

British Writer Taken To Task for Criticism Of American Colleges

The Rev. Charles L. O'Donnell, C.S.C., President of Notre Dame University, Writes Open Letter to London Publication—Takes Sharp Exception to Published Statements.

Notre Dame, April 15.—The following open letter, written by the Rev. Charles L. O'Donnell, C.S.C., President of Notre Dame University, to the editor of the Saturday Review, London, England, takes sharply to task the writer of an article criticizing American colleges, and especially Notre Dame:

"Dear Sir: My attention has been drawn to an article entitled 'A Briton Looks at American Education' by Mr. John Boyd-Carpenter which appeared recently in the Saturday Review. The article as a whole, in its contrasting of British and American ideals and methods in education, is remarkable, it seems to me, only as representing a recrudescence of a form of British chauvinism which, for some years, has happily been missing from the British press. I doubt very much if Mr. Boyd-Carpenter represents the best-informed English opinion on the subject of American education. I prefer to think his sneering attitude is rather exclusively his own. For that reason I am not much concerned to offer comment on his observations in general. Inasmuch, however, as he singles out my University for a particular sneer, I must protest against this special exhibition of unfairness and injustice.

"As illustrating what he calls 'the incomprehensible search of a name they call football,' Mr. Boyd-Carpenter writes: 'For instance the University of Notre Dame, a place of no secular intellectual pretensions, has enjoyed recently a great reputation simply because its football team was not, for a long time, defeated by any of the teams it chose to meet. I do not know what Mr. Boyd-Carpenter regards as a great reputation. It is true enough that the varsity football team of the University of Notre Dame has attracted considerable attention because it has been a remarkably good football team. The mistake which Mr. Boyd-Carpenter makes, and he is not alone in this error, is in considering that the new value of intercollegiate athletics, as estimated by the sports editors, represents either the university estimate of their value or the estimate placed upon them by thinking men in general.

"A vicious statement of an concerned less, however, with this misconception than with Mr. Boyd-Carpenter's insouciant and unbecomingly subjective observation that the University of Notre Dame is 'a place of no intellectual pretensions.' I should like to see the words 'no intellectual pretensions' written in the margins of the Saturday Review. The viciousness of this remark resides in the confidence with which it is made. Mr. Boyd-Carpenter is a paid workman, I assume. He should know his trade. Since his trade is journalism, he should know what he is writing. Apparently, it has never occurred to him that he should inform himself as to the academic reputation of the University of Notre Dame.

"A slur upon the intellectual achievements of Notre Dame is particularly unbecoming inasmuch as the industrial world is focused upon a highly important discovery in the field of chemical research made by one of the professors of the University of Notre Dame. How does Mr. Boyd-Carpenter, writing as an authority on American education, come to be

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De Valera Says He Expects To Receive American Help In Fight for Irish Liberty

Declares That Ireland Has Millions of Friends in United States—Hopes for Harmony, with Equality of Freedom for Britain and Ireland

Dublin, April 15.—Eamon De Valera, President of the Irish Free State, is determined to go ahead with his plan to abolish the oath of allegiance to Great Britain, and if any trouble arises he has faith that substantial help will come to Ireland from the American people. "We have millions of friends in America," he declared the other day, in talking over the situation. In an article in The New York Sunday Times, President De Valera gives the following explanation of the Irish situation: "You probably think that since our progress toward liberty, and your public opinion thinks, perhaps, we are insatiable. You see, we are in the situation of the primitive man. We have been long years confined to an island as a favor is allowed to want in the prison courts. You can't say this man is free. Our motto is before taking his seat in the Dail must go to a special bureau to be scribe. Their names on the register and to swear they promise fidelity to a foreign monarch.

"British carriages remain in many of our ports, and the north of our island is politically separated from the Irish nation. It is not even an entire province of the nine Ulster counties they have left to us. Why they only took six. It is because in what is called Northern Ireland there is a small Unionist majority. If they had included the three other counties, this majority would no longer exist.

"In facing the frontier they have done what Americans call a 'crazy' maneuver. It is a sort of electoral surgery. It is an artificial creation of its garrison, a big-headed 'People' are sometimes surprised because we and other Irish do not forget the past, but this constant provocation, this wound kept open by British propaganda, is an obstacle to all true peace.

"Freedom is Necessary
"We are united to England by our geographical position and active economic relations. If we were entirely free, if Ireland were an independent democracy, entirely mistress of her destiny within her natural frontiers, I, for my part, would favor a very friendly political understanding with Great Britain. But as long as there exists against us a menacing fortress on our own soil, and our twenty-six counties must live, so to speak, in a state of suspicion, true friendship can never be born between the two nations.

"But, for the moment, it is not this question of Ulster which is the matter of urgency. It was the program my party published on Feb. 12. Article 1 states we pledge ourselves to suppress the oath for members of Parliament. The treaty in this respect is ambiguous.

"We are not legally bound to inscribe this formality in our Constitution. We have also the right to change our Constitution. We have already done so often and the Statute of Westminster of 1930 expressly recognizes this right as the privilege of each Dominion.

"We shall be intractable on this point because it concerns us as a foreigner might think, the pure question of self-respect. Something much graver is at stake. It is the moral unity of the country and, consequently, the possibility of having in Ireland a true democratic government.

Signed Under Threat
"You will never make the Republican elements recognize a government which will leave this obligation in the Constitution. Revolutionary agitation will persist as long as the obligation is not eliminated. I might add that the treaty of 1921 was signed under the threat of war; that it was the result of a threatening ultimatum. But I believe the argument of legality will be still more powerful.

Army Chaplains Attack Weakened Pacifism and Ask Protection in Time of Peace

Nation Must Guard Against Needless Sacrifice of Life in Future Wars, Says Monsignor William Hughes, Head of Chaplains' Association.

New York, April 15.—The seventh denunciation, broadcast that you Hindenburg would be re-elected to the Association of the Army of the United States was held at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria last week and it was pointed out to the fact that the preparation for war in time of peace, and the nation is preserved by adequate protection in time of peace.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. William Hughes, head of the association and a chaplain in the Officers Reserve Corps, is the top of the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions and the national secretary of the American Legion. He stands against the weakening of pacifism. He advocated pressure on legislators in favor of measures for "protection in time of peace so that there will not be such sacrifices in the future as there were in the last war."

The Rev. Dr. Paul Dwight Moody, associate chief chaplain of the Army, son of the evangelist Dwight L. Moody and president of Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., said the word "good" was "taken" on negative connotations and urged the substitution of the word "good-will."

"Where good-will is allowed its way it will prevent war, and where it is brought to war it will end it," he said. "and it alone can beat the world which war makes. And this is primarily the chaplain's field, this excommunication of good-will.

There is no place for the peace preaching, chaotic in the arms of the church. When we talk of the chaplain and good-will we are referring to something positive for which much can be said.

Rabbi Morris G. Lazaron of Baltimore, a chaplain in the Officers Reserve Corps, declared that while it was popular today to be a pacifist, world conditions and human nature pointed to the possibility of further wars and that it would be imprudent to disarm. "I am unwilling to gamble with so high and precious a stake as the independence and integrity of my country," he asserted. He stressed the fact, however, that it was the duty of chaplains to work with and strengthen positive forces making for peace.

Predicts Hindenburg Victory
Rabbi Jacob Sanderling, an honorary member of the organization, who served as a chaplain during the World War under General von Hindenburg, predicted a victory for the Kaiser.

Altar Society of St. Ambrose Church Held Annual Party
The 14th annual reception and party of the Altar Society of St. Ambrose Church was held Thursday evening this week in the parish hall, Culver Road and Empire Boulevard. There was a very large attendance of parishioners and friends of the church and the event was conducted in a way that made it a joy to all who attended.

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Pope Honors K. C. Chaplain, Dr. McGivney
Hartford, April 15.—The elevation of the Rev. Dr. John J. McGivney of Bridgeport, supreme chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, to the rank of Domestic Prelate by Pope Pius XI was announced last week by The Catholic Transcript. The appointment carries with it the title of Right Reverend Monsignor.

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