Clergy Asks Pardon For Vinedressers of Berncastel Region

By Rev. Dr. Wilhelm Baron von Capitaine
(Cologne Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service)

Cologne, April 1.—All Catholic priests in the district of Berncastel on the Mosel have petitioned President Hindenburg to show clemency to the vinedressers who rioted at that town on the occasion of the vintager's conference. The vinedressers, facing starvation, resented the great advantage given Spain under a recent treaty whereby Spanish wine is imported in great abundance to the devastation of their business. They were also incensed over the seizure and sale of their property for taxes.

The situation is made difficult by the fact that Communists and Separatists took advantage of the situation to spread their propaganda. Deputies of the Center Party prevailed in the struggle, however, and under their guidance the people burned the Communist literature, which had been shipped in in boxes, and proclaimed their loyalty to the nation.

In their petition to President Hindenburg the Catholic clergymen called attention to the pitiful condition of the vinedressers and demanded immediate help for them. They also took occasion to vindicate the people from any charge of Communism or any affiliation with the Separatists. They sent a similar communication to the Minister of Inner Affairs. The matter already has been discussed in the Reichstag and it is hoped that through the intercessions of the priests a pardon will be granted.

The vinedressers, during the conference, occupied the fiscal and financial office, destroyed rooms and furniture and heaping up the acts and archives, burned them

Bishop Vaughan's Interesting Will

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

London, April 1.—The will of the late Bishop Vaughan, brother of Cardinal Vaughan and Fr. Bernard Vaughan, beings with this passage "I bequeath my soul to God from whom it came, my body to the earth from which it was made, and all my sins, transgressions and offenses to my kind and generous relations and friends, to be atoned and satisfied for to the best of their power by prayers, masses, alms and other good deeds."

The Bishop left all his interest in his published books to the Superior for the time being of the Catholic Missionary Society, Brondesbury Park, London, N.W., for the general purposes of the Society; $250 to the President of the Manchester Central Council of the Society of St Vincent de Paul, for the deserving poor; $250 to the Bishop of Salford for the time being, for his own use and benefit, requesting him, but without creating any trust in the matter, to spend it in Masses.

All his other property (other than money and securities for money) was left to his executor "to dispose of in his uncontrolled discretion amongst my nephews and nieces, relations, and friends in such wise that the ecclesiastics get what is suitable to their state, and the lay relations what is suitable to theirs."

The residue of his property was bequeathed to his nephew, Fr. Herbert Vaughan, D.D., "to use the same as in his discretion he thinks I should desire and employ myself."

Bishop Vaughan's estate was of the gross value of $78,000.

Relay Carnival Will Draw, 1,000 Athletes, Marquette Predicts

Milwaukee, Wis., April 1.—One thousand additional invitations to the fourth annual Marquette University National High School Relay carnival, to be held in the new Marquette stadium here May 8, are in the mail, and Track Coach Conrad M. Jennings expects the percentage of replies to be numerous enough to make the 1926 program the greatest in midwest prep school history.

Entry blanks for the carnival will be sent to the same schools about April 2, and must be returned to Coach Jennings' office by May 3. They are going to prominent high schools in all parts of the country, from coast to coast.

Last year's carnival found six hundred athletes from thirty-five schools competing, and the program was run off smoothly and was a great success. This year indications are that one thousand crack athletes will gather.

The carnival will be run off in five divisions, as follows: 1. Wisconsin High School Championship (Open to Wisconsin high schools which are members of the W. I. A. A.) 2. Wisconsin Class B. Championship (Open to Wisconsin high schools in Class B, which are members of the W. I. A. A.); 3. National Championship (National meet limited to schools from states members of the National Federation); 4. Private High School Championship (Open to parochial or private high schools), and 5. Military Academies and Preparatory Schools (Open to military academies and preparatory schools.)

Conan Doyle's Eyes Opened To Fraud Of Noted Medium

Caught Him in Trickery And Exposed Him—New English Film Discloses Methods Employed by Mediums to Deceive

By George Barnard
(London Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service)

London, March 22.—No less a person than Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who recently toured the United States stoutly attempting to justify his belief in spiritism, has just been forced to expose here as a fake Frederick Munnings, until now considered one of the best trumpet mediums in the country. Sir Arthur was present at the dramatic unmasking of the man.

Simultaneously it has been announced that there is being produced, at Esher, in Surrey, a motion picture designed to expose the tricks employed by fraudulent mediums. Arthur Prince, professional magician, who conducted investigations into spiritism for the Chicago police, is who conducted investigations into supervising the film and playing a part in it. The picture will be shown to the trade here at Easter

Exposure of Noted Medium

The exposure of Munnings is taken here as proof that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is sincere but deluded in his belief and preachings of spiritism. It came about through a curious accident Sir Arthur describes it thus

"A party of us was sitting with Munnings in a private house, and as the electric lights had gone wrong owing to a fuse, we were in complete darkness

"We were getting messages through a trumpet which appeared to be suspended in mid-air, and to swing round in various directions Munnings was not near the trumpet

"Suddenly the lights came on again a thing nobody expected and we all saw immediately that Munnings had an attachment which he was using to hold up the trumpet and move it

"We upbraided the blackguard and turned him out of the house When Munnings had gone we agreed that we should save to expose him

The result was a letter to "Light," a spiritist journal, and the exposure was signed by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Dr Abraham Wallace Mr H Saunders and Mr. H Dennis Bradley The latter has recently published a spiritistic book, "The Wisdom of the Gods," in which he says of manifestations by Munnings:

"I would defy any man, or any three of the greatest mimics or actors living, after careful rehearsal, to hold a fake seance and produce one quarter of the results Such an attempt would be an utter fiasco"

In the letter to "Light" the four leading spiritists speak of mediums who supplement their intermittent powers "by cold blooded and deliberate artifice" They say of Munnings that he has been "exposed in obvious fraud with the tools of deception in his possession"

It is revealed by the "Daily Sketch" that when the light went up Munnings tried to explain that the attachment had been brought in from the garden by the spirits'

The incident has not, apparently shaken Sir Arthur's belief in all the other mediums

Film Shows Tricks of Spiritism

The story of the film now being made to expose spiritism is based on a real-life tragedy in which a girl became demented through practicing spiritism. The movie narrative will however, end happily, for the girl will be saved from insanity when the dangers of the cult are demonstrated to her It is hoped therein to bring out the lesson

Arthur Prince declared to me when I saw him at the film studio, his belief that every so-called spirit manifestation can be reproduced by magic, or sleight-of-hand He has no belief in spiritistic "phenomena"

This view agrees with the opinion of other experts in magic whom I have met here and in America. These men, after all, know the limitations of their own art, and if the spirits cannot produce effects which man cannot duplicate there can be little purpose in their supposed tricks as a demonstration of their power.

Arthur Prince is demonstrating in the new film some of the tricks of fake mediums, several of them never before exposed to the public, though they are well known in professional circles.

He showed me a marvelous collection of apparatus which he has gathered from various so-called mediums. One clever piece of mechanism is the "spirit" hand, which raps out answers to questions. This trick is sometimes done by making and breaking and electrical circuit, but Mr. Prince's specimen works with a concealed pin on a base board upon which the hand rests. The pin is operated by pressing an innocent-looking screw under the board.

Mr. Prince went through the whole process (which will be given away in the film) of getting out of a medium's cabinet after being tightly roped to a stool and further bound with a brass collar around the neck, which collar is also bound to the chair. The chair itself would defy inspection by almost anybody, but in practice a slight pressure of the hand and a turn of the wrist takes off the head of a solid brass bolt to which each hand is shackled. The hand is then free to release a hidden spring in the hinge of the collar which permits the collar bolt to be removed. The whole operation of getting free from the formidable bonds takes only a minute or so. The "medium" is then free to move about in the darkness, after which it is just as easy to replace the shackles. The seals on the hand ropes and on the brass collar remain unbroken.

Mr. Prince declares there are 127 different tricks in use by slate mediums.

The film is expected to cause a sensation in spiritistic circles here when it is released.

English Catholic Village School Hundred Years Old

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

London, April 1.—A Catholic village school building which has done duty for 100 years has come to light now that it is to be replaced. A century ago a modest little building was erected at Aston-le-Walls, a village in the midlands, and it has housed pupils and teachers ever since. Two years ago the building was condemned by the education authorities, and the local education authority thereupon decided to build a council school

The local priest, Fr Edwards, resisting this usurpation, submitted plans for a new Catholic school. The local authority rejected the offer, determined to oust the Catholic school.

The matter was taken to the Board of Education at Whitehall, and after several months of waiting and much correspondence the authorities have decided in favor of the Catholic school

Aston-le-Walls has since 1815 been an outpost of the faith in a Protestant countryside Father Alban Butler, author of the Lives of the Saints, was born in the neighboring hamlet of Appletree a century earlier, and it is hoped to make the new school his memorial A brass plate commemorates him in the Protestant church at Aston le Walls

Pope Sends Blessing To All Cleveland Religious And Laity

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

Cleveland April 1 A cablegram received from Cardinal Gasparri conveys the Apostolic blessing to Archbishop Edward A Mooney, Bishop Joseph Schrembs, the priests and Sisters and the laity of the Cleveland parish

The message from the Papal Secretary of State was in reply to a cablegram sent by Bishop Schrembs to the Pope on the occasion of the dinner in honor of Archbishop Mooney by the priests of the diocese

The Bishop announced on that occasion that he had thanked the Holy Father in his own name, in the name of the priests and the laity for his promotion of a priest of the diocese to such high rank

Cousin Of Cardinal Manning a Convert On Her Deathbed

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

London, April 1 A cousin of Cardinal Manning was received into the church on her deathbed here lately She was Mrs Toulmin Flood, aged 84 Her only surviving child, Miss Evelyn Frances Flood is a Catholic, having been received at the age of 15

"I am so excited at the honour coming to me said the old lady when Fr Basil Barton, parish priest of Somers Town was bringing Holy Communion to her She had been received into the Church the previous day

A few days later the great Cardinal's cousin received the Last Sacraments and died "It was a saintly death at which it was a privilege to be present says a close friend who was there

Seeks Beatification Of Fr. Kratz, German Martyred In Tonking

By Rev Dr. Wilhelm Baron von Capitaine.
(Cologne Correspondent N C W C News Service)

Cologne April 1 Cardinal Schulte, Archbishop of Cologne, has commissioned Prof August Luedenbach of Dueren to promote the process for beatification of Father Johannes Caspar Kratz, the Jesuit missionary who, though born at Golzheim near Dueren died a martyr, in China in 1737.

Professor Luedenbach published a biography of the Rhenish martyrs some years ago. Since then, however, Father Schurhammer has discovered in archives at Lisbon, Portugal, important documents of Father Kratz and other Tonking martyrs.

Cardinal Schulte, accordingly, has ordered Professor Luedenbach to conduct a pilgrimage of Rhenish priests and laymen to Rome some time in Holy Week, when, in a special audience with His Holiness, they will petition for the appointment of another Papal commission to take up the beatification process for Father Kratz.

Mexican Relations Sould End, House Committee Told

At Hearing on Boylan Resolution Protests Are MadeAgainst At Hearing on Boylan Resolution Protests Are Made Against Injustices to Catholics—Holy Name Society, Maryland and D. C. K. of C. And Catholic Press Voice Indignation

Washington, April 3 The present Government in Mexico was charged with making a deliberate and ruthless campaign to drive God out of the country and with having, through its conduct, forfeited the right to recognition by the United States as a member of the family of nations, in hearings conducted this week by the House Foreign Affairs Committee on the resolution of Representative Boylan of New York. Mr Boylan's resolution would put the House on record as favoring the withdrawal of recognition from the Mexican Government "until such time as the policies and conduct of the said Government in relation to educational and religious institutions of all creeds and nationalities justify a resumption of relations"

Hearing on the resolution was closed Wednesday after two half-day sessions, but Representative Boylan was given permission to insert in the record certain affidavits which had been late in reaching him

Rep. Fish's Proposed Resolution

As the hearing closed, Representative Fish of New York expressed the view that representatives of the State Department should be heard on the question, and read to the Committee a draft of a resolution which he said he had drawn up but had not introduced It was as follows

"Whereas the American people are inherently and constitutionally in favor of religious tolerance and freedom of worship

"And whereas there is considerable apprehension among liberty-loving Americans as to interference on the part of the Governments of Italy, Mexico and Roumania with American ministers, priests, missionaries and instructors attached to religious schools

"Therefore be it resolved That the Secretary of State be requested, if not incompatible with public interests, to communicate to the House of Representatives such information as he may have bearing on the subject and what action the Government may have taken to protest against such practices, in order to permit all American citizens in foreign countries to worship according to their own beliefs"

Mr Fish later said it was his intention, should the Boylan resolution come before the House, to incorporate the provisions of his own resolution in an amendment, or if the Boylan resolution failed, to introduce it as a separate resolution

Charles W Darr, attorney representing Archbishop Curley of Baltimore, Mother Semple of the Visitation Order who was forced with her nuns to flee from their convent near Mexico City, Judge Alfred J Talley, representing the Catholic Club of New York and accompanid by Judge Morgan O'Brien and the Very Rev M J Ripple O P, P G, Director General of the Holy Name Society in the United States, succeeded each other in citing outrages against religion by the Mexican Government and registering the protests of organizations

Catholic Press Protest

Near the close of the hearing Mr. Boylan read the following excerpt from a letter he had received from Patrick F Scanlan of The Tablet, Brooklyn, President of the Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada

"The Catholic Press Association, covering a hundred newspapers and magazines in every section of the country, unites in the condemnation of the outrageous treatment accorded the Catholics of Mexico by the President of the Mexican regime."

Father Ripple presented to the Committee 49 telegrams from Holy Name groups in every part of the country protesting vigorously against the persecution in Mexico. These telegrams, said the Director General, came from 3,960 branches of the Society and represented 1,656,711 Catholic men. Some of the groups represented in the telegrams were as numerous as 125,000 and 150,000, and others were in the hundreds.

"The men of the Holy Name Society have instructed me to register their protest against the laws of Mexico, in conformity with the resolution of Mr. Boylan to withdraw recognition from Mexico," said Father Ripple, "first on the grounds that the Constitution of Mexico denies that modicum of human liberty for which as American citizens we stand in the most fundamental way." Secondly, he continued, the grounds were the confiscatory laws and thirdly laws which deny the right of trial by jury under certain conditions. Father Ripple concluded with the words:

"These fundamental aspects of what we consider a civilized government are so shocking to the sense of American citizenship that they wish to register their protest against any form of government that will by one set of principles enunciate a declaration of human liberty of conscience and liberty of possession and then by successive articles reject them altogether."

There were also read into the record resolutions of protest adopted by the Knights of Columbus of Maryland and of the District of Columbia.

Mother Semple Impresses Committee

The venerable Mother Semple impressed the committee by her simple recital of how, despite her advanced to move her school in Mexico because of banditry and persecution. She told how her family had for generations been prominent in American life, how she went to Mexico to head a Visitation convent, how years and finally of the heartless bandit forays had harassed her for years and finally of the heartless eviction of herself, her nuns and formed the Committee that Ambassador Sheffield had told her to speak their pupils in recent weeks. She in-freely of her treatment, when she returned to the United States, and added: "I thought I could say things he couldn't. The United States officials in Mexico did everything they could for us, but their hands are tied."

Mother Semple concluded her statement in these words

"The law of 1917 is the basis of it all. As long as that law exists, there will be no living in Mexico for Catholics, Protestants or anyone else."

Constitution Begot In Bigotry.

Judge Talley charged that "the Constitution of 1917 was begot in bigotry and for the purpose of driving God out of the nation", denied that the Constitution was ever sanctioned by the Mexican people, and cited instances where in past years the United States has taken cognizance of religious prosecution in other countries

"The present constitution of Mexico was never submitted for adoption by the Mexican people but was imposed by a military convention controlled by Carranza", said Judge Talley "Before the United States gave its recognition, it asked Mexico if it would grant religious toleration. Mexico answered yes, it would abide by the constitution of 1857. Carranza arbitrarily suspended that constitution and imposed the constitution of 1917, which destroyed all religious toleration Under it the Church may not hold property, ministers and priests, even native, may not vote nor teach nor enter a primary school There is no trial by jury for priests No minister may criticize the laws of the country. Charitable institutions, hospitals, orphanages, seminaries, all are under control of the State. The State legislatures may prescribe the number of priests allowed to function within this State. Priests and bishops are never allowed to meet together Foreign born priests have been summarily driven out, already to the number of 202 Foreign born nuns have suffered the same fate, and native religious have been deprived of their homes and schools The schools have been made atheistic"

Judge Talley disclaimed advocating interference with Mexico's purely internal affairs, but insisted that the present situation in that country is intolerable and that an immediate remedy must be found. Mexico by her persecution and attempted destruction of all religion has forfeited the right to claim the friendship of the liberty-loving people of the United States, he asserted, and it is time this Government spoke

He said in concluding

"If we believe in our own principles of government, with freedom of conscience and religious worship and other human rights, and then, by comity, covenant, treaty or convention give the support of this great country of ours to this state which has the Soviet as its basis, fearful as we are of the Russian idea, it should give us pause. It should make us wonder if we are not undermining our own form of government by not telling the world we do not approve of this thing."

Mr. Darr asserted that the "Bolshevistic provisions" of the Mexican Constitution of 1917 were aimed at "religious extinction" and the "banishing of Almighty God" from the land, and that "the present situation in Mexico has no parallel in history with the one exception of present-day Russia." "The menace of Bolshevism has reached our door", he declared. "Let us crush it ere the threshold is reached. Withdraw recognition from Mexico, and thereby restore God to the country, and you deal the Bolshevik monster a death blow."

Four Major Grounds of Protest.

He presented four major grounds on which, he asserted, Mexico has forfeited the right to recognition: 1.—Mexico, by its Constitution, "has laid the ground work for patterning its forms and functions of government after those of the feared and despised Bolshevik government of Red Russia" and is attempting to "banish the Word of God from its land and thereby reduce its people to that state of materialism which knows no duties and respects no obligations." 2.—Mexico has "deliberately and premeditatedly offended ordinary, plain decency due from one nation to another." 3.—Mexico "unduly discriminates in times of peace against citizens of the United States and does not afford them those fundamental rights which citizens of Mexico enjoy in the United States." 4.—The government of Mexico in 1923 "gave public notice through its then existing Constitution that it had then and would continue thereafter to shamelessly confiscate property of its own citizens and that of citizens of all other countries, without compensation or trial."

Labelling President Calles of Mexico a "super bigot, bandit, revolutionist and Bolshevist", Mr. Darr concluded by declaring that the Mexican people deserve the sympathy of citizens of the United States and that their leaders misrepresent them. "This population", he said, "is now hiding behind closed and barred doors to keep out the Red Wolf who is now marauding the country in the person of Elias Calles and his ministers."

Convent $132 Richer As Old Pledge Is Paid

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

Youngstown, O., April 1.—A check for $132 recently received by Mother Agnes, superior of the Ursuline community here, was payment and interest on a pledge made five years ago. The pledge was for $100, made at the time of a campaign by the Ursulines here when they purchased property for an academy and high school.

The sender of the check pleaded that memory had failed.

Dr. Raymond Sullivan Is Made A Chevalier Of Crown Of Italy

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

New York, April 2.—Doctor Raymond P. Sullivan, one of the most prominent surgeons in the United States, has been honored by the King of Italy, who has named him a Chevalier of the Order of the Crown of Italy in recognition of services rendered during the World War as Chief of the Division of Surgery of the United States Army, on duty in the Surgeon General's Office, Washington.

Doctor Sullivan is prominent in various medical and surgical societies of the United States and is President of the Resident and ex-Resident Physicians of the Mayo Clinic. He is surgeon at St. Vincent's Hospital, New York City, and at Holy Family Hospital, Brooklyn, and is consulting surgeon of various hospitals

Father Keenan, Leper Colony Priest For Many Years, Is Dead

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

New Orleans, April 1 -The Rev A V Keenan, the first priest to go to the leper colony at Carville, La, died recently at Touro Infirmary after an illness of more than a month Death was caused by heart disease He was buried from Holy Rosary church in Esplanade avenue Interment was made in St Louis Cemetery No. 3

Father Keenan, who was 73 years old, was born in County Cork, Ireland He was relieved of his work in the leper colony two years ago because of infirmity. He had then exposed himself to the dread disease for 18 years. Recently he served as chaplain of the Sisters of the Holy Cross at Holy Angel Academy

Old Police Station Made Into Church, Outgrown By Flock

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

London April 1 --A former police station now in use as a Catholic church at Hunslet, Leeds, is to be replaced by a new building of which the bishop will lay the foundation stone next month. The congregation has so far outgrown the accommodation of the former "lock up" that large numbers kneel on the sidewalk outside the church for Sunday Mass

Cincinnati Priests Present Archbishop With Two Automobiles

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

Cincinnati, March 29.—Two automobiles valued at $5,000 each were presented to Archbishop John T. McNicholas at his suburban home, Norwood, today. The care are the gifts of the priests of the archdiocese to mark the recent investiture of His Grace with the pallium.

The gifts were an entire surprise to Archbishop McNicholas; his first knowledge of them being when they were driven up to his home. Msgr. Daniel A. Buckley of Springfield, Ohio, one of two vicars-general of the diocese made the presentation address in behalf of the priests. Msgr. Buckley referred to the esteem in which the archbishop is held by his priests and commented on the development of the archdiocese since its present head took charge in August 1925.

No public ceremony was held on the occasion of the recent investiture of the archbishop with the pallium which was brought here by Archbishop Austin Dowling of St. Paul, Minn., representing the Supreme Pontiff. The unostentatious ceremony was the wish of the Archbishop.

The reply of the archbishop to Msgr. Buckley's greeting embodied appreciation of the gifts and of the cooperation shown him by the entire priesthood in the administration of the archdiocese.