

### American Press Congress Demands Higher Morality

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Washington, April 17.—Suggestive advertisements were condemned and the suppression of "all horror-producing or intimate details in news regarding crimes or scandalous events" was recommended in resolutions passed by the First Pan American Congress of Journalists, which closed here this week. Representatives of the press of twenty North, South and Central American republics attended the Congress.  
Suppression of the names of minors of both sexes who may commit crimes also was recommended in the resolutions, and the Congress formally declared that its members, in writing news in general, should limit as far as possible "that which is merely sensational, trivial or likely to create antagonisms or jealousies."  
Monument to Columbus Advocated  
Another resolution recommended to all members of the Congress that they conduct a press campaign in their respective countries urging the erection on the coast of the city of Santo Domingo, the oldest city of America, of a "monumental light-house in honor of Christopher Columbus, Discoverer of the New World." To that end efforts were recommended "that the Governments of America may ratify Resolution No. 61 of the Fifth International Conference of American States," which deals with the project. The Congress also bespoke the influence of the press "that the peoples and governments contribute morally and materially to the early realization of this work, as the greatest common homage of the American Continent to the Discoverer."

Suggestive and obscene advertising was vigorously condemned in an address before the Congress by Dr. Ramiro Guerra of "Diario de la Marina," Havana, Cuba, and at the conclusion of his address he received prolonged applause.

"There are advertisements which tend, in a more or less veiled form, to promote vice and prostitution, to exploit the credulity or work upon the feelings of certain readers; there are also those which are an offense to women," declared Dr. Guerra. "Finally, there are artists and draughtsmen who attempt to attract the attention of readers by using—or rather abusing—the nude female figure in such a way that it is an insult to decency and to feminine dignity, making the beautiful form of man's companion into a hackneyed advertising 'motif' serving for automobiles, clothing, or soft drinks."

Dr. Guerra also condemned "personal column" advertisements as a means of making appointments of "highly dubious morality" and decried advertisements of fortune-tellers and palmists, since these persons "fatten upon the childish credulity of people who are ignorant or superstitious."

With regard to most of these matters there are newspapers which already have established strict rules, said the speaker, but he strongly urged that this practice be made general and proposed the following resolution, which formed the basis for that adopted by the Congress:

"That every advertisement which tends to exploit or promote vice, even if but indirectly, or one which is an offense against decency, or one which is not based on honest and legitimate business, should be refused or suppressed."

"Accounts and details of terrible crimes that produce intense nausea upon the reader" were condemned by Dr. Tiburcio Castaneda, also of "Diario de la Marina," Havana. He declared "such abjection of the human race which, pictured thus, is a thousand times more cruel than the wild beasts which are guided by instinct and not by the divine touch of charity that God has placed in the heart of man."

Dr. Juan Jose Tablada of "El Universal," Mexico City, added the declaration: "Through the great desire for opportunity and pretext of sensationalism, news that appears innocuous, figures that seem truthful... now alarm and spread panic. It is sad to see how politics and excited party spirit often do not measure the irreparable danger that the misrepresentation of truth falsification and exaggeration may have for the concord or even for the peace between nations."

Plan for Tolerance  
Herbert F. Gunnison, president of the "Brooklyn Daily Eagle," in the course of his address made a plea for tolerance.  
"Next in importance to information for those who deal with international matters through the press, is place in attitude of broad tolerance," he said. "Too many of us still think in old Roman terms when they use the same word for foreigner and for enemy... If we placed a little less reliance on foreign merchandise and had a little more respect for foreign opinion, it might help us in many ways. We must learn to be generous in dealing with opinions that are different from our own."

The Congress also recommended the adoption of arbitration as a means to settle all disputes between American nations and any nation outside the continent, "not only in the case of political disagreements,

### Vienna Catholics Seek Re-Opening Of Own Schools

(By Dr. Frederic Funder  
Vienna Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Vienna, April 6.—Arguments which Socialists have used in their persecution of Catholic schools were hurled back at them during a mass meeting of Catholics held here when ten organizations observed the fortieth anniversary of their foundation in defense of religious schools.  
"There cannot be neutral education or instruction," Dr. Max Adler, Professor in the University of Vienna, and an fanatic Socialist, wrote and the answer to this statement constituted the burden of the speeches at the meeting.  
If there cannot be neutral education, then the government's neutral schools cannot provide that which is necessary for the education of Catholic children, the defenders of the religious schools retorted. "And Catholics must see to the establishment of Catholic schools," the speakers declared.

After 40 years of effort in defense of Catholic schools in this country, the organizations which were represented at the anniversary meeting have evolved a movement which is a national power, are training thousands of Catholic teachers in the seminaries of the Catholic School Association and have encouraged men and women in professional unions and clubs to work fearlessly for Catholic schools in the face of Socialist persecutions.

Thunderous applause was accorded Dr. Eggersdorfer of Passau, Bavaria, when he declared to the jubilee meeting:

"Vienna is situated midway to the Sovietistic East where Christianity has been shaken by rationalism. Here the soul of Europe is at stake. At any time in the past when it was a case of historical decisions, Vienna has found its leading apostles and fighters ready for sacrifice. We must also realize in the present-day struggle for the school that we will have them again.  
"Liberalism first conducted its campaign against the Catholic school with the argument that this kind of school must be rejected for national and scientific reasons. It was argued that a national uniform education could be guaranteed only by a uniform school which makes no distinction of faith or confession. The 60 years that have since passed have disproved this argumentation historically.

"In the second place Liberalism contends that the Catholic school was impossible from a scientific point of view, for, as there cannot be Catholic philology, or Protestant rhetoric, or Jewish arithmetic there cannot be a Catholic school. This objection is now freely used by Socialism to attain its own aims, with less sincerity, of course, for whenever it speaks openly, as for example the Socialist Professor Max Adler in his pedagogic works, it confesses that there can be neutral education and instruction."

Leaders Ready to Act  
Deputy Kunschak, one of the most popular parliamentary leaders of the Vienna Christian Socials, was next speaker and declared:

"I came today to tell you in the name of the Vienna Christian Social Party Council that we, as a party, have not only a full understanding of your efforts to give the Catholic children a Catholic school, but also that we are ready to act. The power of the opponents whom we have to defeat is great, and some time may have to be passed in patience. But we can have patience, being firmly convinced that the day of judgment will come and that this day will be the day of victory of our Catholic school aspirations."

The meeting ended with the presentation to the presidents of the celebrating organizations of autograph letters of Cardinal Piff, who encouraged them to hold out staunchly for the Catholic school.

### Dr. Phillips Lectures On Mexico's History

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Cincinnati, April 12.—Dr. Charles Phillips, professor of literature in the Graduate School of Notre Dame University, lectured on "Mexico" at the Hotel Stinton here under the auspices of St. Xavier College Alumni Association.

Dr. Phillips, who last summer was a special correspondent of the N. C. W. C. News Service, in Mexico, discussed that country historically, politically, economically and socially, but in all those which may in any form affect the interests or the harmony between the nations of the Western Hemisphere. It also declared that its "fundamental purpose is to create bonds of sympathy and closer understanding among the newspapers here represented; to secure a fuller interchange of news; to guard against misrepresentation of the peoples concerned, and to establish a code of ethics which shall be acceptable to and binding upon the publication here represented. This program it saw as an influence for stilling international distrust."

### Bishops Protest Mexican Injustice Towards Religion

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Washington, April 16.—The Administrative Committee of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, after considering the Mexican situation at a three-day meeting here, today issued a statement in which it reviewed the events leading up to the present persecution and called upon the Catholic people of the United States to interest themselves as a body and to hold meetings at which the United States Government would be asked to use its good offices for the restoration of religious justice in Mexico.  
The Administrative Committee also took four other steps in the Mexican situation:

1. It announced that it will form a national committee of prominent men and women who will give special attention to making better known the facts of the religious persecution in Mexico and to extend their aid to the Catholics of Mexico.

2. It directed the National Council of Catholic Men and the National Council of Catholic Women to send out to all their affiliated organizations to arouse the interest of their members in the Mexican situation, and to plan public meetings whereat Catholics and their non-Catholic brethren would speak against the injustices of the present Mexican Government.

3. It announced that in its report of its work of this meeting to the Bishops of the country it will ask the Bishops to announce in their dioceses a triduum of prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patroness of Mexico, for help and relief to the Mexican people in their present distress and that the hand of the persecutor may be stayed.

4. It announced that it has about ready for the press a handbook giving information up to date on the Mexican religious situation, with a review of the main facts that led up to it.

### The Committee's Statement

Following is the statement issued by the Administrative Committee:  
Our fellow Catholics in Mexico are today suffering a most unjust and far-reaching persecution at the hands of the present Mexican Government. Churches have been confiscated, priests exiled, the people deprived of religious ministrations, the teaching of religion banished from the schools. On March 6, 1926, the Mexican Government created a special bureau in the office of the Attorney General to care for the rapid increase of Church property daily being seized by the Government.

Much attention is given to the completion of commercial treaties with Mexico. It is far more important, far more essential, that we as Americans should actively interest ourselves in securing for the people of Mexico the fundamental rights of religious, educational and civic freedom.

The Constitution of Mexico, in force since 1917, includes in its anti-religious provisions all churches and ministers of every denomination. That these provisions are being carried out almost exclusively against Catholics and the Catholic Church at this time should not blind our fellow-citizens to the fact that they are in themselves absolute denials of those principles upon which we as Americans believe that just government must be founded.

The present Government of Mexico won its way to power by revolution, and has been strengthened in its hold upon power by recognition by our own Government of the United States. Before such recognition was granted in 1915, the U. S. Secretary of State, Mr. Lansing, at the direction of the United States Senate, interrogated the then provisional government of Mexico as to whether or not that government would guarantee and provide religious liberty for its people. The Mexican Government solemnly pledged itself to guarantee religious liberty according to the Constitution of 1857. On that promise our Government granted recognition. No sooner was it won than the Government of Mexico scrapped the Constitution of 1857, declared a pre-constitutional "period," and by military dictatorship forced, not through popular vote but through picked convention, the Constitution of 1917. The present Constitution of Mexico was imposed on Mexico by a band of insurgents at a time when Mexico was prostrate and when the rest of the world was at war.

Despite the fact that in 1920 our Government was again forced to suspend diplomatic relations with Mexico and did not resume them till 1923, the conditions of recognition established in 1915 were still obligatory on Mexico. These conditions, which underlie all negotiations between civilized governments, were postulated as premises to the agreements which were later on entered into by both governments.

We are amply justified, and not only justified, but, as is every American, obligated, to call upon our Government therefore that its original request upon which recognition to Mexico was granted, be lived up to by the Government of Mexico. The United States gave recognition to Mexico on Mexico's specific promise that it would guarantee religious liberty to all its citizens. Mexico has not kept this agreement, but on the contrary, her government has entered

### upon a definite campaign of force to destroy religious liberty and is intensifying that campaign by striking at the roots of religion—religious education.

No American can view with indifference the active propaganda of principles that are subversive of our own Government; that will, if persisted in, embitter our relations with the whole of Latin-America.

Where religious justice is violated there can be no political, no civic peace.

The situation is so critical that we call upon our Catholic people not only to interest themselves as a body, but to hold meetings with their non-Catholic brethren that will voice the protest of the public; that will both call upon our own Government to use its good offices to see that justice is restored and that religious and educational liberty are enjoyed by the people of Mexico.

- Edward J. Hanna, Chairman, Archbishop of San Francisco.
  - Austin Dowling, Archbishop of St. Paul.
  - P. J. Muldoon, Vice Chairman, Bishop of Rockford.
  - Joseph Schrembs, Bishop of Cleveland.
  - Edmund F. Gibbons, Bishop of Albany.
  - Phillip R. McDewitt, Bishop of Harrisburg.
  - Thomas F. Lillis, Bishop of Kansas City.
- The first chapter of the handbook on the religious situation in Mexico, now about ready for the press, treats of "The Overthrow of Porfirio Diaz"; the second of "The Rise of Carranza"; the third of "The Constitution of 1917"; the fourth of "Government under the Constitution"; the fifth, "Carranza Reviews the History of Freedom of Worship"; and the sixth of "Active Persecution."

### Religious Leaders Are To Confer With Army Chaplains

(N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Washington, April 15.—Outstanding churchmen and the heads of colleges and welfare organizations have been invited by Secretary of War Dwight F. Davis to meet in conference in this city from May 4 to 6 to map out a program for the moral and religious advancement of the soldiers of the United States Army. Prominent Catholics are included.

Coincidental with this gathering which is to be pan-sectarian, the Chaplains' Association of the Army of the United States will hold its annual meeting and participate in the conference. The Association also will unveil a memorial tablet to the chaplains who gave their lives in the World War in Arlington National Cemetery on May 5. Six of the 23 chaplains killed in the war were Catholic.

It has been the aim of the War Department in calling the conference, to invite an outstanding figure in each denomination and organization and have that person serve as a national representative of the body. At the same time it invited as many local clergymen and institution heads as possible.

His Eminence Patrick Cardinal Hayes, Archbishop of New York and Catholic Bishop Ordinary for the Army and Navy, has been invited to attend the meeting. Other national figures invited include Dr. Cyrus Adler of the Jewish Welfare Board, New York; Bishop W. A. Candler of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Atlanta, Ga.; Bishop William E. McDonell of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Washington, D. C.; and Miss Evangeline Booth of New York, Commander of the Salvation Army.

Among those in the Capital who have been invited to attend are: The Rt. Rev. Bishop Thomas J. Shahan, Rector of the Catholic University of America; the Rev. Charles W. Lyons, S. J., President of Georgetown University; the Rev. John J. Burke, General Secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference; the Rt. Rev. Msgr. George A. Dougherty and the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward A. Pace, Vice-Rectors of Catholic University; the Rt. Rev. Msgr. C. F. Thomas, pastor of St. Patrick's Church, this city; the Rt. Rev. Msgr. P. C. Gavan, pastor of the Shrine of the Sacred Heart, this city; the Rev. Dr. William J. Kerby of Catholic University; and Miss Agnes G. Regan, Executive Secretary of the National Council of Catholic Women.

"It is the desire of the Department," Secretary Davis declared, "inviting the delegates to the meeting, that those who are directly responsible for the moral and religious training of soldiers shall again have the benefit of counsel from experienced denominational leaders and welfare workers to the end that the most effective means may be employed to advance the spiritual interests of the men who are in the military service."

### Priest Is Elected Mayor In Michigan

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Daggett, Mich., April 16.—Frank A. Siefert, pastor of St. Fredrick's Catholic Church, here, has been elected mayor of the city. He was unopposed at the caucus and at the election only three scattering votes were cast against him.

### Sacramental Wine Withdrawals Drop By Fifty Per Cent

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)  
Washington, April 15.—The Treasury Department's new regulation governing sacramental wines already has resulted in a 50 per cent reduction in withdrawals of such wines, Gen. Lincoln C. Andrews, Assistant Secretary in charge of prohibition enforcement, said today.

General Andrews indicated that there is no present intention to change the method of handling sacramental wines.

"Our present regulation concerning these wines, after a three months' trial, is working very satisfactorily," he said. "We have not considered changing it."

The Rev. Dr. Clarence True Wilson corresponding secretary of the Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals, was quoted in a Washington newspaper this morning as saying at the meeting of the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, being held in Frederick, Md., after referring to General Andrews:

"We both believe that the Government should take over all the bonded liquor and dispense it under government regulations for medicinal and sacramental purposes and not as a beverage."

### Miss Weadick Chosen Immigration Head Of Women's Leagues

Washington, April 16.—The International Union of Catholic Women's Leagues has established an immigration section in its Bureau of Work and has chosen Miss Sarah Weadick, assistant to the Director of the Bureau of Immigration, National Catholic Welfare Conference, to be its president. It has just been learned here. Miss Weadick is the first American to hold such an office.

This international body of Catholic women has never before entered into the immigration question on such a comprehensive scale. That it is now taking such a step is largely due to Miss Weadick's presentation of the N. C. W. C.'s immigration program to its sixth annual conference held in Rome last October. Miss Weadick attended the meeting as a representative of the National Council of Catholic Women.

At the time of the October meeting the Union was contemplating the establishment of an immigration section. It had, however, neither definitely formulated the plan nor contemplated an international scope until Miss Weadick disclosed what American Catholics are doing the world over for immigrants through the N. C. W. C.

As president of this new section of the Union, Miss Weadick will keep in touch with immigration problems from an international viewpoint and will encourage and coordinate the work which the Union undertakes in this field. She will be allowed nine collaborators, two of whom, Sonoria A. de Espinosa of Mexico, and Mrs. John McMartin of Montreal, Canada, have already been chosen.

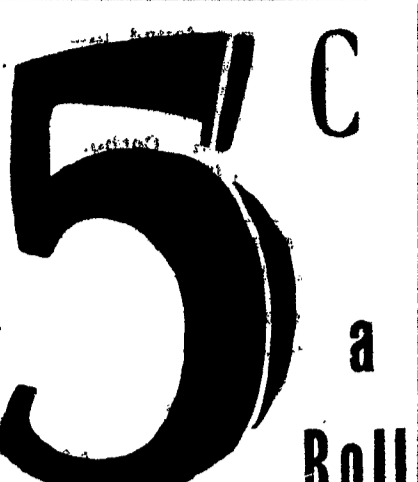
Mrs. Ernest Taylor of the Catholic Women's League of Liverpool, England, has been chosen by the Union to head its Bureau of Emigration. The Board of Directors of the National Council of Catholic Women have endorsed the formation of this new section of the Union and the selection of Miss Weadick as its president.

### Religious Classes For Catholics In N. Y. Public Schools

New York, April 12.—The plan for giving religious instruction to Catholic children attending public schools, which is being worked out by the Catholic Educational Bureau of the Archdiocese of New York, under the direction of His Eminence Patrick Cardinal Hayes, soon will be put in full operation in the boroughs of Manhattan, the Bronx and Richmond.

Under the plan as projected, each parish will set aside at least one day a week on which children attending public schools will be afforded religious instruction. The classes will not interfere with the regular Sunday school classes and are for all Catholic children attending public elementary schools whether they have been confirmed or not. They are to be divided into four classes: (a) prayer classes; (b) children preparing for private First Communion; (c) Children preparing for solemn First Communion and Confirmation; (d) Children who have been confirmed.

It is the wish of Cardinal Hayes that pastors cooperate with the Catholic public school teachers, hundreds of whom, through their organization Theta Pi Alpha, have volunteered for work in the instruction classes. Where these teachers are insufficient in number the pastor is to secure the help of some of the women of his parish. The most convenient place, preferably the parochial school, will be the home of the classes. Each pastor is to appoint a priest to have charge of the school and it will be the duty of the priest to keep in contact with the public schools and at some time during the class hours give short talks to the pupils.



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