

Catholic School Enrollment Will Show Big Increase

(N. C. W. C. News Service) Washington, Sept. 26.—Reports incomplete as yet in most districts, indicate that children are flocking into Catholic schools throughout the country this month in such record-breaking numbers that they will exceed the total estimated by the N. C. W. C. Bureau of Education, which is 2,461,350. For the last two years particularly, Catholic education set a remarkable pace; this year it bids fair to turn in a larger growth than in either of the preceding years.

Students enrolled in Catholic educational institutions in 1920 totaled 1,981,051. Hence, if the N. C. W. C. Bureau's estimate for 1925-26 is fairly equalled, the growth in five years will have been half a million. The facts stand out in the reports of schools published thus far: First, the striking increase in physical equipment for Catholic education; dozens of new schools are being opened this fall, and hundreds of additions have been made to old buildings. Second, the fact that while college growth was the feature two years ago and high school growth last year, with the opening this month both groups seem to have their stride, surging forward rapidly side by side.

Colleges Report Overcrowding As for the colleges, there is scarcely one reporting thus far that does not tell of overcrowding, despite many additions of buildings. Notre Dame has enrolled 2,400, a record; Villanova passes all previous marks with 675; the Georgetown freshman class is well over 300, also a record; Catholic University follows suit, with a probable final enrollment of 2,350; Loyola, at Chicago, has an increase of 100 per cent in one department alone; St. Louis, Boston College, Holy Cross, Marquette, Creighton, St. Edward's have studied bodies that are taxing their capacities. Loretto Heights College, the only Catholic college for women in Colorado, doubled its enrollment.

Numerous Catholic colleges and universities this year are offering new departments of study to their students for the first time. Some of these are: Duquesne, a School of Pharmacy; St. Louis, a School of Education; St. Edward's, a Department of Journalism and courses in agriculture; Georgetown, a Department of Journalism; Loyola, of Chicago, a Department of Education. At least two institutions open the year with fine new library buildings. They are Boston College and Fordham. Meantime, the magnificent new memorial library at the Catholic University of America has been brought half way to completion. New buildings greeted the students at numerous places. Villanova has a new dormitory. Notre Dame completed one new hall in the summer, is rushing work on two others and is making a large addition to the gymnasium; St. Joseph's at Emmittsburg, Md., has completed one structure and has two more building; Villa Maria College at Erie, Pa., has broken ground for two new halls. Fordham's growth has been so great that it is now occupying an entire floor of the Woolworth Building besides its regular college plant.

New Colleges Open Several new colleges threw their doors open for the first time this fall. Among them are Albertus Magnus, the Dominican Sisters' College, for women at New Haven, and the Benedictine College at Canon City, Colo. In recent months also, cornerstones have been laid for several new colleges, among them Marygrove, the first Catholic college for women in Detroit; Hayes Catholic College, the new Capuchin institution at Hays, Kansas; and Mercyhurst College of the Sisters of Mercy at Erie, Pa.

At least two million-dollar Catholic high schools were opened this fall for the first time. Ten new parochial schools, costing \$1,500,000, were put in use in the Detroit diocese. Other millions have gone into new high schools and elementary schools all over the country, and many secondary schools were opened under private auspices. Among these latter were Mt. St. Charles Academy, Waco, Tex.; St. Joseph's Academy, Coral Gables, Fla.; a new Benedictine boarding school for boys at Pueblo, Colo., and Blessed Trinity Academy at Stirling, N. J. The cornerstone has just been laid for a new \$150,000 school in East St. Louis, and excavations have been made for a new school for nurses to cost \$120,000 at Kansas City. A campaign is being waged in San Francisco for a \$500,000 high school as a memorial to Father Peter C. York.

Results From Various Dioceses Pittsburgh diocese, in which eight parishes opened new parochial schools, has \$8,000 Catholic pupils in its elementary and secondary schools. Duquesne University High School alone enrolled 700 students, the largest number it has ever registered. New Orleans preliminary figures indicated a total of 22,000 children. Three new structures have been added to the equipment. Cleveland placed its enrollment at 45,000 this year, as against 53,000 last year. Seventeen new schools have been opened in the diocese, extensive repairs and additions to others have been made. In Colorado the registration indicated 13,000 children will be under Catholic care this year, whereas last year the figure was 12,162.

Colorado Catholics Give Demonstration Of Their Faith

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Denver, Colo., Sept. 21.—The thousand pilgrims of Denver and vicinity participated in the first annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. Anne at Arvada, Colorado, near Denver, Sunday, September 20. This religious drama, which was staged under the auspices of the Holy Name Society, in charge of Rev. E. J. Mannix, director for the society in the diocese of Denver, was the greatest public demonstration of faith and patriotism the Mountain region has ever known, and rivaled in numbers the gathering held last spring in the Denver municipal auditorium. The pilgrimage will be an annual event hereafter.

The procession consisted only of the Catholic men of the twenty-one Denver parishes and Catholic organizations, marching eight abreast in divisions, and numbering in the neighborhood of seven thousand, while the streets were lined with thousands of women and children. It was purely a religious demonstration, planned to instill the spirit of the pilgrim into the hearts of western Catholics, and not as a gathering to rival the parades and meetings of the enemies of the Church, which have in the past year been so numerous in this region.

The procession winding through the streets of the little town of Arvada, the massing of the people in front of the out-door altar with banners and the stars and stripes waving in the breeze, the address by the Rev. William O'Ryan, and the solemn benediction during which thousands of voices formed the choir, were in keeping with the spirit of Holy Year and the profession of faith of the pilgrim. In the closing ceremony, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Godfrey Raber, of Colorado Springs, acted as celebrant in the absence of Bishop Thero, who is in the east regaining his health after a recent accident. Rev. Hugh McMenamin, rector of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, acted as deacon, and the Rev. C. A. McDonnell, pastor of the Sacred Heart parish, as subdeacon. The Rev. Godfrey Doyle, O. F. M., of St. Elizabeth's parish, acted as master of ceremonies.

The entire event was staged without any particular arrangement except the announcement of the plans from church pulpits and notices in the press. The pilgrims assembled at the city park of Arvada and joined their respective groups and did not assemble at their parishes. This display of individual interest in the cause of religion and unexpected attendance caused the secular local press to give unusual space in its columns to this unprecedented event. A Pathe moving picture camera was on the grounds to photograph scenes of the picturesque pilgrimage for the purpose of using them in the movie news service.

Catholic Rural Life Conference

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 25.—The Catholic Church's leaders in the solving of the problems of rural life will be heard at the Catholic Rural Life Conference, to be held in this city October 12 to 15. The Rev. M. B. Schillitz, of Des Moines, has just announced some of the details of the gathering. The first session will be devoted to the work of the Students' Mission Crusade in rural parishes, and will be held at St. Paul Seminary. All other sessions will be held in the Marquette room, the convention hall of the Ryan Hotel, which will be headquarters.

Archbishop Dowling will speak on "The Rural Parish," and the Rev. Dr. Edwin V. O'Hara, of Eugene, Ore., Director of the Rural Life Bureau of the Social Action Department, N. C. W. C., will outline a Catholic rural program. "Religious Correspondence Education" will be the subject of the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Day, of Helena, Mont., author of the "Religious Correspondence Course." "Religious Vacation Schools," "The Mission Crusade in Rural Parishes," "Boys and Girls Clubs," and "Rural Parish Dramatics" are some of the other subjects which will be discussed by speakers from all over the country.

estimates the total for the year at 116,083 in the elementary grades alone. Fort Wayne diocese has an enrollment approaching 4,000, with increases at virtually all schools. The Cincinnati archdiocese reports a new record in enrollments in its parochial schools. Here 24,500 registered the first day and there were marked additions over the first week. Registrations in the high schools, with one still to report, were 3,500. Indianapolis registered 6,651 Catholic children in the schools of the city alone, and is certain of 7,100, a record. There are 1,263 in the five Catholic high schools. Schools and academies throughout the diocese reported many record-breaking enrollments. In this diocese extensive repairs and additions to schools have been made.

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Invalids Brought To Holland Churches For Special Services

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Nymwegen, Sept. 17.—Special services for invalids have been instituted in various parishes of Holland following the kindly example set by Rev. L. Y. Willenborg, pastor of Bloemendal, near Haarlem. Father Willenborg held a Eucharistic Triduum in his church for sick persons. The "Beyghhof" parish of Amsterdam and Saint Anthony's parish in Nymwegen have held similar services.

Father J. von Mulukon, pastor of the Nymwegen parish, began his services on August 24, placing beds and easy chairs for 175 persons in St. Anthony's Church. On the morning of the 25th, the first day of the Triduum, 16 automobiles were sent out to collect the sick persons at their homes and bring them to the church. At 9 o'clock the Triduum opened with a solemn High Mass and general Communion of all the sick persons. After Mass, the Blessed Sacrament was carried to the sacristy and fifteen nurses served breakfast to the invalids.

In the afternoon, during the Benediction, after the Magnificent had been sung, the Blessed Sacrament was carried through the church, stopping at each bed and chair. Solemn Benediction was then imparted to the whole congregation. This function was repeated for three days, and the Triduum closed with a solemn Te Deum.

After years of invalidism, many persons were thus enabled to attend a church function in one case, it was the first time in fourteen years that one man had been in a church. The happiness and consolation derived by the sick persons were indescribable. The pastor intends to hold a special benediction each month in future for sick persons. The Triduum will be repeated once each year.

Polish Catholic Union Gains 25,000 Members, 1,100 Attend Conclave

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) St. Louis, Sept. 25.—The Polish Roman Catholic Union of America has added 25,000 members to its roster since 1922 and has added \$2,500,000 to its funds. It was reported at the convention of the Union here this week. The membership now is 100,000 and the treasury balance \$6,000,000.

Attendance at the convention sessions reached 1,100, with 492 accredited delegates from 34 States. Mayor Miller of St. Louis welcomed the visitors of the city, and Frank B. Grodzki of the Polish National Alliance responded. Stanley Kazmierczak of Chicago is president of the Union. Among the speakers were Bishop Rhode of Green Bay, Representative Stanley H. Kunz of Illinois, the Rev. W. Zapata of the Resurrectionists, and Ignatius Dankowski, former Probate Judge of Chicago. The Union decorated the flags of the Polish American Veterans' Association with Haller's Swords, its award for meritorious service on the part of Poles in the United States.

Clash Over Church Procession In Autumn

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Paris, Sept. 21.—Violent incidents occurred at Autun, in Burgundy, recently, as the result of a municipal order forbidding a religious procession. Each year it has been the custom to hold a great public procession on September 6, when the relics of Saint Lazarus are venerated. This year the new municipal government announced that the procession would be forbidden to pass through the streets. The Catholics considered the order illegal and announced that they would hold the procession just the same. The mayor then mobilized the gendarmes to insure the observance of his orders.

When the clergy, headed by the Bishop, appeared at the portal of the Cathedral, a barrage of gendarmes attempted to bar their passage. Despite the exhortations of the clergy the faithful forced the barrage and a general skirmish ensued in the course of which several persons were injured. A Catholic man was hit over the head by a saber.

Milwaukee Parish Has Diamond Jubilee

Milwaukee, Sept. 27.—Holy Trinity parish here has just completed a seven-day celebration of its diamond jubilee. The parish was established in 1850. A Pontifical Mass was celebrated last Sunday in the church. Archbishop Messmer being present and Bishop Pinten of Superior being the celebrant. The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Bernard G. Traudt, V. C., preached the jubilee sermon. Monday there was a Pontifical Requiem Mass for the deceased of the parish, celebrated by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph Ralner, Protonotary Apostolic, and a homecoming ceremony with several addresses. Throughout the week the various organizations of the parish had charge, a bazaar being conducted and addresses being given by prominent Catholics.

Pittsburgh's Women Pilgrims Held Up As Model To Romans

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Rome, Sept. 21.—A most favorable impression was created in Rome by the forty American women, members of the pilgrimage from Pittsburgh, who became members of the Union of Pious Laywomen of St. Frances Romana during their stay in Rome. The reception of these pilgrims by the Holy Father, and his congratulatory address to the new members of the Union of St. Frances Romana, were reported in the N. C. W. C. News Service. Commenting on this event, the Osservatore Romano says: "Certainly, there is nothing more beautiful nor more edifying than the marvelous impulse of these forty American women who feel so deeply the mission of woman in the world and who realized so well that should be the manner of life of Christian women, mothers, wives and young girls. It is from America, so often painted merely as the land of wealth and eccentricities, that the appeal to good sense, to good works and to a higher tenor of life has come to the women of the whole world."

"The Supreme Pontiff who more than once, with the heart of a father and the authority of a master has voiced his anguish and alarm, felt his heart filled with new joy upon learning of the most praiseworthy action of the Christian women, the new oblates from Pittsburgh, and found for them magnificent words of encouragement and praise, kindness and benediction. "We hope that the example of the forty pious women of Pittsburgh may be emulated, not only in America but in Europe and in Rome."

Christian Brothers To Receive Official Recognition In Ireland

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Dublin, Sept. 21.—The Christian Brothers of Ireland, the great teaching Order which ran into many difficulties in the days of British rule because it insisted upon giving only what it considered proper Catholic education, is now about to receive official recognition from the Free State Government.

Thirty years before O'Connell carried the Catholic Emancipation Act, the Christian Brothers had been working zealously to impart a sound Catholic education to the youth of Ireland. When the British government ruled that Catholics might educate their children under a so-called system of national and non-sectarian schools, the Order as induced to join the new system and give it a trial. A few years' experience, however, convinced it that the restrictions were so great that they destroyed the true moral tone of the education it was the special aim of the Brothers to impart. At a General Chapter, it finally was decided to sever the connection with the National Board. This action brought upon the Order much adverse comment and hardship, but was largely responsible for the reform of the system of primary education in Ireland.

Brother Benjamin New Head Of St. Mary's School In Baltimore

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Baltimore, Sept. 25.—Brother Benjamin Xavertian, Brother Superior of Schools, has been appointed by Brother Paul, Provincial of the order, to be superintendent of St. Mary's Industrial School here. The post is one which Brother Paul himself held for 17 years, until he was called to the office of Provincial.

Brother Benjamin is a native of Richmond, Va., and is a graduate of a leading business college of Richmond and of St. John's Normal School, Danvers, Mass. He also holds an honorary degree from Holy Cross. He taught at St. John's, as director of two large schools in Boston, and then became director of the new St. John's Preparatory School at Danvers, where he made a remarkable record as a builder. Later he was made president of St. Xavier's College, Louisville, Ky., where he increased the enrollment by large numbers. While Superior of Schools for the last two years, he has had charge of Camp Columbus and has increased the enrollment of the camp from 60 to 170 boys.

President Cosgrave Present At Blessing Of New Irish Bishop

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Dublin, Sept. 21.—President Cosgrave of Ireland attended when the consecration of the Rt. Rev. James Leen, D. D., C. S. Sp., Coadjutor Bishop of Port Louis, Mauritius, took place at Blackrock College here. The new bishop is only 37 years old. He is a native of Abbeyfeale, County Limerick. Following a distinguished career in Irish colleges, he was sent to Rome, where he took his doctor's degree at the Gregorian University. He afterward taught in the French Seminary in Rome. Pope Pius XI sent his Apostolic Blessing for the consecration.

French Expositions Of Decorative Art Use Church As Model

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Paris, Sept. 19.—Two international expositions are now being held in France: the Exposition of Decorative Arts, in Paris, and the Exposition of White Coal and Tourism at Genoble. The Paris exhibit has a Catholic church, built, decorated and furnished by societies of Catholic artists. At Genoble the organizers of the exhibit also built a Catholic church. It is built in the Alpine style, with steep roof, on account of the heavy snows, thick, low walls and a large vestibule where umbrellas may be closed, coats shaken free of snow and heavy mudboots scraped before going into the church proper.

Catholics are very pleased that the directors in charge of these two exhibits should have thus recognized the place which belongs to the Church in the life of cities.

Memorial To Catholic Arcadians Commended By Archbishop Shaw

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) New Orleans, Sept. 26.—Approval and a contribution have been given by the Most Rev. John W. Shaw, Archbishop of New Orleans, to the project of establishing a memorial to the Catholic Arcadians who, after their exile from Canada, made their homes in Louisiana. The memorial will take the form of a fifty-acre park on the banks of Bayou Teche, near St. Martinsville, almost on the spot, reputed to be that on which Evangeline, the Arcadian maid kept her unfilled tryst with the banished Gabriel of Longfellow's poem.

The plan to found the memorial is being furthered by the Longfellow-Evangeline Association, Mrs. A. A. Anding of Opelousas, La., is president of the Association. Writing to Archbishop Shaw said: "I wish to assure you that I heartily approve of the memorial to Evangeline. There can be no more fitting memorial. I am enclosing a small offering for your work. I wish I could do more, but I cannot just now."

"God permitted that a full century should elapse before a systematic permanent attempt at evangelizing Alaska should be made, namely, until the appointment by Archbishop Leathers, of a resident priest in the person of the Rev. John Althoff. "At present 20 priests are engaged—What has been accomplished? Very little. And yet much, considering the conditions under which work was undertaken and is carried on—and having regard to the quality of the results obtained, at least in most parts of the vicariate."

Forty-Three Sisters Enter Country After Months Of Struggle

New York, Sept. 26.—Forty-three Sisters, in three groups, have passed through this port in recent weeks, destined to Catholic hospitals and schools, after striving in some instances for twenty months to come to the United States under the new Restrictive Immigration Quota Act. A group of 10 Sisters and two candidates, including one United States born and two returning residents, arrived from Germany and proceeded to Cleveland, where they will labor at the Notre Dame convent. They are Sisters of Notre Dame, and have been endeavoring to get across to relieve a serious shortage at Cleveland since July, 1924.

Twenty Hospital Sisters of St. Francis, also from Germany, arrived for duty in St. John's Hospital, Springfield, Ill., after a wait which began in April, 1924. Eleven Dominican Sisters came in the third group to join the corps at Bishop Carroll's Mt. St. Charles College at Helena, Mont. They have been endeavoring to obtain quota visas since February, 1924, and the college has labored under a great handicap because of the delay in their arrival.

In all these cases, N. C. W. C. of immigration workers aided the Sisters wherever possible, after the Bureau had endeavored for months to have them admitted. All of the Sisters had the status of regular immigrants, since they did not come under the ruling of about a year ago giving non-quota status to nuns who could qualify as "professors" under the immigration Act. A "professor" is described in the Act as a "person who is qualified to teach and who for two years immediately prior to applying for admission to the United States in an institution of learning which corresponds to a college, academy, seminary or university as these terms are understood in the United States, and who is coming to the United States solely for the purpose of carrying on such vocation here." This is the only classification under which Sisters are at present entitled to non-quota status.

Founder Of Beuron School Of Art Dead

(Cologne Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service). Cologne, Sept. 21.—Father Desiderius Lenz, founder of the Beuron school of art, famed throughout the Christian world, is dead at Beuron at the age of 93. Father Lenz was born in Haigerloch and attained eminence as an architect, sculptor and painter long before he entered the priesthood. He studied widely and after doing much work became a professor at Nurnberg. He joined the Benedictine Order in 1876, and later the Benedictines adopted his principles and methods. It was not long before the Beuron school became famous, and for half a century it has retained its eminence in the field of Christian art.

Alaska Mission Trials Told By Bishop Crimont

Washington, Sept. 25.—The great American Northland, Alaska, first consecrated and dedicated to God by a Catholic priest in 1779, today, after the passage of 146 years, sees 20 priests laboring valiantly against tremendous odds to keep alight the flame of Catholicism in its cold reaches, said the Rt. Rev. Joseph R. Crimont, S. J., Vicar-Apostolic of Alaska, here to attend the annual meeting of the American Hierarchy. Heroism among these devoted priests is almost a workaday thing, said Bishop Crimont, yet the task is huge and the progress at times discouraging.

"The first act of Christian worship, with the preaching of the Gospel and the administration of holy baptism, was Catholic worship and Catholic preaching," he said. "It was the work of two Franciscan Fathers, John Riobo and Mathias, chaplains of the frigates Princesa and Favorita, commanded by Naval Lieutenant Don Ignatius Artega of the Spanish Armada and Lieutenant Juan Francis de la Bodega of Quadra on a seven-month voyage of exploration along the coast of the extreme North Pacific Ocean. "The spot thus privileged lies in the southern end of Prince of Wales Island, Bay of Bucareli, in southeastern Alaska.

Today, 146 years after that star of Christian hope arose and twinkled for a few hours over this vast land, the Catholic Alaskan missionaries, few in number, scattered here and there, baffled in their aspirations and efforts by obstacles of all kinds, taking a survey of the past and looking into the future of the field to which they have consecrated the labors of their lives ask themselves, "How long, O Lord, how long?" till the promise which dawned on Ascension Day, 1779, shall be realized.

"Many difficulties face the Alaska missionaries, he continued. In the first place, they came too late. Then their is the confusion of the Christians sects—the "babel of tongues"—and the bad example of some of the whites. One of the greatest drawbacks, however, is the difficulty of reaching the people and instructing them properly. For instance, there is the King Island tribe—cliff dwellers—who come to Nome in the summer to trade, leaving their inhospitable habitat only once a year for a few weeks. Also the Eskimaux of the Coast of Berius between the Yukon and Kuskokum rivers are reached only through the greatest hardships and peril of life from storms. The missionaries are able to spend only a few hours at each of the villages.

In some of the districts, said Bishop Crimont, notably the Seward Peninsula, those converted become the missionaries of their own people, but the possibility of developing a native clergy seems far distant. "In view of the immense distances and the lack of means of transportation, with the vast expense which travel would involve," he continued, "an army of men and a huge amount of funds would be required to evangelize the country. "Help From South Needed. "The best suggestion that can be offered as to method whereby the people of the United States might assist in the work of the Alaska missions is that well-to-do parishes adopt a missionary and his mission and supply the sinners of war."

Other denominations are represented, especially Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Methodists, Lutherans and Congregationalists, said Bishop Crimont. The most widely spread over the territory are the Episcopalians but the Presbyterians are more active in the South. A few use the weapon of prejudice against the Catholic missions, but as a rule there is peace and mutual respect in dealings. The Protestant missions are well supported by their Board of Missions, and in some instances boast at having at their disposal unlimited resources.

For a number of years, the bishop said, by a courteous arrangement originated by the Superintendent of Education for the Natives of Alaska some of the Catholic teaching Sisters at Holy Cross, Akularok and Nulato received a salary, together with a fair supply of fuel, light and goods to be used for the benefit of the Indians and Eskimaux. It was a great help, but all subsidy ceased two years ago. The attitude of government authorities, however, is generally very friendly.