

In vain will you found missions and build schools, if you are not able to wield the offensive and defensive weapons of a loyal Catholic press."—Pope Pius X.

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The work of the Catholic press has been most worthy. They have been an effective auxiliary to the papal mission in spreading the Faith.—Pope Benedict XV.

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246 Pima Indians Confirmed by Bishop Gercke at Sacaton

Phoenix, Ariz., Feb. 25.—Two hundred and forty-six persons were confirmed by Rt. Rev. Daniel J. Gercke, Bishop of Tucson, at the first congress of Catholic Pima Indians held at Sacaton on February 22 and 23. Twelve hundred members of the Pima people were assembled for the religious and civic exercises which marked the congress.

Governor George W. P. Hunt of Arizona and Bishop Gercke delivered addresses. Prominent Pimas discussed religious and secular subjects during the two sessions of the congress. Entertainment was provided by pupils of several Catholic schools. Twenty Franciscans from the various missions of the State were present.

Blasphemer Being Tried Under Old Puritan Statute

Brockton, Mass., Feb. 26.—Charged with blasphemy under a statute enacted by the Puritans of Massachusetts Colony 229 years ago, Anthony Bimba, Lithuanian editor and lecturer, is the principal figure in a prosecution which has already stirred this community deeply and threatens to assume the national importance of the Scopes case in Tennessee last summer.

The offense alleged against Bimba is the denial and ridiculing of God in a speech he delivered in Lithuanian National Hall here on January 29. The statement attributed to Bimba in that speech, as repeated by witnesses who have already testified, is the following:

"They tell us there is a God. Where is He? There is no such thing. Who can prove it? There are still fools who believe in God."

Other references to God and religious beliefs in Bimba's speech, it is alleged were equally hostile to Christianity.

Also Charged With Sedition

In addition to the blasphemous utterances of which he is accused, it is alleged also that Bimba was guilty of sedition, though he is not being tried on that charge. Witnesses appearing against him on the first day of the trial testified that Bimba declared the flag in which he believed was the red flag, which, he predicted, according to this testimony, would eventually float in Kovno (Lithuania), in Washington, and over the Lithuanian hall in Brockton.

Many supporters of Bimba gathered here, and on the night before the trial began gave a demonstration in his favor by burning red fire and cheering. He marched at the head of a procession through the principal streets on his way from the station to a hotel. Subsequently he addressed a large number of his friends and followers in a hall here after he had agreed to speak in English. He challenged his prosecutors and repeated in milder fashion some of the sentiments he expressed in the speech which is the basis of the charge against him.

"It was not God that made man, but man that made God," he said. "There have been many gods, all have been overthrown by science and experience, and in their places new gods have been established. Today there are as many gods as there are religions."

Will Appeal to Highest Court

Bimba denounced the statute under which he is being tried as a "Puritan blue law."

Champions of Bimba are declaring that if he is convicted in the court here an appeal will be taken to the U. S. Supreme Court. Joseph Veracka, associate city attorney, who is assisting in the prosecution of Bimba, has received through the mail a letter threatening him with an attack in the event of Bimba's conviction.

Archbishop Made Member of K. of C.

Cincinnati, Feb. 26.—Archbishop John T. McNicholas was initiated as a member of the Knights of Columbus in a recent initiation. The occasion was the nineteenth anniversary of the Archbishop's election to the episcopate. The council numbers 800. Upon the occasion of the initiation the council presented the archbishop with a purse of \$1,000 to be used as he may desire.

In accepting the gift the archbishop asked cooperation of the laity in the work among the Negro Catholics of the archdiocese. He also urged support of the project to erect a Home for Aged Priests.

Bigger Jerusalem Plan Worked Out By A Commission

By Dr. Alexander Mombelli
(Jerusalem Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service)

Jerusalem, Feb. 18.—A comprehensive plan for the development of Jerusalem to house a population of more than 200,000 persons has been drawn up and the details have been announced by the Commissioner, Sir Ronald Storrs. The plan was worked out in conference between the local authorities, the British High Commissioner and British engineers.

Many peculiar difficulties hampered the working out of the plan due to the admitted necessity of maintaining areas in the Holy City while, at the same time, providing for all the conveniences of a modern city. In fact, a serious effort is being made to profit by the mistakes of Western cities and to avoid some of the undesirable features which have marked their development.

City To Be Zoned

The city is to be zoned, with areas set aside for the preservation of antiquities, industrial plants, commercial houses, residential purposes, and suburban homes. To encourage utilization of all available land a heavy tax is to be imposed upon all unimproved building lots within the city limits.

Part of the plan provides for a wide avenue completely surrounding the central part of the city, similar to the famous "Ring" in Vienna. This avenue would be intersected by all the arterial roads and provision would be made at each intersection for parking space for automobiles.

New Water Supply

An important phase in the development of the city and a problem which must be solved before the city can grow to any great extent—is the provision of an adequate water supply. A plan for the construction of a huge electrical pumping station near the Allenby Bridge to supply water from the Jordan has been worked out. It is estimated that it would take care of the water supply problem for fifty years. In the meantime the municipality plans to develop water supply sources near Ain Farah during the coming summer.

The whole project for the development of the city will be presented in the near future to the Town-Planning Commission.

Anglican Narrowness Is Blamed For Trend To Catholic Church

London, Feb. 15.—The Wimbledon Borough Council has decided to allow the playing of golf, bowls, tennis and croquet on Sundays after 2 p. m., after a long debate in which a member of the Council declared that the attitude of the Church of England in opposing Sunday games was driving people into the Catholic Church, which was more broadminded in the matter.

Sunday games have become much more popular in recent years and many of those who argue in favor of Sunday recreation praise the attitude of the Catholic Church in encouraging its members to take part in healthful games after they have attended to their Sunday obligations.

Society For Girls' Protection To Meet In Luxemburg

Fribourg, Feb. 20.—The Congress of the International Catholic Association of Organizations for the Protection of Girls, scheduled for last year but postponed because of the Holy Year of Jubilee which took so many people to Rome, will be held May 6, 7, 8 and 9 in Luxemburg and will be attended by delegates from virtually every nation in Europe.

The work of the Congress proper will consume the first three days and on the fourth and last day the delegates will participate in the celebration in honor of the Blessed Virgin which is an annual event of national importance in Luxemburg.

Luxemburg was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin by its first ruler, Count Sigefroid, in the year 963 and the nation is often termed a "Marian nation." A miraculous image of the Virgin, under the title of "Console of the Afflicted" is venerated in the Luxemburg Cathedral and one of the national anthems reveals the devotion of the people to the great Mother of God in the line "As far as I have memory I have been a Child of Mary."

Bishop Wins Victory In Conflict With French Officials

Paris, Feb. 21.—The conflict which arose some time ago between the Bishop of Montauban and the Municipal Council of Labastide Saint Pierre claimed the right to use the prelate.

The mayor of Labastide Saint Pierre claimed the right to use the church bells to announce the beginning and ending of classes in the school, etc. The Bishop, Msgr. Marty, refused permission for the bells to be used for such purposes. The mayor obstinately continued to have the bells rung and by way of retaliation Msgr. Marty forbade public worship in the church and withdrew the priest.

The faithful then brought pressure to bear on the municipal council and won their cause. The councilors unanimously decided that the ringing of the bells for civil purposes should not be renewed if, within this period, the Bishop should appoint a priest for Labastide Saint Pierre. They sent four delegates to bring this resolution to the knowledge of the Bishop.

After the resolution had been presented to the Bishop, His Lordship declared that he was entirely satisfied and that a priest would be sent back to Labastide Saint Pierre.

Roumania Ready For A Concordat With The Vatican

By Dr. Frederic Fruider
(Vienna Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service)

Vienna, Feb. 22.—It is reported here that a Concordat between the Holy See and the Roumanian Government has been practically concluded, thus ending the long negotiation lasting more than two years.

Many times during the negotiations it appeared that an agreement would be impossible since the Roumanians held out persistently for the same concessions which had been granted in former ages to the Apostolic Kings of Hungary. Much embarrassment has also been caused by the introduction of anti-Catholic legislation in the Roumanian Parliament during the course of the negotiations. A particularly obnoxious school law which would have wiped out all denominational schools was introduced at one time. This law has been amended, however, so that Catholic minorities of non-Roumanian nationality are allowed to retain their denominational schools and to receive instruction in their mother tongue—the Roumanian language being introduced into these schools in the third grade. The curricula in the third grade. The curricula of the denominational schools are subject to state supervision but no state support is given to them. While the status of these Catholic schools is not ideal it is, at least, not intolerable and it is believed the new law will put a stop to the many acts of persecution to which the Catholic schools of Roumania have been subjected.

With the passing of the new school law one of the greatest obstacles in the way of a Concordat was removed.

On the question of the nomination of Bishops—another point of controversy—a compromise has been reached whereby the Bishops shall be selected by the ecclesiastical authorities but shall not be appointed until their names have been presented to the Roumanian Government and have been approved. Positions of ecclesiastical authority may be occupied only by Roumanian citizens under the terms of the Concordat, and all Bishops will be required to swear allegiance to the King. The consent of the Government will be required before any new Catholic religious community will be allowed to settle in Roumania but such communities as are admitted are to be granted with corporate rights.

The Holy See, under the Concordat, has agreed to a division of dioceses which will remove all Roumanian territory from ecclesiastical jurisdiction of Ordinaries of other countries. For instance, the Catholics of Bukovina will no longer be subject to the Bishop of Lemberg, in Poland, but will be under the Roumanian Bishop of Jassy.

The Concordat is regarded as being more or less of a compromise in which neither side obtained all that was sought but which offers the best solution of the problem under present circumstances. There is a strong feeling here that the conclusion of a Concordat with Roumania will hasten the success of negotiations for a similar agreement between the Vatican and Yugoslavia.

Bordeaux Private Schools Protest Cutting Off Aid

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Bordeaux, Feb. 20.—French law forbids municipalities from subsidizing private schools but permits them to vote appropriations to supply clothing and school books and supplies to poor children of private schools as well as those who attend public schools.

Taking advantage of this liberty, a large number of communities have voted sums to distribute books, pen-writing materials, etc., to pupils of parochial schools as well as to those of public schools.

Several of the socialist municipalities elected in 1925 have suppressed this measure. The Municipal Council of this city is among them, the pretext being the obligation to enforce a strict respect for neutrality.

Directors of Catholic and Protestant schools of Bordeaux have joined in pointing out the injustice of this action and have signed a joint letter in which they protest as follows to the Mayor of Bordeaux:

"Your manner of practicing neutrality is in formal opposition to the manner in which the State itself practices it. You will not deny that the State is essentially neutral; this does not prevent it from declaring legal the subsidies granted to the poor school children of the private schools since it is not the school which benefits thereby but the child. The fact that they attend private schools is the sole reason of your refusal, since if the child were to leave the private school for a public school today it would immediately receive the aid denied it in the former."

"In this way there are two kinds of poor children in our primary schools, those who are helped and the others."

"The result, as you can well imagine, is the germ of jealousy between families and children who are equally worthy of interest and who are astonished that all those who have equal rights are not treated alike and that one group of citizens should benefit by funds raised among all taxpayers alike."

"You will kindly pardon the frankness with which we have made our selves the interpreters of the families in addressing you and the members of your Council. These families, in entrusting their children to us fulfill a duty dictated by their conscience and enjoy a right conferred upon them by the law!"

Eucharist Congress General Secretary Issues Warning

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 23.—A warning to beware of persons, especially in the east, who are attempting to commercialize the International Eucharist Congress to be held in Chicago June 20 to 24, was issued during the week by Rt. Rev. Monsignor C. J. Quille, general secretary of the Congress.

"There are no funds being solicited for this Congress by the Congress committee," said the monsignor. "The expenses will be defrayed by the Catholic people of Chicago, through collections taken up in the churches in the regular way."

"There are no advertising programs, no authorized souvenirs, no tickets to be sold. No one outside the official of the Congress has any right to solicit money for any purpose connected with the Congress, and they will make no such solicitations, except in the manner described."

"Solicitations of any kind, by any one, in the name of the Congress are unauthorized, and the people of the country, Catholics and non-Catholics alike, are warned that any such solicitations are without authority, and fraudulent."

\$2,000,000 Catholic Girls' Home To Be Built In New York

New York, Feb. 26.—A \$2,000,000 home for women and girls employed in New York will be erected here by the Catholic Daughters of America, according to announcement made by Miss Mary C. Duffy, Supreme Regent of the organization.

The building will be located on a central site and will be intended to serve as a haven for women and girls whose homes are distant from New York. It will be open to non-Catholics as well as to Catholics.

Gaelic University For Ireland May Soon Be Realized

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Dublin, Feb. 22.—The committee inquiring into the working of Gaelic University foundation is nearing the end of its labors and there is good ground for believing that it will recommend that the institution be converted into a separate university.

The college was originally part of the old Queen's University and was then completely boycotted by Catholics, among whom it was known as "the Godless college of Galway," owing to the strictly secularized system which the British Government imposed. It afterwards became one of the constituent elements of the National University of Ireland, and the Catholic ban was lifted.

According to present indications, it is likely to be placed on an independent footing, and its appointed purposes will be the cultivation of all the higher branches of knowledge through the medium of the Irish tongue, with power to confer degrees of its own. Galway would thus become the first and only Gaelic university in the world.

Oldest Catholic Charity Society In England In Need

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

London, Feb. 22.—The oldest Catholic charitable organization in Great Britain, the Aged Poor Society, founded in 1859, has just issued a statement in which it declares a serious falling off in support. At the annual meeting held this week, the secretary announced that the society has only 113 subscribers. The society has had generous support in the past and its present position has come about because it has failed to keep its needs before the public. It has invested funds which enabled it last year to pay £1,500 in pensions and grants. There are over 100 persons over 60 years of age receiving small weekly pensions from the society.

"Beast Of Bigotry" Assailed By Hughes

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

New York, Feb. 27.—Charles Evans Hughes, former Secretary of State, assailed religious bigotry at a luncheon dinner given here Tuesday by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America.

The luncheon was given by the Federal Council to prominent rabbis, Jewish laymen and civic leaders.

"It is a strange thing indeed," Mr. Hughes said, "that in this twentieth century we should see the beast of religious bigotry raise its hateful head and do it in the very name of the Americanism which it kills by its vicious influence. It is time for us to go back to the true Americanism of our fathers, the Americanism of religious freedom. We can expect to see international peace on a substantial footing only if we have created good will in our own midst."

Irish Catholics Elect Orangeman Council Chairman

Dublin, Feb. 22.—Monaghan is one of the Catholic counties on the southern side of the Irish Partition line that had a narrow escape from partition by the Feinam Boundary Commission, which proposed to transfer a good slice of it to Orange control. Local feeling ran high on the subject, and the public bodies of the county pledged themselves to resist by every means at their disposal the realization of the scheme.

The local elections are now over, and the Urban Council of Monaghan, on which the Catholics are exactly twice as numerous as the Protestants, has just elected an Orangeman as chairman. Mr. William Martin who has received this mark of Catholic endorsement, is the Deputy Grand Master of the County Monaghan Orange Order.

The outgoing chairman, in commenting on the election, observed that the Orangemen of the county were not to be identified with the public schools, but that they were willing to take a lead from them in the future. He said that the Orangemen of the county were not to be identified with the public schools, but that they were willing to take a lead from them in the future.

Throughout Southern Ireland and throughout the world, the Orangemen would unite them to stand against the public schools.

Cologne Carnival Costumes Arouse Catholic Protest

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Cologne, Feb. 22.—The annual carnival of the Carnival season here coupled with the daring costumes worn by many of the women, has drawn a sharp protest from the Catholic Women's Unions of Cologne. The protest reads:

"The unions of women protest against the modern customs of Carnival which make a mockery of humanity and morality. As women we were particularly against the costumes of the Carnival with regard to decency. The fashions and costumes exposed in some shop windows violate the chastest propriety. They are a violation of the dignity of women and a misrepresentation of the nature and mission of women."

"Under the so-called liberty of Carnival there is being produced a confusion of morals which endangers the honor of women to vulgarity and frivolity."

"We also protest against the present national extravagance which in this time of need and poverty, can only produce exasperation and demoralization."

"We implore the aid of all honest and serious minded men in order to combat such abuses and this aid may be demonstrated first by their respective protests and behavior."

200 Protestants Filed Against the Ministry By the N. C. C. M.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The National Council of Christian Ministers has received more than two hundred protests against the Catholic Church. The protests were filed with the U. S. Department of the Interior. The protests were filed with the U. S. Department of the Interior. The protests were filed with the U. S. Department of the Interior.

The secretary presented these protests to the committee on the subject of the Catholic Church. The secretary presented these protests to the committee on the subject of the Catholic Church. The secretary presented these protests to the committee on the subject of the Catholic Church.

Cincinnati Archbishop To Address Delegates Holy Names Society

Cincinnati, Feb. 26.—The Archbishop of Cincinnati, Cardinal John J. Neenan, will address the delegates of the Holy Names Society at a luncheon given here Tuesday by the Holy Names Society.

The Rev. John J. Neenan, archbishop, has invited the Holy Names Society to give the invocation at the opening of the Cincinnati Exposition.

Superintendent Voted Unanimously In Favor Of Curtis-Rood Bill

Washington, Feb. 26.—The Department of Superintendent of National Education, Mr. William H. Taft, has voted unanimously in favor of the Curtis-Rood Bill.

The Curtis-Rood Bill is a bill to amend the National Education Act of 1912, and to provide for the establishment of a National Board of Education.

The bill was introduced in the House of Representatives by Mr. Curtis, and was passed by the House on February 24, 1926.