

Belgian Hierarchy Issues Joint Letter On Reunion With East

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Louvain, Oct. 5.—His Eminence Cardinal Mercier and the Belgian Hierarchy have addressed the following joint letter on the reunion of the churches to Father Lambert Baudin of the Abbey of Mont-César: "We are following with respectful attention the efforts of the Holy Father Pius XI in behalf of the Reunion of the Churches. We recall the august words of His Holiness in the Encyclical Ecclesiam Dei of November 23, 1923: 'Let the Latins strive to acquire a deeper and more complete knowledge of the institutions and customs of the East. Let them be convinced that when once there is among us a better knowledge of the East, a just appreciation and true charity will follow. These are dispositions of spirit of the greatest importance for the preparation of religious unity.' "The Holy Father witnesses the development in the East of a movement of prayers and works which is awakening in Christian souls a great desire for unity thus facilitating the return of our separated brethren. "We greatly desire to see the priests and the faithful of Belgium respond with filial alacrity to the unceasing exhortations of the Supreme Pontiff and associate themselves with this movement destined to prepare the rapprochement and the reconciliation of the Christian East and the Christian West. "The celebration of the centennial of the Council of Nicea, the first Ecumenical Council and the solemnity of the Holy Year which is particularly consecrated, according to the intentions of the Holy Father, to prayers for the great cause of religious unity, will furnish a happy occasion for the organization of this apostolate and will awaken in the faithful an ardent zeal for the realization of this eminently Catholic ideal. "Above all, we willingly authorize in Belgium, following the example of the Holy See, the celebration of Oriental liturgical functions which will enable the faithful to understand that the diversity of customary rites and of ecclesiastical discipline is no obstacle to the perfect communion of saints and to the unity of Catholic faith. "We bless all those who, with you and your brothers of the Benedictine Congregation, are working for the restoration of the Unity of the Catholic Faith."

Jugoslavia Strikes Again At Church By Closing More Schools

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Zagreb, Oct. 5.—With negotiations for a concordat with the Holy See still pending, the government has greatly disturbed Catholic public opinion in Jugoslavia by closing many of the Catholic schools. The Minister of Education, Velja Vukicevic, under order No. O. N. 40396 has ordered the closing of the normal school of the Sisters of Mercy in Zagreb, and the schools of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Sarajevo, the Ursulines in Ljubljana and the School Sisters of Maribor. The Normal School of the Ursulines in Skofja Caha was closed some time ago. Minister Vukicevic justifies his action by Article XVI of the National Constitution which provides that education—given in the schools must follow the spirit of the State. He claims that this can be guaranteed only by educating children in the State schools. As for the normal schools, he claims that the State Schools are turning out a sufficient number of teachers and that no private institutions of this kind are needed. The Minister makes no mention of the fact that the Constitution likewise guarantees the right to maintain private schools, nor does he refer to the existing right of supervision of private schools. The action is therefore construed as indicating the deliberate intention of the Ministry of Education to prevent parents from educating their children in Catholic schools.

Irish Trade Returns Show Serious Decline

Dublin, Oct. 5.—Serious disappointment is felt at the shrinkage of Irish Free State trade. The official returns for the six months from January to June, 1925, show a decline of \$16,500,000 in the value of Ireland's exports as compared with the corresponding period of last year. There has been a decline in imports amounting to \$15,000,000. The fall in exports is mainly accounted for by the slump in the livestock business. The exportation of cattle, sheep, pigs, horses, and poultry reveals a gross decrease of \$17,500,000. As Southern Ireland's income is principally derived from the exportation of livestock, the situation is regarded as calling for immediate attention.

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Maximilian Harden's View Of Stockholm Religious Congress

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Berlin, Oct. 5.—Maximilian Harden, the famous Jew journalist, writing for the Liberal Dutch paper, "Telegraaf" makes the following comment on the Stockholm Congress of Christian Religions: "The Stockholm Council at which the four quarters of the globe, a very large number of countries and forty leading Christian churches were represented, was truly entitled to call itself ecumenical. Still, one of the earth's mightiest organizations had no seat in it: no delegate, not even one to follow the proceedings as interested listener, had been sent to the land of Gustavus Adolphus from Rome. It was to be expected. The Roman Catholic Church, which thrones upon the Rock of Christ embodied in the Apostle Peter and the Pope, which shelters under her roof the only true Faith and feels herself to be ecumenical, would have felt humiliated by entering into public conference, upon a footing of equality, with Christian denominations that broke loose from her. "A Pope who would have entered into friendly discussions with the followers of Wicliff, Luther, Calvin, Huss, and Zwingli would have de-throned himself and in the eyes of many would have lowered himself from Vice-Gerent of Christ to the level of a General Superintendent of a Christian confesion. From the refusal of Rome to attend, the Council received its plainest and most feeling lesson. The proud decision to stand alone by herself, none but this one church could afford to take with impunity. She of all churches is an international world power. Has she not made her influence to be felt in the newly arisen strife against the rights of ownership, from Archbishop Kettler to Leo XIII, by the questions she propounded and the answers she gave to them? "During the horrors of the late war she alone could more than once bring the scales of fate to oscillate. The Pope's action in favor of peace was strongly felt, while the influence of all other Christian bodies was null from the very start. Unless they succeed at this time to bring the gulfs together, those Christian denominations are doomed, every one of them, to sink into powerlessness. Only through the concentration of all living forces, through cooperation towards the same goal, will the churches bound tight to the wings of heresy be able to unite into one structure and to occupy a place alongside of the Catholic Church, a bulwark of faith through the threefold consecration of age, legend and tradition."

Monk's Essay Awarded Prize By Calvinists

By Rev. J. Van der Heyden (Louvain Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service) Louvain, Oct. 5.—At the new scholastic year's inaugural ceremonies of the Utrecht University, the Rev. Father C. Friethoff, O.P., was awarded a gold medal for his prize-winning dissertation, "A Comparative Study of St. Thomas of Aquinas' and of Calvin's Doctrine of Predestination." The Friar's work was adjudged by the Protestant Faculty of Theology as the best of all the studies of the competitive contest of the year. The professor no less than the students and guests, three-fourths of them Calvinists, who filled the university auditorium to its nooks, craned their necks in wonderment when at the conclusion of the inaugural oration, they beheld the rector step from his chair to a rising figure in the front row wearing a hooded black mantle over flowing white robes and carrying erect a head shaven smoothly but for an evenly cut crown of hairs. The rector, Professor Dr. Nierstrasz ended his presentation address and the eulogy of the prize-winner's scientific production with the words: "Much will be expected from you in the future. After this grand debut you may no longer turn back, but must remain won over to science: Noblesse oblige." Then the secretary of the Faculty of Theology read that learned body's report on the dissertation. It was one of unstinted praise. The heavy gold medal bestowed upon the laureate bears the queen's empy upon one side and upon the other an inscription mentioning why it was granted to C.X.J.M. Friethoff, student, at St. Thomas of Aquinas Seminary, Huissen.

Cardinal Mundelein Decorated By Italy

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Chicago, Oct. 10.—His Eminence Cardinal Mundelein, Archbishop of Chicago, on Thursday was decorated with the Star and Cross of a Grande Officiere of the Royal Italian Order of the Crown of Italy. He is the first American so to be honored. Dr. Leopold Zunini, Italian Consul General, presented the decoration to the Cardinal in his private office in the chancery. His Eminence wore his full cardinal's robes. The decoration is in recognition of the cardinal's "services to humanity, religion and education of children of immigrants." It was brought to Chicago by a special messenger.

Apostolic Delegate Pays 3 Days' Visit To Negro Institute

Rock Castel, Va., Oct. 10.—The unusual honor of a three days' visit by His Excellency the Most Rev. Pietro Fumasoni-Biondi, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, has been accorded St. Emma's Industrial and Agricultural Institute for Colored Boys and St. Francis de Sales Institute for Colored Girls, both of which are situated here. The occasion was the celebration of Founder's Day at the two institutes. A series of events, both religious and social marked the celebration. Mrs. Edward Morrell, of Philadelphia, who, together with the late General Edward Morrell established St. Emma's in 1895, attended. The faculties and student bodies of both institutions took part, as did the Holy Ghost Fathers, chaplains of the schools. His Excellency Archbishop Fumasoni-Biondi and his secretary, the Rt. Rev. Magr. George L. Leech, were honor guests at a reception given by the faculty and students of St. Emma's, at which Prof. Frank E. Lally, of Fall River, Mass., Principal of the institute, welcomed the distinguished visitors. On Founder's Day, Saturday, Archbishop Fumasoni-Biondi, celebrated Mass, at which the entire Catholic student body received Holy Communion for the intention of the Holy Father. The Papal Blessing was conferred, and later Monsignor Leech celebrated a High Mass. The Belmont Fair, the annual exhibit of the boys' school, was then held. On Sunday His Excellency visited St. Francis Institute, where there are 145 colored girls from all parts of the country. Mass was celebrated, with the student body receiving Holy Communion from the Delegate's hands, and the students presented an Indian play, "In the Valley of the Mohawk." A reception followed, and later the Delegate was entertained at dinner. The visit of the Apostolic Delegate was an outstanding event in the history of the schools here and was taken as a symbol of the Holy Father's deep interest in projects for the advancement of the colored race.

Sargent's Monument Is To Be Crucifix Which He Designed

London, Oct. 5.—A large bronze crucifix designed by the late John Sargent and which is now in the United States, will be brought back with a view to its serving as his monument in St. Paul's Cathedral here. The crucifix, 13 feet high, was designed for the Boston Public Library as one of a series of pictures and symbols giving the history of the religions of the world, culminating in Christianity. American Delegation in Ireland Dublin, Oct. 5.—To study transport problems in Dublin, as regards their bearing on the trade of Chicago and other American centers, is the object of a delegation from the Senate of Illinois, consisting of Senator R. L. Barr, Lieutenant-Governor Fred Sterling, Senator J. Dalley, and Senator L. E. Hughes. Messrs. Barr, Dalley and Hughes are of Irish descent and they intend to visit their relatives in Derry, Cork and Mayo.

Presbyterian Pastor Opens Bazaar For Catholic Presbytery

Dublin, Oct. 5.—Welcomed by the parish priest, one of the heads of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Rev. Dr. Sirams M. P., arrived at Newtownards, in Down County, to open a Catholic bazaar organized to get funds for the purchase of a new parochial house. "You have a claim on my services," he said, "because I am your Parliamentary representative, and my duty to you is not merely confined to sitting in the House of Commons. Besides, being a clergyman myself, I have a fellow feeling for parish priest. We both know how helpful it is to a minister of religion to have a good roof over his head. Your generosity will relieve the priest's mind of a burden and make him a happier man." Leading Protestant laymen participated in the opening ceremony.

Gardener Celebrates Golden Jubilee In The Society Of Jesus

Prairie du Chien, Wis., Oct. 6.—A Jesuit religious here who has the remarkable record of having served as a gardener continuously through the fifty years of his membership in the Order, has just observed his golden jubilee in the Society of Jesus. His labors in this single profession have been performed in houses of his Order in three countries. He is Brother Herman Keimner, S. J., a native of Cologne, Germany. He entered the Jesuit novitiate at Exaaten, Holland, in 1876. For 11 years he was stationed in England. Then, coming to the United States, he labored among the Sioux Indians of the Pine Ridge Agency, and later at the Jesuit School at Mankato, Minn. He came to Campion College here in 1894. President Rhode of Campion said the solemn High Mass at the jubilee celebration, and the Rt. Rev. Magr. Kremer, Vicar-General of the Diocese of LaCrosse, a friend of the jubilarian, for years, attended the jubilee dinner.

Anglican Bishop's Wife, Who Became Convert, Explains

Mrs. E. J. Bidwell Says That She Discovered An Extraordinary Difference Between Catholic and Protestant Writings—Certain She Has Found The Truth In Catholic Faith (By N. C. W. C. News Service) Kingston, Ont., Oct. 9.—There have come about here almost simultaneously two sequels to the recent conversion to the Catholic Faith of Mrs. E. J. Bidwell, wife of the Rt. Rev. Edward John Bidwell, an eminent Anglican bishop for 12 years and Anglican Bishop of Ontario since 1917. First, Bishop Bidwell's resignation from his ecclesiastical post was accepted on Tuesday by the Executive Committee of the Synod. Second, there was published this week in the "Canadian Freeman," a Catholic paper here, a striking declaration of faith by Mrs. Bidwell, together with her own account of how she came to enter the Catholic Church. The case has created a furore in Canadian church circles, particularly because of the eminence of Bishop Bidwell in the Anglican confession. He is the son of an Anglican minister, holds the degrees B. A., M. A., D.D. and D.C.L., and has occupied very high posts in the church. After being graduated from Oxford, he entered the ministry in 1892, and held various positions in schools. He became Dean of Ontario and Rector of St. George's Cathedral, Kingston, in 1909. He was secretary to the Prayer Book Revision Committee at the General Synod of the Canadian Church in 1911-13, and Prolocutor of the Lower House of the Provincial Synod of Ontario in 1912-13. He was made a bishop in 1913, and has written several books. Upon the announcement of the conversion of his wife, Bishop Bidwell submitted his resignation. He insisted that it was final, and the action of the Executive Committee of the Synod, just announced, is the result. The committee voted him an honorarium equivalent to six months' salary. Mrs. Bidwell Writes of Conversion Mrs. Bidwell, writing from London, declares that she now gives the true account of her conversion in view of "a great many untrue stories" that have been circulated in Canada following the incident. Furthermore, she says: "This act of mine may appear utterly reprehensible and perplexing to most of my Protestant friends, so I wish to explain how I came to feel it a debt I owed to Truth and to Duty—duty to God, which most surely comes first and before all others. I have not acted hastily, but have been coming to my present convictions during these years of study and reflection. "What first 'opened my eyes to the truth,' she continues, was a paragraph from a book by R. H. Benson, son of a former Archbishop of Canterbury; in which he declared that 'the ancient Catholic Church has alone kept the marks of the Bride of Christ—Visible Unity, visible Catholicity, visible Apostolicity, visible Sanctity, the seals of God,' whereas Protestantism has the marks of 'visible Disunion, visible Nationalism, visible Erastianism (waverling as to matters of Faith); unconvincing, incoherent, lacking in spirituality and broken now into a thousand pieces, it has cast off Authority and Authority has forsaken it.' "These words arrested me," says Mrs. Bidwell, "I recognized their truth. I looked from them to the condition of the Protestant churches today, to the perpetual dissensions and warfare they were carrying on amongst themselves in their various papers. But I naturally searched further before coming to a decision, for one does not lightly do that which will change the whole course of one's life." She tells how she then set about reading the books and articles of eminent Protestant writers of today, to find that they never agreed, "their arguments appeared fallacious and unsound and their position illogical." Turning then to Catholic writings, including Cardinal Gibbons' "Faith of Our Fathers," she says "the difference was extraordinary; it was like coming out from groping among shadows, into the sunlight. Here was no need even to argue," she continues, "for all rested on bedrock, and no merely human opinions were advanced, only the teaching of Christ, clear and uncompromising. Here indeed, I felt, was Truth." Went to a Mission Distressed because she knew no Catholics, she continues, just at that time she observed that there was to be a mission at St. Mary's Cathedral, with a week of addresses to non-Catholics. "I went," she continues, "and every teaching I read in those books I there heard driven home with the clearness and force that there were no discrepancies, no discord, no contradictions. From that moment the duty of giving my allegiance to the Truth was clear." She then set about carrying out her intention "in the way in which it might least hurt my husband." She attended no further services at the Cathedral, she waited until her husband's Lenten duties were com-

WEDDINGS

Gessex—Burton. Miss Cathleen Burton, daughter of Mrs. John T. Hudson, of Fairview avenue and Robert T. Courneen, son of Mrs. Anna M. Courneen, of Birt street, were married on Wednesday September 30th in SS. Peter and Paul's Church by the Rev. Joseph Getell. The bridesmaid was Miss Blanche M. Hudson, sister of the bride. Mr. Albert Christie was best man. The ushers were Messrs. Neil McNeil and George Zwaak. After the ceremony breakfast was served to fifty guests at the Hotel Rochester. Mr. and Mrs. Courneen left on a motor trip through Canada and New York. They will live at 436 Birt street after November 1st. Ennis—Kingston. The marriage of Miss Anna Kingston of 211 South Fitzhugh street and Mr. Charles J. Ennis of Corry, Pa., took place Monday, September 23, at 4 o'clock at the Immaculate Conception Church. The Rev. Leo Smith performed the ceremony. The attendants were Mary Ennis, sister of the bridegroom, and Mr. Frank Kingston, brother of the bride. After the ceremony dinner was served at the Sagamore.

Women's League Plans For Boston Lecture Course Are Announced

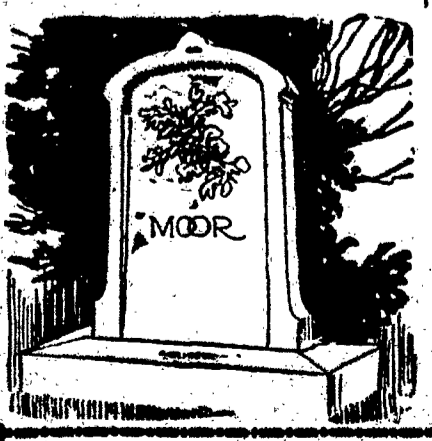
(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Boston, Oct. 9.—A course of lectures arranged by the League of Catholic Women at Notre Dame Academy, Fenway, will be opened November 7, by Cardinal O'Connell, who will speak on "The Pilgrimage." Other speakers and subjects are: Nov. 14—"The Basis for World Peace," Michael Williams, editor of The Commonwealth; Nov. 21—"The Latest Federal Education Bill," the Rev. Paul Blakeley, associate editor of America, Dec. 5—"Science and Religion," the Rev. James I. Corrigan of Boston College; Dec. 12—"The New Congress and the Country," Col. A. Platt Andrew; Jan. 16—"Crime—The Causes and the Cure," Prof. George H. Derry of Union College; Jan. 23—"The Supreme Court and Human Rights," James A. Emery, attorney of Washington, D. C.; Jan. 30—"Present Day Tendencies and the Responsibilities of Parents," Judge Thomas H. Dowd; Feb. 6—"Catholic Thought and Leadership," the Rev. Augustine F. Hickey; Feb. 13—"Ideals—East Versus West," the Rev. Edmund A. Walsh, Georgetown University; Feb. 20—"Isms of the Present Day and Their Propaganda," the Rt. Rev. John B. Peterson, St. John's Seminary Brighton; and Feb. 27—"Preserving the Constitution," Bentley W. Warren, president, Sentinels of the Republic.

J. A. Giblin, Catholic Philanthropist, Dead

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Iilon, N. Y., October 9.—John A. Giblin, prominent Catholic business man of this city died in the local hospital last Sunday after a short illness. He was seventy-five years old. Mr. Giblin was associated with several of the commercial and financial institutions of Iilon and was noted for his charity and philanthropy. His wife, a sister, Miss Gertrude Giblin of Tarrytown; and two brothers, Frank of Utica and William of New York City, survive. Funeral services were held at the Church of the Annunciation here.

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Then she spoke to Bishop Bidwell, who until that time knew nothing of her intention. Then again she waited until the Bishop was in England before openly changing her faith. She concludes her letter as follows: "Speaking for myself I can only say that difficult as it was to take this step, I have found it worth all and more than the world can hold; for to know beyond the possibility of doubt that one has found the Truth and to have the privilege of being a member of God's own great family, the Catholic Church, is a reward beyond all that the world can give. This is my testimony after four months' experience of the blessings of Catholic privileges both in Canada and here in England. That this is the one and only Church founded by Christ becomes more and more evident the more one knows of it."



Forty Hours' Devotion At Blessed Sacrament

Devotions of the "Forty Hours" opened in Blessed Sacrament Church Sunday morning at the close of the high mass, when there was a solemn procession through the aisles of the church, in which the school children participated. At the services in the evening, the sermon was by the Rev. William E. Cowan of St. Bernard's Seminary. Monday night the sermon was by Father Muckle and Tuesday night by Father Hogan.

DEATHS OF THE WEEK

Funeral services were held from the respective churches on dates given. May their souls rest in peace. McHale—John McHale died at his home, 227 Collingwood drive, October 10. Funeral from Sacred Heart Church, October 13. Byrnes—Michael Byrnes of No. 12 Seneca Parkway, died October 12, aged 55 years. Funeral from Sacred Heart Church, October 14. Adams—Frank Adams of West Webster, N. Y., died October 11. Funeral from St. Salome's Church, Sea Breeze, N. Y., October 15. Staub—C. Edward Staub died suddenly, October 11, aged 32 years. Funeral from St. Michael's Church, October 14. Laragy—Miss Emma Laragy died suddenly October 11. Funeral from Holy Apostles Church, October 14. Thomas—Edward Raymond, infant son of Edward G. and Marguerite Luckett Thomas, died at the family home, 64 Asbury street, aged 4 months, October 13. Funeral October 15, interment in Holy Sepulchre cemetery. Maher—Captain Michael J. Maher died October 12 at his residence, 18 Emerson street, aged 84 years. Funeral October 15. Sprengart—Springer—Daniel George Sprengart-Springer died October 12 at the home of his daughter, 62 Holbrook street, aged 64 years and 4 months. Funeral from St. Andrew's Church, October 15. Cleaver—Ada Cleaver died October 10, in Brooklyn, N. Y., aged 46 years. Funeral from St. Boniface Church, October 14. Bagne—Katherine Bagne died at the home of her son, 19 White street, Sea Breeze, N. Y., October 13. Funeral from St. Salome's Church, October 16. Burroughs—J. Edmund Burroughs died at his home, 133 1/2 Lehigh avenue, October 12. Funeral from Our Lady of Victory Church, October 15. Zala—John Zala died suddenly at Canastota, N. Y., October 11. Funeral from the Immaculate Conception Church, October 15. MOTHER REGINA FLESHMAN Funeral services for Mother Regina Fleshman took place Saturday morning, October 10 at 9 o'clock at the chapel of the Academy of the Sacred Heart. Rt. Rev. Michael J. Nolan, chancellor of the diocese, celebrated solemn requiem mass, assisted by the Rev. J. F. O'Hern, of Corpus Christi Church, as deacon, and Rev. F. O'Malley, of New York, as sub-deacon. Final blessing at the grave was given by the Rt. Rev. Nolan assisted by Rev. William Burns of Aquinas Institute and Rev. John F. Hogan, of St. Ann's Home. Interment was made in Holy Sepulchre cemetery.

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