

Catholic School Heads Debate On Their Problems

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Washington, April 9.—The Rev. Joseph F. Barblian, of Milwaukee, was elected chairman of the Superintendents' Section of the Catholic Educational Association at its seventh semi-annual two-day meeting which closed at Catholic University here yesterday afternoon.

The Rev. John Wolfe, S.T.D., Ph.D., was elected secretary and the Rev. John Hagan, D.D., S.T.D., Ph.D., of Cleveland, editor. Some 40 school superintendents attended the meeting representing virtually every section of the United States with its more than 9,000 Catholic elementary and high schools and academies and upward of 2,000,000 Catholic pupils.

Among the newly elected members of the Board of Trustees was Thomas F. Woodlock, recently installed as a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission. An interesting development of the meeting was the report of Rev. William J. Kerby, Ph.D., Director of the School, who disclosed the fact that not only is each graduate of the school placed in a salaried position but the school has not been able to keep up with the demand made upon it for trained workers.

Following the meeting it was announced that the Board of Trustees of the school had been chosen to be composed of: The Rev. John J. Burke, C.S.P., General Secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference; the Rev. James H. Ryan, Ph.D., Executive Secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference; Thomas F. Woodlock, Carlton Joseph H. Hayes, Ph.D., of Columbia University; David A. McCabe, Ph.D., of Princeton University; Robert Howard Lord, Ph.D., of Harvard University; Dr. Kerby, who is also of Catholic University; Miss Agnes G. Regan, Executive Secretary of the National Council of Catholic Women; Mrs. Harry Benzinger of Baltimore; Miss Florence Loeber of New Orleans; Mrs. D.C. Stapleton of Washington, D.C.; Mrs. John McMahon of Chicago; Mrs. M.B. Daly of Cleveland, Ohio; Treasurer of the National Council of Catholic Women, Mrs. Arthur Mullen of Omaha, President of the National Council of Catholic Women, and Miss Anna Dill Gamble of York, Pa., Secretary of the National Council of Catholic Women.

Father Burke was elected president of the board at its organization. Dr. Ryan was elected first vice-president; Mrs. Mullen, second vice-president; Mrs. Stapleton, treasurer and Miss Regan, secretary.

Dr. Ryan, Mrs. Benzinger, Mrs. Stapleton and Miss Gamble were elected members of the executive committee, while Dr. Hayes, Dr. McCabe, Mrs. McMahon and Miss Loeber were chosen as the visiting committee. Mr. Woodlock was elected a member of the committee on finance. The board established the Wednesday immediately following Easter Sunday as the day upon which it will hold its annual meeting.

The drive for \$600,000, which is planned for the school and which the board discussed yesterday, will be used to pay off existing indebtedness on the school building and grounds and to establish scholarships for students at the institution. The executive committee was instructed to confer with officials of the N. C. W. C. and to give full cooperation in stimulation of the campaign.

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School Of Social Service To Have New Management

(By N. C. W. C. News Service.) Washington, April 8.—Permanent organization of the National Catholic School of Social Service, as authorized by the administrative Committee of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, was effected at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the school held here yesterday.

The school, which in its five years' existence has won nation-wide recognition has been incorporated and yesterday's meeting of the trustees was held to organize its directing body. The meeting elected officers among the trustees, discussed plans for a campaign to raise \$600,000 with which the school will be endowed and arranged for close cooperation with the National Council of Catholic Women, which is directing the drive.

Among the newly elected members of the Board of Trustees was Thomas F. Woodlock, recently installed as a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission. An interesting development of the meeting was the report of Rev. William J. Kerby, Ph.D., Director of the School, who disclosed the fact that not only is each graduate of the school placed in a salaried position but the school has not been able to keep up with the demand made upon it for trained workers.

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Irish Franciscan Arrange Pilgrimage In Honor Of Founder

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Dublin, April 3.—Arrangements have been completed for a National Pilgrimage from Ireland to Rome to celebrate the tercentenary of Luke Wadding, who is regarded as the founder of the Franciscan order in Ireland, in connection with the observances to be held on the seven hundredth anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi.

The unparalleled success of the Irish pilgrimages during the Holy Year has encouraged the Irish Franciscan Fathers to organize this pilgrimage for the Holy Year. The pilgrimage will not be confined to a journey to Rome and attendance at the religious ceremonies there. The Franciscans have arranged that it shall include visits to Milan, Turin, Venice and several other Italian cities. While many Irish Catholics refrain from continental travel by reason of the fact that tours are conducted by people without religious principle, it is expected that the pilgrimages of last year will be rivaled in numbers by Catholics from the whole country, anxious to see the continent of Europe.

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Catholic Charities Of New York Aided 189,479 Last Year

(N. C. W. C. News Service) New York, April 7.—Catholic charities of the Archdiocese of New York expended \$445,827.59 in extending aid to 189,479 persons last year. Cardinal Hayes, who is now restored to full health, announced here yesterday when he met with all his pastors in Cathedral College to submit his annual report on charitable work.

"We are proud of the record," Cardinal Hayes said in addressing his pastors. "We point to 189,479 persons who were directly helped last year. We call attention to the fact that may not be generally known: The Catholic Church is second to none in the amount of relief actually administered by her and under her supervision. In 229 parish units last year Catholic Charities expended \$445,827.59 in relief.

This sum represents only a fraction of the total expenditure of the archdiocese. The annual budgets of more than 200 Catholic charitable agencies necessitate more than \$7,000,000.

Cardinal Hayes took occasion to make a distinction between true Christian charity and mere humanitarianism. "Beware of false principles of sobbing sentimentalists," he said. "These people are fundamentally wrong. They have God out of the whole question of charity and deal with man as though he had no immortal soul."

His Eminence declared that one of the outstanding charitable achievements of the year was the work of the Catholic Probation Bureau which cares for adults in the Court of General Sessions.

Cardinal Hayes' annual appeal for charitable contributions was answered by 249,943 people who gave \$1,077,674.01.

French Army and Navy Officers Make Easter Communion In Bodies

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Paris, April 5.—The French Navy joined the movement instituted by various professions and corporations who have established the custom of corporate Easter Communion.

The Church of Our Lady of Victories was selected by the naval officers. More than one hundred and fifty, of all ranks and grades from the youngest ensigns to the most distinguished admirals, attended Mass and received Communion in a body. This was a large number, for there are relatively few naval officers stationed in the Paris district. The sermon was preached by Rev. Father Janvier, O. P., formerly preacher at Notre Dame.

On the same day and at the same hour, a similar ceremony was held in the chapel of the Invalides for the army officers, graduates of Saint Cyr. More than 700 were present and their attitude was highly edifying.

The engineers of the Arts and Manufactures assembled for their Easter Communion in the Cathedral of Notre Dame. The graduates of agricultural colleges also made their Easter duty in a body.

Persecution of Church In Mexico Has Caused Revival of People's Faith

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Mexico City, April 6.—"The persecution has done more than any mission for the good of religion in Mexico." This statement, appearing in a local paper, gives an adequate description of the manner in which Mexican Catholics have rallied to the Church since the Mexican Government instituted its campaign for the strict enforcement of articles of the Constitution hostile to the free exercise of religion.

Schools and churches have been closed, many priests and nuns have been expelled, from the country, the number of clergy permitted in a given State has been regulated and even such minor details as the habits which priests may wear and the number of strokes for which church bells may ring have been the subject of state and municipal regulation. But Lent, which has been a season of real persecution as well as a season of penance for the people of Mexico, has found the churches more crowded than ever. The extraordinary attendance at all church functions has placed a tremendous burden on the pastors. Confessionals have been literally besieged, with the approach of the Easter season, and the number of priests left in the country is absolutely insufficient to hear confessions, distribute Holy Communion and attend to the religious needs of the people.

Situation in Various States. In some States the enormous crowds have been due to the fear entertained by the people that the churches might be closed entirely before the Easter season is over. In Aguascalientes the announcement that the Legislature would limit the number of priests who may serve in that State has been followed by word from the Bishop that should such a decree be issued, the churches will be closed and the priests withdrawn immediately.

The States whose governors have shown themselves most hostile to religion are those where the governors were imposed by force. Aguascalientes, Tabasco, Jalisco and San Luis Potosi are the States where conditions have been the worst, and the State of Colima is little better. In this latter district the governor is a creature of Calles and is persecuting everybody. Several deputies, for instance, have been imprisoned and a general petition has been drawn up by "everybody" of the citizens demanding their release. In some States the governors have virtually disregarded orders from Mexico City and conditions are relatively quiet.

Considerable surprise was felt in Catholic circles when President Calles announced that all government departments would remain closed during Holy Week as in the past. In view of the religious situation it had been expected that this tradition would not be observed this year. The order cannot fairly be interpreted as a conciliatory one, however, even though it has received much favorable comment. The Easter recess is being used to campaign for elections and the members of the Chamber of Deputies have scattered all over the country to push their respective campaigns.

Recent Acts of Persecution. Meanwhile, the persecution continues. The school conducted in this city by Senora Luz Ortiz de Salinas has been closed by agents of the Department of the Interior. This school was founded some time ago by a religious order of women and was devoted to training girls for domestic service. Upon learning of the fate met by Catholic schools elsewhere, the nuns decided to close the institution and disperse. But Senora Ortiz de Salinas heard of this decision and determined that the good done by the school should not be lost. Consequently she took over the property, engaged teachers, most of whom were young women of the best society who volunteered their services, and reopened the school under a new charter. Although the nuns previously in charge of the institution have returned to Spain and although there are now no religious connected with it in any way, the government agents refused to allow it to remain open, and the students are now deprived of the excellent training in domestic science which they were receiving.

In San Luis Potosi State, two men recently were taken from a ranch near Rioverde by order of the mayor and imprisoned for having joined a group of Catholics who were collecting signatures for a petition.

Masons Approve Government's Policy. The meeting of the Grand Convention of the Masonic Lodges of the West Coast, held at Hermosillo and attended by delegates from Arizona, expressed approval of the policy of the Mexican Government.

The Mexican press, acting, notwithstanding its obedience to government orders, is silent on religious matters. However, considerable space was given to the testimony of Mother of the Temple, former Superior of the Visitation Convent at Coyocacan, delivered at the special hearing on Mexico held by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

100 Catholic Colleges to Close. More than one hundred Catholic colleges are expected to close hereafter within a fortnight rather than accede to the government's order to exclude religious education. The report has caused great indignation among Catholics, and feeling is running high.

Some time ago the Government gave the colleges 70 days to conform to its regulations. It is now understood that they have been directed to close rather than conform. The time limit expires April 22.

Meantime, the Most Rev. Archbishop Carranza, Apostolic Delegate to Mexico and the Antilles, has not been molested by the Government and continues about his duties, despite rumors that there would be difficulties about his presence. The Government announced upon his arrival that so long as he did not violate its religious laws he would not be molested.

Eucharistic Congress Officials Enlist Army Of Interpreters

Chicago, April 12.—Pilgrims to the Twenty-Eighth International Eucharistic Congress here in June are to have the services of a corps of several hundred trained interpreters capable of handling virtually every language of the world. These men will receive special instruction for their task.

Thomas H. Cannon, High Chief Ranger of the Catholic Order of Foresters, has offered the services of his organization to recruit the corps. The interpreters will be specially trained and will all be thoroughly familiar with Chicago and its suburbs.

Mr. Cannon also has announced that the Foresters will have a downtown headquarters for their members during the Congress.

It has developed that a commanding part in the Congress will be taken by representatives of schools. The committee in charge of Higher Education Day is now vigorously working out a program with the aim of having present a representative from every Catholic school. It is meeting with hearty support. In Canada several schools are even making plans to close early this year so that their faculties and student bodies may attend the Congress. An educational exhibit of Catholic schools is to be a feature of the great event, and prominent Catholic educators are on the speaking program.

In several instances essay contests are being conducted among students, with paid trips to the Congress as the prizes. Holy Cross College, in Worcester, Mass., is conducting a contest at the conclusion of which the writers of the twelve best essays will be formed into the College's delegation to the Congress, with all expenses paid. The essays will deal with some phase of the Blessed Eucharist.

Meantime, the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade has announced the selection of the judges who will examine the manuscripts in its Eucharistic Congress prize essay contest. The writers of the three best papers on the Holy Eucharist as the center of missionary life will receive free transportation, board and lodging at the Congress. The judges are the Rev. James J. Horsburgh, Chicago, Archdiocesan Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith; the Rev. Bruno Hagspiel, S. V. D., Rector of St. Mary's Mission House, Techn., Ill., and the Rev. Joseph D. McFarland, S. T. D., Professor of English at St. Gregory's Preparatory Seminary, Cincinnati.

P. H. Callahan Heads Louisville Committee For Chicago Congress. (By N. C. W. C. News Service) Louisville, Ky., April 12.—P. H. Callahan, K. S. G., prominent Louisville Catholic layman, has been elected chairman of a committee here to organize pilgrimages to the Eucharistic Congress at Chicago, at a meeting attended by twelve Catholic societies. The gathering was called following an appeal by Bishop Floersh. Later Bishop Floersh announced that he also had appointed Mr. Callahan diocesan secretary to cooperate with the Congress officials.

Bishop Floersh, who recently went to Chicago to confer concerning the Congress, told the meeting that he wanted the Louisville diocese to have one of the largest delegations at the Congress. An information office will be opened at once in Louisville, and in June headquarters for Kentucky pilgrims will be opened at a Chicago hotel.

Ten Catholic High Schools Enter Relay. Milwaukee, Wis., April 9.—Ten entries for the fourth annual Marquette University national high school relay carnival, to be held in the new Marquette stadium here Saturday, May 8, already have been announced by Coach Conrad M. Jennings, general director of the carnival.

The first entries included: Chicago Latin and St. Rita, Chicago; Albia High, Albia, Ia.; St. Augustine's, San Diego, Calif.; Kenosha High, Kenosha, Wis.; Hartford High, Hartford, Wis.; East, West, South and Milwaukee University School, Milwaukee.

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Labor Federation's Head Stands For Religious Liberty

Washington, April 11.—By direction of the Administrative Committee of Bishops, N. C. W. C., Father John J. Burke, the General Secretary of the Conference, interviewed Mr. William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in reference to the attitude of the Federation towards the CHOM—the Mexican Federation of Labor. Father Burke considered it necessary for the American Federation of Labor to state publicly and expressly that it was not only not in sympathy with, but that it was opposed to the religious persecution now being fostered by the Mexican Federation of Labor in co-operation with the present Mexican Government. As a result of that interview, Mr. Green wrote the following letter:

American Federation of Labor, Washington, D.C., April 2, 1926. Rev. John J. Burke, General Secy., Catholic Welfare Conference, Washington, D. C.

My dear Father Burke: With reference to the situation in Mexico, concerning which you conferred with me a short time ago, I have examined all copies of telegrams and correspondence which passed between me and representatives of the Mexican Government and representatives of Labor in Mexico. There is nothing in any of this correspondence which refers to the religious policy of the Mexican Government or to the religious situation in Mexico. No expression relating to this subject has been made by me in any of the correspondence which I have had with officers of the Mexican Government or officers of the Mexican Federation of Labor. Neither have any of those with whom I have corresponded in Mexico referred to religious matters or the religious situation existing in Mexico.

This is quite natural because the American Federation of Labor has only interested itself in the economic situation in Mexico. We are endeavoring to cooperate with the bona fide trade union organizations in Mexico in the efforts these organizations are putting forth to improve the economic and industrial welfare of the workers in Mexico. We want to help them and encourage them in every way possible to raise their standard of living, to increase their wages and to improve their conditions of employment.

The American Federation of Labor is committed to the principle of religious and political freedom. We insist and demand that members of the American Federation of Labor be protected in the exercise of religious and political freedom. This liberty of conscience must be guaranteed in demanding the exercise of this right for the members of organized labor in America, we wish that the working people of all other countries may be permitted to enjoy the same rights and privileges.

I trust this brief explanation will convey to you the facts relating to the relationship of the American Federation of Labor to the Mexican Federation of Labor and the attitude of the American Federation of Labor toward questions of religious and political freedom.

With every good wish, I am, Very truly yours, WM. GREEN, President, American Federation of Labor.

Vice-Presidents Back Green. During the past week, two Vice-Presidents of the Federation of Labor also denied, in emphatic statements, that the Federation backs up and endorses the religious persecution policy of President Calles.

"The policy of the American Federation of Labor from its birth, nearly half a century ago, has been, is now and will be in the future, for absolute religious and political liberty," declared Frank Duffy, one of the vice-presidents and a member of the Executive Council. "That is, that every person has the right to perform his religious duties without hindrance or interference of any kind from any source whatever. . . . Under these circumstances the American Federation of Labor could not endorse the President of Mexico or the Mexican Government in their policy of religious persecution."

Matthew Woll, also a vice-president of the Federation and treasurer of the Pan-American Federation of Labor, writes in The Journal of the International Photo-Engravers' Union, of which union he is president, that the Federation has always kept free of religious controversy in the past and will continue to do so. He says that the Federation is the friend of Mexican labor, but it emphatically does not "intend to allow its friendship for Mexico to be interpreted as a defense of the religious policy of the Mexican Government."

More Irish Bishops To Attend Congress. Dublin, April 3.—In addition to His Eminence Cardinal O'Donnell and Archbishop Harty of Cashel, Bishop McKenna of Clogher, Bishop Dooley, Coadjutor of Elphin; Bishop Downey, Coadjutor of Ossory, and a Bishop from Northern Ireland who will travel incognito, will attend the Eucharistic Congress in Chicago next June.

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