



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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Cardinal Hayes Feted By Panama Knights

People of all alths and nationalities joined in tendering Cardinal Hayes an enthusiastic welcome on his recent visit to the Isthmus of Panama. The Knights of Columbus took a leading part in the program arranged in honor of the distinguished visitor. On Sunday, March 11, Cristobal Council, No. 1689, was host to His Eminence at a luncheon which was attended by the Rt. Rev. Juan J. Maiztegui, the local clergy and representatives of the Army and Navy. On the Pacific side, Panama-Balboa Council, No. 1371, entertained His Eminence at a banquet. The Cardinal, on three occasions, publicly praised the Order, as did also Sr. George McDonald, K. S. G., host to the Cardinal's party. Sr. George has been a member of the Order for thirty years. The arrangements for the welcome to His Eminence were entirely in the hands of Knights of Columbus, headed by Father John R. Carroll, U. S. Army chaplain, son of John J. Carroll, P. G. K. of New Rochelle Council, No. 339. G. K. A. E. Bouchard of Panama, Balboa Council, Master of the Fourth Degree, Theo. A. Aarstons, and the Territorial Deputy, and were made with three days' notice.

Supreme Knight Welcomed On Western Visit

On his first official visit to the West since his election a year ago, Supreme Knight Martin H. Carmody arrived at San Francisco, Sunday morning, March 25, and was met by a delegation of northern California Knights of Columbus leaders, headed by State Deputy Robert A. MacKenzie and Supreme Warden David R. Supple. The Supreme Knight was escorted to the Whitecomb Hotel, where he addressed the joint post-Communion breakfast of California and Loyola Councils. The program of addresses by national and local leaders of the Order, and vocal selections by Charles Lutotti, distinguished tenor, and violin solos by Claire Sweeten, noted orchestra conductor, were broadcast through radio station KGO. In the afternoon, Supreme Knight Carmody addressed a meeting of local and bay district Knights, and the Grand Knights of seventy northern California councils. In the evening, he was the guest of honor at a banquet in the Palace Hotel. During his visit here, the Supreme Knight went over the plans for the coming Knights of Columbus "California Pageant of Progress" to be staged in the Civic Auditorium nightly from April 24 to 28 inclusive, with general chairman Chris. D. McKoon of the pageant committee.

Al Falfa, Freed, Wins Fortune by Threat

At the last meeting of the Knights of Columbus Council Editors' Association, held March 26 at the K. of C. Club Hotel, New York City, charges of cruelty to animals, viz., flies, long hanging over the head, or whatever it is, of one Al Falfa, were dismissed. It was the opinion of the Court that flies are not animals and that the defendant, Falfa, sought, through his long trial, to attain a notoriety that would enable him to sell anonymous articles to the Atlantic Monthly. Falfa was stunned by his acquittal and stated that it forced him to write an article for the Forum on the subject: "Can a Catholic Be President?" The judge, jury, court attaches and spectators immediately took up a collection of \$2,584,982.39 to save Falfa this final ignominy. He appeared well pleased as he stood on the curb, juggling the money in his pockets and waiting for a low-rate cab.

Hint For Recorders

Brother H. R. Kolt-back is Recorder of Oak Park Council, No. 1548. He submits the following idea as one which has aided him considerably in the work of his office. He keeps, of course, a card index file of the Council roster. In a separate card file, he keeps the names of those who are not yet full-fledged third degree members. Each card carries these markings: name, address, age, class of membership, proposed by, date of election to membership, date of notice for medical examination, time notified to appear for 2nd, 3rd and 3rd degrees. Brother Kolt-back remarks that the value of his system appears when the Grand Knight inquires as to the number of first, second or third degree candidates. The information is obtainable immediately. Then, too, if a candidate fails to respond to frequent notices, his proposer can be found and informed of the situation. When a candidate becomes a full-fledged member, his card is moved up into the large file of the Council membership. It is possible that the description of the card and system as here set down is not altogether clear. Any Council Recorder interested is invited to communicate with Brother Kolt-back for further information and a sample card. He may be addressed at 1194 South Oak Park Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois.

Pleased But Not Surprised

State Deputy Ed. A. Kremer, of Wisconsin, writes: "It affords me great pleasure to advise you that, after years of trying, we have finally completed plans for the observance of Good Friday in our city (Fond Du Lac). This includes all business firms, non-Catholic and Catholic alike. It is very gratifying after working to this end for so long a time. I thought you would like to know that only personal contact and perseverance brought this about." Pleased, but not surprised. Personal contact and perseverance make a powerful team. One hundred per cent observance of Good Friday is a goal worth working for. In Fond Du Lac and in other cities where the Knights have achieved it, plenty of perseverance was necessary. Try next year to do a little more than you did this year. It isn't original to recall that Rome wasn't built in a day, but it's a good thing to remember. The main thing is that Rome was built—not left half finished.

Boy Work Notes

The application of Del Norte Council, No. 2592, of El Paso, Texas, for a charter for a circle of Cuban Squires has already been approved by the Committee on Charters of the Supreme Council. The new circle which is established within a few weeks will be the third unit of the Cuban Squires in Texas, which state is one of the best organized jurisdictions of the Order for Boys Work.

Sacred Heart Circle No. 25 was enlarged by the initiation of a number of candidates to form a new sector under the direction of Brother Cyril Burrell. The officers of Circle No. 25 invested the sixteen youths with the mantle of Squirehood and from reports emanating from the Alberta capital, one would conclude that the western Canada Squires are progressing very favorably indeed. The officers of Edmonton Council are lending Brother Burrell every assistance in the carrying out of the Order's boy work program and it is expected that Circle No. 25 will, before long, be able to compare with any of our circles in number, as well as in advancement.

Circle No. 5 of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, held an investiture of candidates into the Columbian Squires. This New Hampshire circle has been carrying on many activities during the past fall and winter and its members are already showing the results of their participation in the program under the capable leadership of Brother Wilkinson.

Made Knight of Malta

It is reported by cable from Rome that Col. Walter J. Riley has been made a Knight of Malta. Colonel Riley is a member of Twin City Council, No. 1700, East Chicago, Indiana, and of the Abraham Lincoln General Assembly Fourth Degree.

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Japanese Gratitude To French Nun
(By N. C. W. C. News Service)
Tokio, Japan, March 19.—Sister Antonia, a French nun, has recently been given a permanent pass on the Japanese railways in recognition of her social work. Prior to this recent award, a private company control, contributed 600 yen functioning under government authority toward her transportation expenses. Sister Antonia has for more than forty years devoted her intellect and unusual talent for organization to the educational improvement of poor children and young girls. She is actively engaged in directing an orphanage and an industrial school for girls at Kobe.

Amplifiers In Dublin Church Prove Value In Lenten Season
Dublin, March 24.—The Lenten Lectures in the church of St. Francis Xavier, here, have demonstrated to the public the value of amplifiers in carrying the words of a preacher to all parts of a church as well as to surrounding chapels. St. Xavier's church, capable of holding just 2,000 people, can now accommodate an additional thousand for the Lenten lectures. It is believed that St. Xavier's church, where amplifiers were fitted experimentally at the beginning of Lent last year, is the first church in the world to install amplifiers, being closely followed by Cologne Cathedral. They are installed in the corridors surrounding the church, as well as in the adjoining chapels, one of which, the Ignatius Chapel, holds 400 persons. The public declare that the Lenten lectures can now be heard perfectly in all the places where the amplifiers are installed, even outside the church itself. Three thousand one hundred yards of tubing are employed in the new organ to distribute the pneumatic pressure. There are 2284 pipes, and 51 stops. Vicent Pantony is organist. The choir consists of men and boys exclusively.

Wins New Papal Honor
Announcement has recently come from Rome that the Holy Father has been moved to add to the signal distinction already attained by Past Supreme Director Joseph I. Scott, of California, by raising him from the rank of simple Knight of the Order of St. Gregory the Great to that of Commander. Mr. Scott was made a Knight of St. Gregory by the late Pope Benedict XV, in 1921.

Gain 500 Applications
Supreme Physician Edward W. Fahey reports the reception, up to March 22, of 500 applications for insurance membership over the entire number received during March last year. That speaks well for the effectiveness of the Selective Membership Extension program and for the growing appreciation of the value of Knights of Columbus Insurance. Figures tell the story.

New Church-School In California Town
Inglewood, Calif., March 24.—The new combination church and school recently erected by the people of St. John's parish, here, was dedicated last Sunday. The Rt. Rev. John J. Cantwell, Bishop of Los Angeles and San Diego, a group of more than a hundred priests and thousands of people assembled for the solemn blessing and dedication of the school and attached church. The new school is under the direction of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet whose headquarters are at St. Mary's Academy, Los Angeles. The Rev. James P. Buckley is pastor of the parish. Council Initiates, Helps Destitute
Corry Council, No. 425, Corry, Pa., recently initiated a class of candidates in the First Degree. The Council also held a special meeting and made a contribution of twenty-five dollars to a special emergency fund to help the destitute and unemployed of the city. Massachusetts State Council Banquet
The annual Patriots' Day banquet of the Massachusetts State Council will be held April 19 at the Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston.

Creighton U. Faculty Urging Good Friday Observance By All
Omaha, Neb., March 25.—The faculty sodality of Creighton University is starting a movement to induce the business men of Omaha and all Omaha institutions to close on Good Friday from 12 o'clock noon until three p.m. The purpose of this is to enable all Christians to commemorate the death of the Founder of Christianity by attending the numerous services held at that time. The members of the sodality will have the cooperation of the Knights of Columbus and hope to enlist not only the Catholic but also the Protestant organizations of the city.

One Catholic Citizen In Town Is Elected As Mayor Ten Times

Balaton, Minn., March 26.—That religious intolerance is taboo in this thriving township is plainly evident from the fact that A. J. Schmidt, the only Catholic in a community of 700 Protestant souls, a buttermaker by trade, has served as Mayor for ten consecutive terms, and from present indications will continue on the job until unable to officiate.

When business men and other representative citizens waited on their highly esteemed Mayor to get his consent to run for re-election this year, a committee composed of one Presbyterian, one Methodist, and one German Lutheran presented him with a Knights of Columbus ring as a token of appreciation and respect.

Schmidt landed in Balaton about twelve years ago, and, as a partner of the firm of Schmidt and Lohrer, operated a private creamery until fire demolished the plant. They then established a cream station, which they operated during the War when dairy farms at a low ebb.

Back in 1924, before Balaton's two bank failures, the farmers of the community organized a co-operative creamery going \$10,000 in debt to establish it. After a year's operation with indifferent success, the directors prevailed upon Schmidt to become manager and buttermaker. As if by magic, the business more than tripled in three years, at least so showed the statement presented by the new head at the annual meeting of directors. The original debt of \$10,000 had been repaid to \$5,000 despite many expensive repairs and additions to the plant and equipment.

Nor was Schmidt's success in business any greater than that he was achieving as mayor. He was drafted the first time to make the race, but protested the move. Many people in the town declared that they would never vote for a Catholic, and the genial Schmidt let it go at that, feeling that he would not be elected anyway. He permitted some of his close friends to get the satisfaction of pushing his candidacy. To his utter surprise he was elected by a wide vote.

Referring to that exciting contest, Mayor Schmidt said: "I attribute my first election to the sympathy and good will of the Methodist Ladies Aid Society of Balaton. They met the day before election, endorsed my candidacy and said they would work to have me elected. It seemed to be the popular idea with them. When women set about to accomplish anything they usually do it."

Since his first election, Mayor Schmidt has tried to retire three times, but his Protestant friends will have none of it. Last year he announced that he positively would not run again, as one of his enthusiastic admirers like to have with the city clerk. And they made him stay in the race despite his protest. He was elected two or three years ago it was his own idea. Everybody says he came to win in a walk.

When Schmidt first arrived in Balaton, there were two Catholics in the town—two or two. Now there are none. The Mayor has ceased the policy of good fellowship and has made the Protestants of the town march toward religion.

'Spiritual Bouquet' For 1928 Eucharist Congress Growing

New York, March 27.—With four-fifths of the dioceses in the United States already actively participating in the work, the task of collecting 100,000,000 "spiritual flowers" in honor of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament for the success of the Twenty-ninth International Eucharistic Congress to be held at Sydney, Australia, next September, is making encouraging progress, the Fathers of the Blessed Sacrament here report. Parishes, societies, institutions, convents and schools are making strong and impressive unit contributions, the Fathers say, and they add that the progress in many quarters is due in no small degree to the efforts of the diocesan directors of the Priest's Eucharistic League, superintendents of schools, and religious. If the efforts of individuals warrant commendable mention, it is said, a separate parchment will be prepared for each diocese in the United States.

The Diocese of Brooklyn, the Fathers say, which only recently began to gather its spiritual garland, is already making an impressive showing. The Sisters of St. Dominic of Corpus Christi Monastery, Hunts Point, N. Y., too, have undertaken the work of gathering a "spiritual bouquet."

If each Catholic were to offer 10 Masses, 10 Communion and make 10 visits to any church for the success of the coming International Eucharistic Congress, the Fathers of the Blessed Sacrament point out, not 100,000,000 but 200,000,000 or 300,000,000 "spiritual flowers" would be gathered. The headquarters for the "Eucharistic Congress Bouquet" is at 184 East Seventy-sixth St., N. Y.

Catholic Societies In France Protest Calles' Outrages

Colmar, France, March 26.—Resolutions protesting against "the unjust and bloody persecution of Mexican Catholics" were adopted by the Association of French Youth at the regional conference here. Mgr. Ruch, Bishop of Strasburg, was honorary chairman of the conference, which 200 delegates from all sections of Alsace attended.

Mulhouse, France, March 26.—The women's organization of the parish of St. Joseph, here, in a resolution adopted at a recent meeting, recorded its indignation "at the almost general and criminal silence surrounding the brutal persecution of Catholics in Mexico," and protested against "the government." The hope was expressed that "legislators, inspired by the words of our Sovereign Pontiff, Pius XI, will protest in their turn in the legislative assemblies of civilized nations to awaken and direct public opinion, which is too often tricked astray by so-called information newspapers."