F. Crowley, a druggist.

Crowley, apparently in excellent condition after the game New Year's Day, collapsed on the train between Los Angeles and San Francisco two days later. Due to nervous tension incident to the game he had been almost nothing for two days, and something he ate Friday evening seemed to cause poisoning with strong nervous reaction. As a result of the attack, he was confined in St. Francis hospital in San Francisco for more than two weeks before starting his return to Indiana.

South Bend, Ind., Jan. 26.—Reports of bad feeling between Notre Dame and Stanford University men following the New Year's football clash of teams representing the two universities are discounted by Father John O'Hara, C. S. C., prefect of religion at Notre Dame. Father O'Hara accompanied the Notre Dame team to the Coast, to facilitate daily communion en route, and remained in San Francisco until Crowley, who collapsed two days after the game, was able to travel.

Feeling among Notre Dame men was reported to have been stirred up by the wearing of an insignia of the area broom by Captain Lawrence, being a part of the game, and a test by the Notre Dame men, which in the brace being tested, which was a brace two Notre Dame men suffered broken ribs, says Father O'Hara, but neither of the players certain as to the cause of the injury. Stuhldreher's broken ankle, also, pointed out, was not caused by the game.

The aftermath of the game was very agreeable and an excellent result, says Father O'Hara.

French Missionary Publishes Record Of Chinese Travels

By M. Mandat.
(Paris Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service).
Paris, Jan. 25.—The Museum Laboratory of Natural History of the Natural History of Tien-Tsin, China, has recently published a monumental work of its director, Father missionary, Father Lieben, it is a report of ten years of travel including three volumes representing 1,316 pages with 3,000 photographs and an atlas of 150 sheets. Father Lieben has a record of 25,000 miles of exploration.

The Museum Laboratory of Natural History of Tien-Tsin collects, documents and explores the western Gobi territory. Father Lieben engages Chinese assistants in his work, and teaches them his own methods. He works in conjunction with the Americans who have undertaken to explore the western Gobi territory.

One of the collaborators of Father Lieben, Father Teilhard de Chardin, professor at the Catholic Institute of Paris, who has just completed a journey of exploration in Mongolia, has discovered the most important paleolithic or quaternary remains in the first time that men have found in oriental Asia.

Father Teilhard de Chardin, some extreme statements, in 1924, of a red earth, and from the following passage from a lecture delivered by him at Tien-Tsin upon returning from his explorations:

"In the red earth, the remains of magnificent mammals are bleaching. Horses with long legs, giraffes with long necks, and many other animals, some of them as large as the mammoth, are scattered about the surface of the earth. The fauna of Asia was more luxuriant than that of Europe. Africa today has all but disappeared. But his travels, the stones have been discovered by the explorers at the base of the red earth, surrounding the red earth, is in the interval separating the two formations that the geologists call the Pliocene and the Miocene."