

In vain will you find 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 is not only to inform, but to educate. They have been an effective auxiliary to the papal mission in spreading the Faith.—Pope Benedict XV.

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## Revival Of Irish Pushed Too Fast, Say Inspectors

Dublin, March 22.—The revival of the Irish language has been pushed too far and too fast, in the almost unanimous opinion of the inspectors of Primary Schools for Southern Ireland, expressed in their annual reports which have just been published.

Teaching of other subjects through the medium of the Irish language ought to be discontinued till the national language gets a firmer hold, say most of the inspectors.

These expressions recall the fact that three months ago the Rev. Michael Quinlan, S. J., rector of Belvedere College, Dublin, announced to a body of his old students that the greatest length to which he could go in his school in the revival of Irish was to teach it in the same way as Latin or French. He had made the experiment of having two classes in his school in which an Irish-speaking teacher taught mathematics, history, etc., through the medium of Irish.

Father Quinlan found the experiment a failure. The pupils made little progress in anything beyond the Irish language itself, and their parents declared that to make pupils spend all their class hours in speaking Irish was a waste of time. Father Quinlan therefore dropped the experiment and reverted to the policy formerly followed by the Jesuits in the teaching of the national language—teaching it as much as any other subject, but no more.

The Farmers' Union of Cork County has declared that the teaching of other subjects in Irish is "insular and is likely to retard the progress of the country."

The Irish Catholic clergy, to whom the immediate supervision of schools in Southern Ireland is almost entirely entrusted, has always encouraged the revival of Irish as a literary and spoken language; but it never favored the exclusion of English which would be brought about by teaching all school subjects in Irish.

The leaders of the Irish revival are protesting that their ideas respecting education have been misinterpreted, and that what they desire for the youth of the nation is a thorough bi-lingual training, which will render them efficient in both Irish and English.

## Party Of Ministers Going To Mexico To Investigate

By N. C. W. C. News Service.  
New York, April 2.—Twenty-five ministers, writers and educators of the United States have gone to Mexico City where, on April 10, they will hold a Seminar of International Goodwill. They propose to study the major Mexican questions now agitated, including the religious question, and obtain the views of Mexicans upon them.

Men from all parts of the country are in the group, which includes Protestants of various denominations and two Jewish rabbis. The Rev. Hubert C. Herring, executive secretary of the Social Relations department of the Congregational Church in the United States, organized the party, which also includes former Governor William Sweet, of Colorado; the Rev. John W. Herring, Congregationalist, assistant secretary of the International Justice and Goodwill Commission of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America; Ernest G. Guthrie and J. Edgar Park, of Oberlin College; Rabbi Ephraim Frisch, of San Antonio; Herbert A. Jump, of Ann Arbor, Mich.; Noble S. Eldenkin, of Duluth, and Albert F. Coyle, of Cleveland, acting editor of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers Journal.

## Catechism Lessons In Motion Pictures

Paris, March 22.—Catechism lessons are to be explained and illustrated by motion pictures.  
A Paris society has undertaken to produce films dedicated to the spread of Christian doctrine. The first of them is about to be completed, with the cooperation of a group of Paris clergy who have obtained the imprimatur of the archbishop. They are devoted to the Sacraments, Penance and Extreme Unction are the first to be filmed.  
Soon, in a church setting, the Sacraments of Holy Orders and Confirmation will be filmed.

## Cardinal Cerretti Praises the Paris Press for Blind

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Paris, March 22.—Cardinal Cerretti, Papal Pro-Nuncio at Paris, who has recently gone to Rome, as one of his last acts before leaving Paris visited and eulogized an American work here which is one of the most interesting in the city. It is the American Braille Press, which was founded by William Nelson Cromwell and devotes itself to the interests of the blind.

Installed in beautiful quarters in the Rue Lauriston, in the Quartier de l'Étoile, the American Braille Press edits, prints and sends out free of charge, to all blind persons who ask for them, eight publications in different languages, to say nothing of books, works of science, dictionaries and music, in the blind alphabet.

Visibly interested, the cardinal visited successively the department where workers extract from the great journals of the world that which is of most interest to the blind; the dictation room; the composition, correction, press and mailing departments. He saw all perfectly organized to realize the most good for the blind. In the dictating room the cardinal paused to pay the following tribute: "I have seen its equipment and visited all of its plant. I must thank the organizers. They are great factors of humanity. I wish for them the greatest success."

Immediately, the Press' machinery reproduced the cardinal's words and they were placed at the head of all the Braille periodicals printed that week.

## Catholic Indians To Attend Chicago Congress In Costume

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Chicago, March 30.—Catholic Indians who are coming here for the twenty-eighth international Eucharistic Congress will wear their native costumes and live in teepees, possibly on the site of the Fort Dearborn massacre of August 15, 1813. The Indians are coming from the reservations in Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Washington, Utah, Nebraska and Wyoming.

The Rev. Sylvester Eisenman, O. S. B., of the Yankton-Sioux reservation near Marty, S. D. called at headquarters here recently and asked what accommodations could be given the Indians. He said they wanted to wear their native garb and to live in teepees as they wish to be as their forefathers were when Columbus discovered this continent. He has been assured that the wishes of the Indians would be gratified.

There are 500 Roman Catholics among the 2,100 Indians on the reservation which Father Eisenman represented.

## Bequest To Chinese Mission Society Less Than Reported

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
St. Columban, Neb., March 31.—The report that the Chinese Mission Society of St. Columban, Neb., has been the beneficiary of a million dollar bequest left by the late Rev. Daniel F. McGuire of Chicago is officially denied by the Very Rev. E. J. McCarthy, Superior of St. Columban. The exact amount involved in Father McGuire's will was somewhat over \$300,000 and following six other beneficiaries, the Chinese Mission Society is mentioned as residuary legatee.

The case of the next of kin who disputed the will was defeated in the Chicago District Court recently, but has now been appealed by them to the Supreme Court of Illinois.

Until the case is finally settled the Chinese Mission Society does not know the exact amount of its shares which will depend on deductions for inheritance taxes and the cost of upholding its interests in the bequest.

## Actors And Actress Who Became Saints

Paris, March 22.—In connection with the founding of the Confraternity of St. Genest, which includes as members Catholic actors, Vis Cathem is about to be completed, with the cooperation of a group of Paris clergy who have obtained the imprimatur of the archbishop. They are devoted to the Sacraments, Penance and Extreme Unction are the first to be filmed.  
Soon, in a church setting, the Sacraments of Holy Orders and Confirmation will be filmed.

## Old Marriage Law Cited In Suit For Ring

London, March 30.—Pre-Reformation marriage law was quoted this week by Mr. Justice McCardie in the King's Bench Division of the High Court when he gave judgment in an action for the return of an engagement ring.

Recalling a "breach" case in the year 1888, Mr. Justice McCardie pointed out that the presiding judge on that occasion, Lord Bowen, had said: "Before the Reformation no action for breach of promise could be maintained, for marriage was a matter of spiritual jurisdiction. It was not until the middle of the 17th century that marriage was recognized by our law as a temporal benefit and a breach of promise of marriage as cognizable by the temporal courts. No authorities of a very early date can accordingly be expected to throw light upon the question before us (i. e., as to whether an action for breach of promise of marriage will lie against the personal representatives of the promisor) and it must be solved mainly on principle."

Those words of Lord Bowen, said Mr. Justice McCardie, illustrated the manner in which law might develop. It was a striking circumstance of the past that until Lord Hardwicke's Act was passed in 1753 the Church had the power to order specific performance of a promise to marry. The ecclesiastical judgment was rigorous and significant. The words used were these: "Sentence for matrimony commanding solemnization, cohabitation, consummation, and tractation, such as becometh man and wife to have." The judge decided that the mere fact of the ring being given in circumstances implying marriage as a condition did not in all circumstances mean that it must be restored if the marriage did not take place. It was a woman who had received a ring refused to fulfill the conditions of the gift she must return it. On the other hand, if the man had, without a recognized legal justification, refused to carry out his promise of marriage, he could not demand the return of the ring.

Added interest was given to the reference to the old Catholic law by the fact that the parties to the present action are Jews.

## French Bishop Plans Percentage Basis For Peter's Pence

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Blois, March 29.—The Bishop of Blois, consulted by members of his diocese who desired to know how much to subscribe to Peter's Pence, has issued in the Semaine Religieuse, a letter of instruction recommending a system of percentage based on occupations and professions.

These indications provide for a minimum calculated according to the total Catholic population, on the supposition that all the faithful contribute to Peter's Pence. In reality, however, some of them are prevented from doing so, either through sickness, unemployment, family charges, etc. For this reason those who can do so without inconvenience are urged to increase their personal contributions. The following is the scale drawn up by the bishop: Business men, 1 per cent of their net profit; Working men, one day's wages; Liberal Professions: 1 per cent of their net profits; Persons living on income from investments: 1 per cent of their income; Farmers, 2 francs per hectare of land.

## Church Contributors' Certificate Unusual In Art Workmanship

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)  
Pittsburgh, March 26.—Mrs. Louise W. Boyer of this city has produced what critics consider a very excellent example of illustrated manuscript and one particularly deserving of artistic mention in this age of haste and superficiality. Mrs. Boyer effected the illuminated page at the commission of the Rev. Thomas F. Conkley who wished to have a suitable certificate to present to contributors toward the erection of the new Sacred Heart Church here.

Mrs. Boyer's manuscript, on which resided in France, will be engraved the name of the contributor, has been done in five colors—gold, blue, red, black and white. It combines an intimate plan to visit France now apply regularly to the Committee, writing from practically every part of the world, a great knowledge of Church history and unusual skill and harmony of design.

## Queen Alexandra's Sacred Pictures Given to Nuns

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
London, March 31.—Five sacred pictures which hung in the bedroom of the late Queen Alexandra have been given to St. Joseph's Hospice for the Dying, conducted here by the Irish Sisters of Charity.

Queen Alexandra was for many years a patron of the hospice and took a personal interest in its work. Princess Victoria, daughter of the late Queen and sister of King George has become a patron of St. Joseph's in place of her mother, and visited the hospice to present the pictures to the nuns.

## Cardinal Mercier's Touching Letter To Sister Of St. Teresa

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Paris, March 29.—"Les Annales de Lisleux" have just published the text of an admirable letter written by Cardinal Mercier on December 8 last to Mother Agnes, sister of the Little Flower and Prioress of the Carmel of Lisleux.

On that day the Cardinal had undergone a radiographic examination and had learned from the physicians the desperate gravity of his condition. That evening he told his intimates that he had been able to make a worth while offering to the Blessed Virgin:

The following letter is a page of deeply stirring beauty:

"..... Today the doctors have revealed to me that I have a tumor of the stomach. In the depths of my soul I thank God for having something to offer Him through Our Lady of Sorrows and with all my heart I have said my Magnificat in union with that of my Mother-in-law. Since I have been suffering I have never believed that I should ask for my recovery. I abandon myself to Divine Providence and ask but one thing, that Providence draw from poor me all the glory that I can, at any price. Nevertheless, on November 15 last, when I was to give Benediction for the Carmelites of Brussels in honor of your dear Little Saint, the thought suddenly came to me, just as I was crossing the threshold of the Church, to have recourse to her. Upon reaching my prie-dieu, I asked myself whether I should implore my recovery. I did not then know the gravity of my affliction, but foreseeing the eventualities thereof I did not dare do so. I made a conditional request which resolved itself into an act of abandonment."

"I have under way several works which I should certainly like to pursue for the glory of God and for my clergy. But is not the personal sacrifice still the best way to serve divine glory and interests? God does not need any one of us."

"I believe therefore that I am right in keeping to my attitude of abandonment. But I do not believe I am departing from it in begging you to question your Little Sister to know what is best and in asking you to take my place in asking her this."

## French Friendship Committee Spreads Amity Among Faithful

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Paris, March 29.—During the annual assembly of the Catholic Committee on French Friendship, held under the chairmanship of M. René Doumic, of the French Academy, Mgr. Beaupin, General Secretary of the Committee, delivered an address on the duties of French Catholics toward their co-religionists in other lands.

"If we wish foreign Catholics to understand us," he said, "we must give them the example and try first of all to understand and love them. Let us first treat them as we wish to be treated."

The prelate explained that this is just what the Committee is trying to do. Last year numerous groups of foreigners passing through France on their way to Rome were received at the commission of the Rev. Thomas F. Conkley who wished to have a suitable certificate to present to contributors toward the erection of the new Sacred Heart Church here.

Mrs. Boyer's manuscript, on which resided in France, will be engraved the name of the contributor, has been done in five colors—gold, blue, red, black and white. It combines an intimate plan to visit France now apply regularly to the Committee, writing from practically every part of the world, a great knowledge of Church history and unusual skill and harmony of design.

## Notable Religious Fervor At Close Of Cork Mission

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Dublin, March 27.—But for the fact that the population of Cork City is ninety per cent Catholic, or whom all but an infinitesimal minority are practicing, it might be said that a religious revival was witnessed in that city on last Sunday. The Most Reverend Dr. Cohalan, Bishop of Cork, had the happy inspiration of ordering a month's Mission to be held simultaneously in each of the twelve public churches in the city. While Missions at ordinary times all the Catholic churches in any town in Ireland, the Cork churches for the last month have been so overcrowded that the congregations had to be allowed to encroach inside the altar rails right up to the steps of the altars.

The Missions in all the Churches concluded on Sunday, and in most of them two concluding services were held, one in the afternoon and one in the evening, as the congregations could not be accommodated at a single service. While all the Churches were overcrowded before the hour fixed for the commencement of the evening devotion, the most remarkable scenes of enthusiasm occurred in the Cathedral. There the sermon of the Rev. Father Kelly, C. S. S. R., moved the congregation to such emotion that they applauded the preacher at the close of his address.

Bishop Cohalan, who was present at the sermon, thanked the preacher as well as the members of the seven preaching Orders who had assisted him all over the city in giving the Mission. On his Lordship announcing that the Mission had proved as successful all over the city as in the Cathedral, the congregation applauded again.

Actual applause has been unknown in Ireland at any religious service for at least a generation.

On the dispersal of the congregations, the religious spirit went with them from the churches all over the city and suburbs. Local brass bands played hymn tunes through the streets, and in some places waited till the missionaries left the churches, and then escorted them to their residences.

The Bishop has issued a statement to the press thanking the missionaries for their zeal, and declaring that their success has been an augury beyond all precedent for the welfare, both spiritual and material, of the population.

## Anglican Bishop Whose Wife Became Catholic, Resigns

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.)  
Kingston, Ont., April 2.—The Anglican House of Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario has decided to accept the proffered resignation of Bishop E. J. Bidwell, whose wife some months ago became a Catholic. Mrs. Bidwell's conversion at the time, created a profound impression in Anglican circles in Canada. Bishop Bidwell is regarded as a brilliant member of the Anglican House of Bishops of the Dominion and has held a place in the front rank of the clergy here for more than ten years.

At the time of his wife's conversion to the Catholic Church, the bishop offered his resignation to the Archbishop of Algoma, but the House of Bishops declined to accept it. Now, however, the bishops have been responsible for awarding him an informal note saying that they acquiesce in his desire to retire. The actual resignation is to take place May 1 and soon will be announced formally.

There is no disposition on the part of the Catholic Church nor has there been, to make religious capital of the situation, says a statement which has been issued from the archbishop's residence at Kingston. Mrs. Bidwell was a purely intellectual conversion, says the statement, adding that she "read herself into the Catholic Church."

"She was absolutely a Catholic before she came to us," the statement continues. "She had been in attendance at Catholic services unknown to us, and only approached us for instructions."

When in 1913 Bishop Bidwell was elected to the Diocese of Ontario, the first ballot, the honor was without precedent in the Anglican Church in Canada. It is said his retirement now is wholly without bitterness.

## Czech and Slovak Prelates Who Are Coming to Chicago

(By T. Myrthos, Jr., Prague Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service)

Prague, March 11.—The summer (which has charge of the arrangements being made here for participation in the Eucharistic Congress to be held in Chicago in June) has just made public the list of Czech and Slovak ecclesiastical dignitaries who will attend.

It has now become definitely known that the Most Rev. Dr. Frantisek Kordas, Archbishop of Prague, will not be able to lead the Czech-Slovak contingent. He has named the Rt. Rev. Dr. Joseph Haas, Canon of the Prague Cathedral, to be his special representative.

Other ecclesiastical dignitaries to attend will be: Most Rev. Karel Kasper, D. D., Bishop of Hradec Kralove; Mgr. Antonin Cech, titular bishop residing in Ljubomir; Mgr. Joseph Roubicek, D. D., titular Bishop and Army Chaplain; Abbot Melchior Svorady, head of the Praemonstratensian Monastery of Strahov, which was founded in the Twelfth Century; Dom Brantysky, O. S. B., Abbot of the Basilian Monastery of Pramen; the Most Rev. Leopold Trosky, D. D., Vicar General of Olomouc; Mgr. Jan Stavek, Canon of the Olomouc Cathedral, vice-president of the Association of Catholic Clergy and Apostles of the Holy Spirit; Mgr. Karel Klok, Bishop of Nitra; Mgr. Jan Vojnar, Bishop of Banská Bystrica; Mgr. Jaroslav Naredi, Bishop of Administrators of the Diocese of Prešov; Mgr. J. Cech, Bishop of Uhersky Brod; Mgr. Karel Klok, Bishop of Banská Bystrica; and Mgr. J. Cech, Bishop of Administrators of the Diocese of Prešov.

Besides these prelates to be present at the Congress, Monsignor Haas, who will personally represent the Archbishop of Prague, is a member of the International Committee for Eucharistic Congresses and president of the Eucharistic Section of the Council of Catholic Bishops.

## Archbishop Keating Wants Chancellors Open To Catholics

London, March 19.—Abolition of the law which prevents a Catholic from becoming Lord Chancellor of England is being urged by Archbishop Keating of Liverpool.  
The Catholic Relief Bill introduced in the House of Commons last week by Dennis Herbert does not seek the removal of this ban, because its promoters of the Bill want it to be entirely non-confessional.  
Archbishop Keating, however, is so that Catholics should be able to hold the same offices as other officials. He is the other hand he agrees with the provision in the Bill that the King of England shall be a Protestant.

## Priest Representing Germany in London Labor Conference

London, March 21.—Dr. Bruno Germany's priest minister of labor is here with a staff of experts to take part in an international conference convened by the British government to discuss the question of international labor relations.  
He has been a member of the German government's labor committee since the outbreak of the war. Dr. Bruno is not wearing clerical garb at the conference, and the fact that he is a Catholic priest has almost escaped the attention of the London press.

## New French Law Blessed By Pope

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Paris, March 11.—The French Translators Union, the Union des Traducteurs de France, of the Commission for the Translation of the French language, has been launched in the presence of the French government and the French people.  
The new law, which will be in force from June 1, 1926, will give the French Translators Union the right to represent the French people in the translation of the French language.