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THE CHURCH IN INDIA

The September issue of "Catholic Missions," the official organ of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, is devoted to the Church in China. The articles include "Catholic Schools in China," "Catholicism in China," "Education in China," "A Chinese Sisterhood," "Sun Yat-Sen and Christianity," "St. Vincent Ying, Noted Chinese Scholar," "For a Native Clergy and Others."

We learn from the Most Reverend Celso Constantini, D.D., Apostolic Delegate to China, that:

"The missionary has no political or cultural prejudice against new China. He loves it as his land of adoption, and he sincerely desires its welfare, and in loyal respect to the legitimate aspirations of the Chinese people he desires to bring his own contribution to the rebirth of China. In return he asks merely for liberty and security, which are the heritage of all people."

The Rev. J. Delmoirey, S.J., of Zikawei, Shanghai, tells this about Catholicism in China:

"In 1930 the Catholic Missions in China reached the grand total of almost two and a half million members. In 1900 there were about 700,000 Catholics in China, which means a gain of 1,800,000 in the last thirty years, against a gain of 350,000 during the preceding thirty. In each of the twenty years between 1906 and 1926 there was an almost regular increase of 70,000."

In the year 1900, Father Delmoirey tells us, there was one priest for every 1,580 Catholics, while at the present time there is one priest for every 1,780 Catholics. This year there were almost one hundred ordinations to the priesthood in China. Foreign missionary activity in China is not what it should be. From 1900 to 1910 an average of forty-five missionaries went to China each year, from 1910 to 1920, an average of only five each year, and from 1920 to 1930, an average of seventy-five.

Today twenty-eight different congregations of men send priests to China. Some of these are just establishing themselves. There are forty-one religious congregations of women and thirty-seven purely Chinese congregations, with a total of 4,235 Sisters, of whom 2,935 are native Chinese. The net increase in the past five years has been six hundred Sisters. In addition, there are 6,547 male catechists, 4,527 female catechists, and 12,684 school teachers of both sexes.

There are 487 secondary and advanced primary Catholic schools in China, with a total of 41,538 pupils, of whom 23,501 are Catholic and 18,037 non-Catholic, an increase of 125 schools and some 9,000 students in two years.

The Church is caring for 21,390 orphans in China, and 73,187 aged or infirm people. Dispensary consultations at Catholic hospitals this year amounted to six and a half millions, more than twice those of the previous year. To these works of charity Father Delmoirey thinks the Church owes many of the 412,089 baptisms of this year.

Year by year the number of schools are increasing, the number of hospitals, asylums, hospitals, converts, native clergy and native Sisters—the seed of Catholicism blossoming from the blood of martyrs.

Most interesting are all of the articles in China. Here, truly, the Church is being more and more militant and valiant. Here the missionaries, loving this ancient land and its people, are doing a great and noble work for man and for God. They are not what is expected in the case of the yellow races, into the lands of whose hearts they take place but who are, with the Cross in their hands, a noble and valiant people.

God Bless You!

God bless you! Words are empty things—
We speak and think not of our saying—
But in this phrase forever rings
The higher tenderness of praying.
It means so much—it means that I
Would have no fears or frets distress
Nor have your heart turned to a sigh,
God bless you!

This trinity of blessed words
Holds all my wishes, oldest, newest.
The fairest deeds that can be wrought,
The holiest greeting, and the truest;
Tis more than wishing joy and wealth
That kindly fortune may caress you.
That you may have success and health.
God bless you!

God bless you! Why, it means so much,
I almost whisper as I say it;
I dream that my own fingers touch
My hands in answer as I pray it.
May all it means to all mankind
In all its wondrousness possess you.
Through sun and cloud and calm and wind,
God bless you!

—Sister Mary Camillus.

not foes, Christians, not Buddhists or Communists!

Every one of us should take a keen interest not only in these Chinese missions, but in all missions of our Church the whole world over. The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, with offices here at 60 Chestnut Street, offers a simple and easy way for everybody to help the missions. Some few of us, filled with Apostolic zeal, love of adventure and love of humanity and of God, may shoulder the Cross, turn faces towards the Orient and in these ancient lands redeem many souls and find peace and happiness with mankind and with God.

NINETY THOUSAND CHILDREN

Approximately ninety thousand children returned to their studies on Tuesday this week in the schools of Rochester, public, private and parochial. Here is a great army, greater by far than many armies of soldiers whose valor and blood helped change the history of the world in various centuries in the past. One is overwhelmed by the thought of what might be done with this army if properly trained—what leaders, what workers, what legislators, what champions of humanity and what soldiers of Christ; what wonderful young men and women, noble in life and character; what fathers and mothers, devoted to their homes and to their children in future years; what splendid citizens, Christian in aims and ideals, in life and in work!

One is overwhelmed, too, by the thought and fear that many thousands of these blessed boys and girls may go wrong. Weak in morals, weak in faith, weak in character, knowing not God or the things of God that are so helpful and strengthening—how many of these glad, happy youngsters will fall or fail in life? The pity of it is that many thousands of these children will leave school with little or no knowledge of the best character builder in the world—religion, love of God and love and service of God. One out of every seven couples will be divorced after they marry, if present statistics prevail in America, and many more will fall, derelicts, by the wayside. Parents who love children, parents who weep over children, parents who would give their lives for their children—and most parents would—are so careless in matters of faith and morals; so careless in teaching them the things of God and the truths of God.

Out of this great army—great as some of Napoleon's armies of old—about one-fifth will go to parochial schools, there to be taught love and respect of God, love and devotion to America, and to receive moral and religious training that will be of priceless value to them in the battle of life hereafter. Every thinking man and woman in America—and certainly every father and mother in America—should thank God for these schools. Their curriculum is American to the core; their atmosphere is American; their aims and ideals are American, and every one of them will be taught to salute the flag and to love and respect the flag. In addition, every one of them will be taught truth, justice, honesty, respect for all people and their property, respect and obedience of all just laws, respect for religion, and love and service of God. More than two and one-half million children in Catholic schools will be so taught in America, and many millions of dollars—saved to the taxpayers of America—will be expended each year in this great educational work. If gangsters are to be eliminated, if criminals are to be maintained invisible, we must begin with the children. Then, in God's name, let us begin right and educate every child fully and completely, combining the intellectual, moral and religious elements in a way that will safeguard the soul as well as develop and improve the mind. Our fellow-Americans of all churches, we believe, are gradually coming to see the importance of this, as the Church saw it long, long ago.

PETER A. VAY

Three score and ten years he lived in Rochester, city of his birth. Half a century of this time he was engaged in the baking business, first as a messenger, then gradually up the scale until he was numbered among the biggest and the best. All of this time, all through his long and useful life, he was a sincere Christian gentleman, kindly in manner, helpful in

The Right Kind of Schools

I thank God the realization of the importance of a Catholic education is gradually beginning to permeate the consciousness of our people as the leaven permeates the bread. But there are still some who, through snobbery, through worldliness, through a sort of disrespect for their own people, send their children to places not alone non-sectarian but positively non-Christian. I am just stating a fact when I say that in these places faith and morality are not only not taught, but actually held up to scorn and contempt. It is all very well to frequent such places as these if you happen to be immune, but most young people are not and the danger is too great. You cannot touch pitch without becoming defiled.—The Rt. Rev. Msgr. M. J. Lavelle, Rector of St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York.

loyal in friendship, dependable in business affairs, a man whom others could trust with safety and lean upon with confidence.

This, in effect, is the story of the life of Peter A. Vay, for long years connected with the Lincoln-Alliance Bank, and now at rest with his forebears. Death, like a friend, took him to eternal life last Saturday, Tuesday, his mortal remains were placed in consecrated ground in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Now his name, his work, his heart-warming smile, his cordial hand-clasp and his life belong to the past. His memory, sweet and blessed, remains to comfort and console those who loved him deeply and dearly.

Peter A. Vay was a stalwart and striking example of a Catholic gentleman. His speech was clean, his character wholesome, his manner kindly, his heart rich in human sympathy, and charity and love were written in golden letters upon his soul. He loved good comradeship. He was fair and square in business. He was a devoted husband and considerate father. He walked the ways of truth, justice, virtue and righteousness. He loved and served God with fidelity and zeal, and Bishops, priests and sisters found him at all times a willing co-worker in every cause for the betterment of humanity, the promotion of education, the advancement of charity and the furtherance of the honor and glory of God. His banking experience made him a valuable adviser; his kindly heart and sympathetic soul made him a helpful partaker of many a worthy movement that involved finances, labor and sacrifice. He knew human nature well, its frailties and its follies; but he knew also its beauty and its goodness, and he looked to the immortality of the soul rather than to the frailty of the body.

Business men and others in need of financial help, found him never cold and suspicious, but always sympathetic, considerate, kindly and helpful. Many a man facing blank despair in financial affairs had the gates of opportunity re-opened to him through the well-exercised judgment of Peter A. Vay, and he left in numberless hearts a memory that will live and friendship that will not be forgotten. Sincere and devout in his religion, his home and his life reflected the beauty of the faith he treasured. He lived, walked and worked as if God were his comrade and his partner, and he leaves to all who loved him the benediction and the blessing of a well-spent life. Now he sleeps in ground consecrated by prayers and tears, and the flowers of Faith will blossom around him until Judgment Day. May his soul, loyal to God on earth, be happy with Him in Heaven.

PRaise FOR OUR SCHOOLS

A contest involving knowledge of history was conducted recently in Ventura County, California, between the eighth grade students of all schools in the county, public, parochial and private. All of the honors were won by parochial school students, and apparently with little difficulty. The Ormand Courier, a secular newspaper, thinks this contest furnishes material for a comparison between the two systems of education, public and parochial, and is not backward in intimating that there should be a change in public school methods, providing the results of the contest were not accidental. The paper says:

"Of the 500 students taking part in the historical quiz," the "Courier" comments, "the six winners come from the parochial schools. The contest was conducted among all the eighth grade students. The questions were seemingly representative questions, such as school children should know. That not one of the six winners should come from the public schools of the coun-

ty is an interesting side-light which may be worth a great deal more than appears on first sight.

"It may be worth more because it may lead to further comparisons between the two systems of teaching, and from the comparisons may come an investigation into the question whether our public schools are on the right track. Perhaps these six parochial school students winning is no more than an accident. But if it is not an accident, the investigation might lead to a worth-while conclusion.

It is not likely that any comparison of methods of teaching will be made. But it is quite certain that all people of that community will have a letter and finer respect for the work and the merits of parochial schools.

CURRENT COMMENT

CAUSES OF DEPRESSION

We are convinced that Prohibition is not one of the major causes of the present depression. Nor do we believe that Prohibition's passing would instantly return prosperity to us. Light beer and wines would put to work many thousands of men, and would temporarily heighten the spirit of the farmer. We are honest in stating that the change in the law would not permanently cure the economic evils of this country. Just so long as American business centralizes and concentrates itself, just so long will we have, at frequent intervals the depressions that we have had in the present and the past. But to place the burden on prohibition is more of an excuse than a reason for lagging business conditions.

What is the cure for our economic weaknesses? Greater distribution of American wealth the crushing of the chain store, a foreign market for farm produce, a job for every man which precedes the right of capital to install machines to increase production, and the maintenance of a high wage scale in American industry. When we get these we will not have to worry about panics and depressions.—Buffalo Catholic Union & Times.

THE NATIONAL DAILY

The outstanding name among the New York City backers of the "National Daily," being promoted to "sell" prohibition to the people of the United States, is Frank E. Gannett, publisher of a chain of newspapers of which the Brooklyn Daily Eagle is the largest and the Ithaca Journal-News is perhaps the smallest. There are some other illustrious names on the list of backers. There is, for instance, that of S. S. Kresge. A visit to one of his Buffalo stores will show much paraphernalia for the making of home brew and other concoctions, but Mr. Kresge seems to dislike the proprietors of stores who sell drinks that in the old days retailed for five and ten cents. Hon. William C. McAdoo, favorite of the Ku Klux Klan, is another supporter. William Allen White, who once wrote an editorial, "What's the Matter with Kansas," and has been living on the reputation of that essay ever since; Rear Admiral William S. Sims, the greatest English officer who ever wore a United States naval uniform; Eugene W. Foss, sometimes described as a political charlatan, of Massachusetts; Prof. Irvin Fisher of Yale, who makes figures do hand-springs, jump through hoops, and perform triple somersaults; Henry J. Allen, sometime senator from Kansas; Dr. S. Perkes Cadman, Dr. Daniel A. Poling, and our good friend Patrick H. Callahan, are among the backers named to finance the newspaper venture.—Catholic Union and Times, Buffalo, N. Y.

WAYSIDE WHEAT

By the Managing Editor

How many of us remember the famous Mr. Dooley, glad child of the fertile brain of Peter Finley Dunne? Mr. Dooley, the philosopher, is one of the great characters of American humor, and his sayings were read with eagerness a score of years ago. Mr. Dooley is not dead, by any means. Neither is Peter Finley Dunne, and many of us read with pleasure that, in the accounting the other day of the will of Payne Whitney, New York financier who died in 1927, Mr. Dunne receives the splendid bequest of \$500,000. Mr. Dunne and Mr. Whitney were devoted friends, and the bequest is a remarkable evidence of the fine regard in which the financier held the humorist.

A gentleman in Hornell takes after us with an Irish shillelah because we quoted Winston Churchill on Russia and on Bernard Shaw, who recently placed Sovietism and Communism on a lordly pedestal and swung sweet incense of praise before them. He calls Mr. Churchill a murderer and Mr. Shaw a Saint in comparison to him. We are not concerned with either appellation. What Mr. Churchill said about Russia we believe to be absolutely true, and it was in good keeping with what the Rev. Edmund Walsh, S.J., of Georgetown University said about Russia not long ago. What Mr. Shaw said about Russia was a cheap attempt to be original and humorous and sensational at the expense of millions of people who are living as abject slaves under the thumbs and machine guns of a lot of rank atheists. Mr. Churchill's record towards Ireland is a bad one, and his condemnation of Russia doesn't wipe out one jot of his brutality. Our Hornell reader accuses us of trying to give him a halo, whereas we would rather give him a brick in the toe of a stocking. As for George Bernard Shaw, his whiskers and his ideas are more in harmony with Trotsky than with St. Patrick, and we are perfectly willing to leave him with the company he has selected.

A Baptist clergyman, the Rev. Dr. Cortland Meyers, of Los Angeles, Cal., came to New York and preached a violent sermon on Mayor Jimmy Walker and other passages of the Bible last Sunday. After wading through a half-mile of bombastic and abusive rhetoric, we find that Jimmy's great sin—the unforgivable sin—was that of drinking champagne in Europe instead of staying home and hanging gunmen to lamp posts. The reverend doctor appealed to Heaven and humanity for Mussolini to govern New York, and to President Hoover for the army and navy to enforce law and order. We don't mind telling him that Jimmy would have Mussolini in a night club and Hoover and the army and navy in the hoosegow if they tried to interfere with his administration in New York. In spite of his shortcomings, New York City is one of the best-governed big cities in the world. California clergymen whose sermons are hemstitched with politics had better stay home and eat Mabel Willebrandt's wine bricks while they are trying to solve the reason for the growth of irreligion in America. Dr. Meyers is one of a thousand answers to the question of empty pews in our land, and to the lack of respect for what they preach to the people.

An exceptionally brilliant clergyman died the other day in Munich, Germany—the Rev. Dr. William Harman van Allen of Boston, Mass. He was an Episcopalian who walked closely to the Catholic pathway. He lived a celibate life. He loved things Catholic. Many of his friends thought he would become a convert. His whole life was an example of good living, kindness, sincerity and Christian charity. Before entering the ministry he had been a lecturer, writer, teacher, traveler. He was a graduate of Syracuse University, and had a degree of Bachelor of Philosophy and a Master Degree of Sacred Theology from that university. Hobart College gave him the Master of Arts degree; St. Stephen's College, the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, and the University of Bishop's College in Quebec the degrees of Doctor of Civil Law and Doctor of Laws. He was rector of the Church of the Epiphany at Trumansburg, N. Y., one time, and of Grace Church in Elmira, N. Y. He served with the A. E. F. in France and Germany and was made a Chevalier of the Order of Leopold II of Belgium. He wrote much in prose and verse over the pen name of Presbyter Ignotus, and for a time was a member of the editorial staff of "The Living Age." For many years his father, a Methodist, and his mother, an Episcopalian, were teachers of the high school at Camden, N. Y. They were splendid teachers, devout Christians, and most helpful to poor boys and girls, many of whom were Catholic, in getting higher educations. Lovely and lovable memories blossom in many souls for father, mother and son, all three of them now united in death.

When You Make Your Will

Always, in every Diocese, there are churches and institutions which have heavy financial burdens, and whose work is handicapped by these burdens. When you make your will, the best way in the world to help these needy ones is to insert a paragraph something like this in the will:

"I give and bequeath to the Rt. Rev. John Francis O'Hern, D.D., Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Rochester, N. Y., or his successor or successors in office, the sum of \$_____ to be used at his or their discretion for the work or the institutions of the Diocese."

If you are interested in some particular church, charity or institution a clause like this may be added: "I am interested particularly in _____ Bequests, large or small, are a great blessing to religion, and it is highly edifying to read of them in any will. No Catholic will should be without one or more such bequests."