

S. V. D.'S Jubilee Festivities Draw 25,000 To Techny

Fiftieth Anniversary Of Society, 25th Of Illinois Foundation Observed With Play And Carnival—Remarkable Strides.

Techny, Ill. — Twenty-five thousand Catholics from Chicago, Milwaukee and neighboring cities attended the golden and silver jubilee festival of the Society of the Divine Word at Techny.

Outstanding features of the celebration were the Mission Play, "Andalouza," and a three-day carnival. The outdoor amphitheatre, set in the beautiful woods of the institution, was crowded to capacity for the four performances given by the 200 students of St. Mary's Mission House, under the direction of A. A. Rothenberg, of Chicago, author of the play.

The plot of the drama is centered around mission life in Africa, revealing the trials and struggles of missionary priests of the Society of the Divine Word, where the flourishing mission of Togo was conducted.

The war made another Acacia of the land, and sent into exile 54 priests and 30 brothers and sisters, leaving mother, whose piety and heroism in 23,000 Catholics shepherdless. In tribute to the sacrifices these missionaries made, the play was written, a jubilee gift to their work and exile.

3,000 School Children Guests.

Three thousand school children of Chicago parochial schools, were guests of the Society at the opening.

Old friends of the Society recalled how the land had been recovered from a prairie swamp and made into one of the most fertile farms in Illinois, with a sweep of 900 acres. In place of the tiny frame building that tingled herself, it is said, by her housed the community 25 years ago, without questioning their allegiance, a great brick pile has been reared, visible for miles around and a tribute to the faith and zeal of Chicago Catholics.

The Church of the Holy Ghost, the heart and core of the Mission House, was completed only two years ago, and ranks as one of the finest churches in the Chicago archdiocese.

Twenty-five years ago the first pioneers of the Divine Word came to Techny. A printing press was first set up, and through the magazines published by the Fathers the cause over the foreign missions has been made known in all parts of the country. More than 10,000,000 pieces of missionary literature have been sent out since the press was started.

Society 50 Years Old.

The Society of the Divine Word has been established 50 years. Father Arnold Janssen, the saintly founder, guided it for 34 years, till his death in 1909. Today it has an enrollment of 4,412 workers, including 1,800 in training and 500 members in foreign mission fields. It is perhaps the only Society in the world that has more lay-brothers than priests. There are 790 priests and 1,120 brothers in its ranks. Twenty-eight mission colleges are maintained, five of them in the United States.

A religious triduum is planned for September, with one day devoted to priests, another to religious and a third to lay people. Exhibits of the Society's work in foreign missions, solemn services in Holy Ghost church, and missionary addresses are on the program.

Isabella Daughters Hold Convention In Atlantic City

Atlantic City, N. J. — Mrs. Mary E. Booth of New Haven, Conn., was re-elected National Regent of the Daughters of Isabella recently to serve her twenty-first consecutive term. Mrs. Booth is a charter member of the organization. Other officers elected by the national convention here are: Mrs. Minerva Boyd, Chicago, Vice Regent; Mary F. Riley, Providence, R. I., National Secretary; and Elizabeth Moran, Boston, National Advocate.

Addressing a session of the convention the Right Rev. Thomas J. Shahan, Rector of the Catholic University of America, deplored the "jazz" spirit of the age which, he said, is destructive of the cultural elements of the national life.

"This impediment has manifested itself not only in music but in other arts as well," the Bishop declared. "It is lowering the standards of thousands, and is having a baneful effect on the young. The raising of the religious and cultural standards of the country should not be left to sociologists but should be a phase of Catholic endeavor."

Bishop Shahan was the celebrant of the Solemn High Mass in St. Nicholas Church which opened the convention. There were 1,000 delegates and members in attendance at the first day's sessions and reports to the convention show that the organization now has a total membership of 54,964 in twenty-three States.

Holy Cross Class' \$50,000 Insurance To Go To College

Worcester, Mass. July 17.—Members of this year's graduating class at Holy Cross College have taken out college endowment policies totalling about \$50,000 which, on maturity twenty-five years hence, will be added to the general endowment fund of the College as a gift from the class.

Each member of the class took out an endowment policy of \$250. All are underwritten by the same insurance company.

Last Of Heroic Band Of Civil War Nuns Dies

Sister Ignatius, With New York Nursing Group In 60's, Passes Away At 91—Later Was Leader In Work For Girls

New York.—Sister Mary Ignatius Grant, senior member of the community of the Sisters of Mercy, and the last survivor of the heroic band of nuns who went from the old Houston Street convent, this city, to the military hospital at Beaufort, North Carolina, to devote themselves to the care of sick and wounded soldiers in the Civil War, died here at the Convent of Mercy. She was in her ninety-first year, and sixty-nine years of her life had been devoted to religion.

June 18, 1857, Sister Ignatius entered St. Catherine's Convent of Mercy, in Houston Street here. Born in Ireland of Scotch-Irish parentage, she inherited the sterling character, missionary priests of the Society of the Divine Word, where the flourishing mission of Togo was conducted.

Her eventual career was marked by a deep-rooted faith implanted in her heart by her Irish Catholic and 30 brothers and sisters, leaving mother, whose piety and heroism in 23,000 Catholics shepherdless. In tribute to the sacrifices these missionaries made, the play was written, a jubilee gift to their work and exile.

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SOCIALIST PERIL STIRS BELGIUM; WARNING VOICED

By Rev. J. Van der Heyden * (Louvain Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service).

Aged Bishop of Liege and Minister Van De Vyvere Rally Catholics To Unite Against Danger

Louvain. — Two recent utterances by men of the highest standing, ability and experience justify the fear that Belgium finds itself for the moment in a condition that portends no good for its political, economical and religious future, because of the steady Socialist advance and the political division of the Catholics.

The first utterance is from the aged and revered Bishop of Liege, Eupen and Malmédy, Msgr. M. Rutten, who adds weight to his words by addressing them to the deans of his diocese assembled in synodal council.

"The danger of seeing the country fall under the yoke of Socialism has become very serious indeed," he says. "It is imperatively necessary, therefore, that we apply ourselves with might and main to stay further Socialist advances and to secure again to the Catholic party the majority it has lost."

"What is to be done? The varying results of the elections in the various electoral districts hold out to us the clue.

"Socialism has progressed everywhere; and it has been fought off with any degree of success only where social service work is solidly organized.

"Plea Is For Unity In Task.

"The priests to whom we entrust the task of social work are full of zeal, and bestow upon the fulfillment of their mission their utmost devotion. Unfortunately they do not always receive the support to which they are entitled."

"Not a few heads of industrial plants, Catholics among them, are crusted with prejudice against them and their work. Granting that grounds for complaining may be pointed to; that the Christian propagandists have at times, in the heat of the fight, exceeded the limits in their concessions, and exaggerated the claims of the working classes; that the Christian syndicates have not always kept the just and even balance between the rights of the workers upon the one hand and those of the work-givers upon the other—the inevitable conclusion formulated above is in no wise weakened thereby; the conclusion that it is urgently necessary to put Christian syndicates and other Catholic social organizations upon a solid foundation."

"I entreat you, therefore, reverend co-workers, to speak in this sense, not to the lay people only—to the employers, the heads of industrial firms, and in a general way to all the men of the higher class—but also to the pastors and their assistants. For, alas, there are those among them who adhere to the ultra-conservative views of the laymen and who, instead of sustaining their confreres devoting themselves to the thankless task of social reform, strain every effort to make public even the most trifling mistakes of the syndicates and to find therein a justification for their sad practice of doing nothing."

Van De Vyvere's Warning.

The second utterance is from Minister Van De Vyvere, whose leanings are democratic, but who is forging to the front as the leader of both wings of the Catholic party.

At a meeting of all the Catholic senators and representatives, called to discuss the party's participation in a government composed of Catholics and Socialists, the air being charged with electricity, and an irreconcilable cleavage between Conservatives and Democratic members threatening, M. Van de Vyvere, who is his wont when heated discussions are going on, had sat still, quietly listening, arose and calmly said:

"I beseech my friends to say no more; for everybody's mind is made up. For my part, I beg but to recall the saying of a young Spanish writer, Balzac: 'When you have exhausted every argument to convince your friends of the truth, and they refuse, quit to let them be convinced, there remains but one thing to do: to be silent and to pray.'"

"And then" said one of his Democratic admirers, "the great Statesman extended his hands toward the Conservative group and added with emotion: 'They may be in need of our prayers sooner than they expect.'"

And, man of words that he is, he sat down amid a profound and impressive stillness.

The Democratic wing of the Catholic party is active in the organization of economic and social centers whence its influence radiates and penetrates to the masses whom it seeks to save from the deleterious influence of Socialism. The Conservatives, alas, hold fast to the worn-out propaganda of mass meetings at election periods. These are frequently only oratorical contests, ending in high-sounding resolutions, rounds of applause and warm but short-lived enthusiasm.

When it is all over with, a splendid report of the proceedings appears in the party's press and a pleasant remembrance of it lingers in the minds of those who had the leisure and took the trouble to be present, and—that is all! The masses are not touched; nothing is done for them; no lasting organization is created to win or to hold them.

Hope Is In Common Sense.

"That is the way," says a Flemish Democratic paper, "the Catholics of France have ever worked. Living religion over and over again at their congresses and meetings. To no purpose, alas, for their grandiloquent speeches and high-sounding resolutions left them more powerless from day to day."

"We cannot keep the Walloons, and such Flemings as sympathize with them, from stepping into the

Rhineland Women Rally To Crusade Against Indecency

By Rev. Dr. Wilhelm Haas, Caplaine.

Cologne. — Ten thousand Catholic women of the Rhineland were rallied to a crusade against immorality and against indecency in the theatre, literature and motion pictures, at a great archdiocesan gathering of Catholic women's societies held at Cologne.

So numerous were the delegates and visitors that the huge hall in which the sessions were held overflowed, and many were unable to hear the speakers. An overflow meeting was arranged in another hall.

Utmost enthusiasm marked the planning for the drive against immorality. Among the speakers was Countess Adelmann, wife of the President of the Cologne Government.

"If we are to have better times and better men, we must begin with ourselves," declared the Rt. Rev. Dr. Hammele, Auxiliary Bishop, as he began one of the principal addresses.

"Catholic women and girls must give good example to the men, and must observe the rules outlined by the bishops, especially with regard to the modern mode of dressing. We love our home, we love our country. Especially in the Rhineland is the love of the hearth so deep and strong that no power in the world can tear it out of our hearts. So it was a thousand years ago, so it must be in the future."

"But the love of our worldly home must not make us forget our heavenly home. If immorality and infidelity increase, may they not put out the light of our holy faith?"

"Awake, Christian girls and women! Go into the combat for the pure, Immaculate Mother of God. Fight the evil in the world in which you live. Fight the badness of literature, the theater and the motion picture, or whatever guise the powers of seduction may assume."

"Do not forget that you have become champions of God by the holy Sacrament of Confirmation."

Other speakers were Dr. Taepfer, the Cologne pastor, and Canon Surmann of Münster. Dr. Surmann reminded his hearers of the heroic women of the Rhineland—St. Ursula; St. Mathilde, mother of St. Bruno; St. Hildegard of Bingen, most saints still exists in modern times, learned and powerful of the women of Medieval times.

"Social work is ethical work," he declared, adding that the spiritual needs of the times must be achieved through idealism and good-will.

Klan Loses Fight To Re-enter Kansas

Topeka. — The Ku Klux Klan, ousted from Kansas several months ago by action of the State Supreme Court, loses its attempt to re-enter the state, and in addition draws a severe arraignment, in a decision just made by the Kansas State Charter Board.

Upon being thrown out as a corporation not entitled to operate without a charter, the Klan sought the charter as a "benevolent and charitable" organization. Frank J. Ryan, Secretary of State, made the motion to deny the petition; Roy L. Bone, Bank Commissioner, seconded it, and Charles B. Griffith, Attorney General and chairman of the Board, concurred. The status of the Klan now is that it is under an order by the Supreme Court, which has been appealed to the United States Supreme Court.

"Its purpose is to satisfy the itching palms of its organizers," Mr. Griffith declared in arguing against the issuing of the charter. Later he issued a statement giving reasons for the action of the Board, as follows:

"1. That it is not a charitable or benevolent organization as contemplated by the statutes.

"2. That its scheme and purpose is against public policy.

"3. It stirs up religious and racial prejudice.

"4. It teaches greater respect for the Klan oath than for the oath in a court of justice.

"5. That the body creates dissension and discord.

"6. Granting of the charter would be public sanction of activities outlined in recent hearings.

"7. Approval of the application would make a moot case of litigation now pending."

Footprints of the French, if they choose to do so; but we give them fair warning that we Flemings are not going to be dragged on another yard by them."

Politically, economically and religiously, Belgium seems to be getting sicker every day, and there are those who hold that nothing short of a dictatorship is a Mussolini can keep the land from going farther down the road of Socialism and Anarchism. That is not the Flemish view, however; neither is it the view of the majority of the sensible lovers of their country. They say that the good old Belgian common-sense will get over the present crisis as it got over many others in the past, including the great trials of the war.

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