

Protestants In Mexico Fear Government May Seize Their Churches

United States Expected To Take Action If American Property Rights Are Violated By Calles Regime.

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Week-end developments in the Mexican religious situation were: Indications at Washington that if it is found church property of Americans in Mexico is seized, the United States will act...

French Priest, Veteran Of War, Wins Doctorate

His Thesis Traces Origins Of Devotion To Blessed Sacrament.

(Paris Correspondent, N. C. W. C. News Service) Paris, July 30.—The board of examiners of the University of Strasbourg has conferred the degree of Doctor of Theology upon Abbe Demoutet, secretary of the "Revue Apologetique", for his thesis on the origins of devotion to the Blessed Sacrament.

Mexican Catholic Priests, Victims of Cruel Outlawry

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Washington, D.C., Aug. 6.—Catholic bishops and priests in Mexico are demanding only the rights which are guaranteed to Mexicans under the national constitution of that country.

Referring to reports that the bishops had appealed to President Calles for restoration of their citizenship, Father Burke said the reason was apparent, adding: "What are the civic rights denied to Mexican bishops and priests? They are denied the liberty of speech and of the press, the liberty of assembly and petition, equality before the law and trial by jury, the right to property, either as individuals or in corporations, the right to vote and hold office. They are denied the right to exercise their profession, excepting under sufferance and by executive clemency of not only Federal officers but of every village authority."

happiness, and has given them a government in which there is liberty without license, and law without tyranny. "Be it resolved that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the Honorable Secretary of State of the United States, to the President of Mexico, and to the Ambassador of Mexico in Washington."

Calles Persecution Help to Catholicism, Episcopalian Holds

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Philadelphia, August 6.—"President Calles of Mexico will be known as the greatest Catholic missionary of the Twentieth century", the Rev. Samuel Hamill Wood, Protestant Episcopal minister, declared in a sermon this week at the Episcopal Church of St. Matthias here.

"I am classified as a Protestant", said Dr. Wood, "although I resent being subjected to any narrow classification, and make every effort to preach that all nations, creeds and colors are alike the children of God. "But anyone who takes the trouble to read history will find that there is a reaction when Catholics are persecuted, just as surely as there is a reaction when Protestants are persecuted."

Mexican Schismatic Priest Is Suspended By Vera Cruz Bishop

Washington, Aug. 5.—The N. C. W. C. News Service has been officially informed by the Archbishop of Mexico City that the Rev. Dimas Angulano of Alvarado, Mexico, declared himself a schismatic, accepting the anti-religious laws and decrees of President Calles and has been suspended from performing any further Catholic functions.

The communication to the N. C. W. C. News Service, signed "Jose, Archbishop of Mexico", reads as follows: "Senior Dr. Rafael Guizar y Valencia, Bishop of Vera Cruz, sent us yesterday (Wednesday) a written statement in which he states that the priest Dimas Angulano, pastor of Alvarado declared himself a schismatic. For this reason he has been suspended, so that he is unable in the future to celebrate Mass or to exercise any act whatsoever of the priesthood."

Laymen At Retreat Denounce Mexico's Attacks On Church

Harrisburg, Pa., Aug. 9. Resolutions denouncing "the policies of the present Mexican oligarchy" as "subversive of justice and right" and commending the Constitution of the United States to the President of Mexico for "study and imitation", were passed and ordered sent to the Secretary of State of the United States, the President of Mexico and the Mexican Ambassador in Washington, at the close of the annual laymen's retreat of the Diocese of Harrisburg at Mt. St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Md.

The resolutions signed by Richard M. Reilly of Lancaster, Pa., as president of the Harrisburg Diocesan Laymen's League, W. J. Rodenhaver of Harrisburg, as secretary of the League, and P. J. Kennedy of Harrisburg, Thomas J. Carroll of York and James Malone of Lancaster, as a committee, read as follows: "Whereas, the officials now in control of the government of Mexico are carrying on a pitiless and ruthless persecution of the Catholic Church—persecution that destroys the civil and religious rights of the Catholics of that misruled country, "Whereas, the Constitution of Mexico, in many of its parts, tramples on the principles that guarantee freedom, liberty and toleration in all civilized nations, "We, the Catholic laymen of the Diocese of Harrisburg, in union with all liberty-loving Christian people, condemn, as subversive of justice and right, the policies of the present Mexican oligarchy."

Te Deum for Safety Of S. S. Orizaba

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Havana, Aug. 6.—A special "Te Deum" was sung in the church of Las Mercedes here as an act of thanksgiving for the safe arrival of the S. S. Orizaba with its passengers and crew. The Orizaba came near being shipwrecked in the hurricane which recently caused such great losses in the Caribbean. The vessel was assisted by the Italian ships Ansaldo and San Giorgio.

Cardinal Legate To Chicago Congress Reports to the Pope

Rome, Aug. 4.—Cardinal Bonzano, Papal Legate to the Eucharistic Congress, who has just returned from America, was received by the Pope today. The audience lasted an hour and a half. His Eminence, in an interview granted to the N. C. W. C. News Service Correspondent, expressed himself as delighted with the welcome accorded him by the Supreme Pontiff. His Holiness, he said, had confirmed his complete satisfaction with the results of the Chicago Congress.

Wichita Bishop Wins Important School Tax Case

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Ness City, Kan., Aug. 6.—An interesting case, the point of which was whether a house owned by the Rt. Rev. A. J. Schwertner, Bishop of Wichita, and occupied by Sisters teaching in an adjoining Catholic school, is exempt from taxation, has just been decided in the affirmative by the Public Service Commission of the State of Kansas.

Lille Scholars In Medicine Urged By French Bishops

Lille, July 30.—On the occasion of the cinquentennial of the Catholic Medical School of Lille, the bishops of the province of Lille have sent out an appeal to the French Hierarchy suggesting that each diocese found a scholarship of five thousand francs per annum in order to send a student from the diocese to this Medical School. It is believed that this would be a great encouragement to Catholic doctors to study in a Catholic school and then engage in general practice in their native province.

Spanish Catholics Invited To Boycott Mexican Products

Valencia, Spain, Aug. 8.—All Catholics of Spain are invited to join in a boycott of all Mexican merchandise as a protest against President Calles' anti-religious laws, in a manifesto issued by Juventud Carlista, national Spanish organization.

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The Spanish boycott, says the manifesto would supplement that which is being sponsored in Mexico by the League for the Defense of Religious Freedom, in an effort to force the abandonment of the religious persecution.

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How St. Anthony's Perpetual Novena at Graymoor Began It was in January, 1912, that the Monastery Church of St. Francis on the Mount of Atonement, Graymoor, near the Hudson, New York, was opened for divine service. The article which follows, taken from the March (1912) issue of The Lamp, the Catholic monthly published by the Friars of the Atonement, tells in an interesting way how the Perpetual Novena at ST. ANTHONY'S GRAYMOOR SHRINE began.

The very day that the Beautiful Statue of St. Anthony was placed in its niche on the Gospel side of the High Altar in St. Francis' Chapel, we received the following letter:

"Please find enclosed two dollars which I want to give in honor of Saint Anthony for your new chapel. I beg you to pray with me for the recovery of my little baby, Anthony, who is quite ill. If this be to his eternal salvation. When he is better I shall send you another offering."

This was the first petition to be laid at the Wonder-Worker's feet in his new Shrine on the Mount of the Atonement.

About two weeks later came this second letter from the Saint's client, enclosing an offering of five dollars:

"I received your letter of January 21st, and was very happy to hear that I was the First Petitioner of St. Anthony in his new residence; and thanks to God and St. Anthony our little baby is practically well now. There is no better friend for me in this world than St. Anthony. Ever since my early childhood days he has given me at times almost visible help, and my life has been full of worry, and at times great sorrow."

We have commended to our big Franciscan Brother in a special manner the Bread problem at the Friary, and we doubt not that St. Anthony will do for us all and more than we ask.

After the publication of the foregoing article in The Lamp so many petitions began to pour in for commemoration at St. Anthony's Graymoor Shrine that a Novena was started every Tuesday, with the result that they constitute an Endless Chain which has never been broken, hence the name—Perpetual Novena.

Clients of St. Anthony desiring to participate in the Graymoor Novena to the Wonder-Worker of Padua should address St. Anthony's Graymoor Shrine, Friars of the Atonement, Box 316, Peekskill, N. Y.

DEATH OF NOTED GERMAN BISHOP

(By N. C. W. C. News Service) Cologne, July 26.—Bishop Dr. Paul Wilhelm von Keppeler of Rottenburg, in Wurtemberg, distinguished prelate and world famous historical and theological writer, is dead at the age of 74 years. He was stricken while saying Mass on the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and died that same morning after his nephew had administered the Sacrament of Extreme Unction.

The venerable prelate, who was carried from the altar in his last illness, had performed his ordinary duties on the previous day and had planned to give addresses at Speyer and Bonn. The manuscripts for these addresses were found in his study, in all his sermons and writings he displayed a great veneration for the Blessed Mother.

He has been buried in the church which contains the tombs of the Rottenburg bishops. Archbishop Fritz of Freiburg im Breisgau gave the absolution at the tomb of Magr. Sproll, auxiliary of Rottenburg, preached. Bishop von Keppeler was born in 1852, the son of a Protestant notary. He was ordained in 1875 and in 1898 became Bishop of Rottenburg. He observed the golden jubilee of his ordination only last year.

German Blasphemer Sent to Prison

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

Cologne, July 26.—Though in the government of this Republic the name of God is not admitted in the Constitution, in official pronouncements, or in parliament, blasphemy is still a crime to be punished here by imprisonment.

Only a few days ago the court with lay assessors at Trier sentenced a workingman, previously convicted of the same crime, to two years imprisonment for blasphemy. The court in passing the sentence refused to show any leniency for the offense of the offender.

"A man," said the judge in pronouncing the sentence, "who is violating the feelings and opinions of his fellows in that way, must be excluded from public society for a long time."

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English League Aims to Combat Birth Control

London, July 31.—A new society to combat the theory and practice of contraception has been started here under the presidency of the distinguished gynaecologist, Dr. Frederick J. McCann, and with the title of the League of National Life. Many Catholics are on the executive committee and Dr. Halliday Sutherland who initiated a noted House of Lords appeal against a decision given in favor of Marie Stopes, is acting secretary.

Dr. Sutherland stated this week that the League would expose the moral evils associated with the practice of contraception, and would educate public opinion concerning its serious physical results, which have earned the condemnation of leading physicians and surgeons in Europe and America. Furthermore, the League would remind the people of England that the experience of history shows the practice of contraception to be associated with national decline.

The League of National Life is un denominational and non-political, states Dr. Sutherland, who says that sub-committees are being appointed to consider and report on the ethical, medical, sociological, legal, economic and statistical aspects of contraception.

"For example," says Dr. Sutherland, "the ethical sophistries of the contraceptists will be answered by ethical experts; the medical misstatements of the advocates of contraception will be answered by expert gynaecologists; the statistical blunders of our opponents will be exposed by statisticians."

Perpetual adoration began to spread toward the end of the sixteenth century, particularly among the confraternities directed by the Jesuits, and in the face of vehement protest on the part of persons who were hostile to liturgical innovations.

The desire to see the Host explains the custom still observed here and there according to which the choir boys hold lighted torches before the altar. In the dim churches of past centuries the torches were lighted to permit the faithful to see the Host.

This desire to see the Host, excellent in itself, engendered abuses. An excessive importance came to be attached to it, to the detriment of the Mass and even of Communion, and as soon as the elevation was over, the less zealous faithful began to leave the church. A reaction immediately followed. The rite of the elevation was preserved, but it was recommended that instead of gazing at the host the faithful prostrate themselves, as is the custom today.

The institution of the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was not connected with the desire to see the Sacred Host. No doubt, in the Middle Ages exhibition of the Blessed Sacrament existed, but it was an exceptional ceremony connected with the Feast of the Blessed Sacrament. The greater frequency of Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament came first in the seventeenth century as a protest against the negations of Protestantism.

Ancient Customs Explained. The Church reacted against the abuses which tended to spread, but encouraged and regulated the elevation of the Host at the time of consecration as well as a second elevation just before the Pater Noster.

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