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BUSINESS REVIEW COLUMNS

STRANGE BUT TRUE
Catholic Facts But Little Known

By M. J. MURRAY

ONCE A PRISON— NOW A CONVENT SCHOOL

THE GOVERNOR'S HOUSE OF NENAGH PRISON (CO TIPPERARY) WHICH IS NOW A SECONDARY SCHOOL OF THE SISTERS OF MERCY

PALLIUMS— which are sent by the Pope to Archbishops— were, during the Middle Ages, let down through the grating on to the tomb of St. Peter where they remained for a whole night.

Napoleon's downfall was foretold twelve years in advance by the stigmatic nun, Catherine Emmerich (1774-1824)

Numerous families in English-speaking countries bear the surname **EASTER, CHRISTMAS** and **PENTECOST**.

St. THOMAS a KEMPIS was a Brother of the Common Life, an institute founded in Holland in the fourteenth century in which clerics and laymen joined in a common Christian life without taking perpetual vows. The institute exists to this day.

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH SOCIETY

HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS

Diocese of Rochester, N. Y. Rev. Leo C. Mooney, Director
Columbus Civic Center, 50 Chestnut Street
Stone 1492

This copy is edited by the Diocesan Office in connection with National Office. Inquiries concerning missions welcomed.

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Monsignor Seipel, Statesman and Scholar, Traduced by His Enemies

(C. V. Service)

The crises encountered in various countries of Europe by the World War forced more than one Catholic prelate to the front. The aftermath of the great struggle likewise called into action such men as Msgr. Seipel in Holland, and Msgr. Seipel in Austria. The former, who saved his country from a communist uprising, would not however, accept the premiership offered him by the Queen of the Netherlands although reluctantly, the Austrian priest, who departed this life a week ago, was forced to take the helm of state, because had he not done so a decided turn to the left would have been inevitable.

His task, and the task of the Christian Social Party of Austria, whose head he now was, was a desperate one. The enemies of the Hapsburgs and Catholic Austria had accomplished their intentions only too well of the once proud empire, whose services to the Church and Christianity made it all the more hateful to liberals and radicals. There remained nothing but a distorted rump with a big stomach, a city of over two million people, which the balance of the nation of four millions, scattered over a partly mountainous territory, was unable to supply with food. Utterly bankrupted by the war, the inflation destroyed the prospects of a revival of this remnant of a once great state. It was at this time Msgr. Seipel was made Premier of the ministry of his native Austria. And he did succeed in obtaining a loan which saved Austria from complete collapse.

Lacking this aid, the people would have undoubtedly turned to Bolshevism, resulting not merely in internal strife, but probably in serious international conflicts. To some it seemed unfortunate that it should have remained to a priest to render his country, and above all Austria, its national conflicts. To some it seemed unfortunate that it should have remained to a priest to render his country, and above all Austria, its national conflicts.

The Helmswehr movement (the word may be translated "home militia") the movement came into being as an unfortunate consequence of the danger with which Socialism and Bolshevism menaced Austria after the collapse of the monarchy and the dismemberment of the Empire. It was a measure of self-defense adopted by the conservative elements of the nation, who were threatened with destruction. While nothing Dr. Seipel said or did indicates his desire to recall the Hapsburgs to Austria, any leaning in that direction should not be made an accusation against him. A monarchical form of government may well be more suitable to his country in question than republican institutions not warranted by historical development. Furthermore, statesmen and historians alike today consider the breaking up of the Austrian Empire to have been a great mistake. A Danubian federation for Austria and Hungary but likewise for such countries as Czechoslovakia, Roumania and Yugoslavia. Since the Christian Social School of thought prefers confederation to any other political system, Msgr. Seipel probably inclined to the belief that the salvation of his country depended upon the realization of some such plan as the one referred to. Moreover, Austrians who have really at heart the welfare and future of the people agreed with his policies, as evidenced by his having been called to the Chancellorship in the government no less than five times in ten years.

Unfortunately the press of our country quite generally takes its cues from liberal papers of the Continent, such as the "Berliner Tageblatt," the "Frankfurter Zeitung" and the "Vienna Neue Presse." All of them were decidedly anti-clerical. It was evidently from such source the "N. Y. American" obtained the information translated in the issue of October 23, 1921, into one of the most abominable satirical pieces in an clerical nature ever printed in an American daily. It caricatured the noble, ascetic features of Seipel, and pictured him as viewing a sparsely clad woman dancing. Both he, who was Chancellor at the time, and Cardinal Piffarelli are said to have witnessed an exhibit of modern steps to have frequently applauded, and to

Radio Forecast

- 272.6M—WJWL—1100 Kc.
WJWL—Paulist Fathers
New York City
- Sunday, August 21
- 3:15 P. M.—"The Voice of the Missions"
 - 3:30 P. M.—St. Cecilia Ensemble: Eileen Burns, reader; Fernando Guarnieri, baritone; Mohammed Vichan, who spoke in English; "Fundamentals of Catholic Belief"; Rev. Thomas G. McMahon, C.S.P.
 - 8:35 P. M.—"Gothic Moods"
- Monday, August 22
- 6:00 P. M.—Florentine Ensemble
 - 6:15 P. M.—"Smiles and Tears of Erin"; James Hueshe, soloist
 - 6:45 P. M.—Alma Stoll, Contralto
 - 7:00 P. M.—Told At Sunset
 - 7:30 P. M.—"Christ—The World's Hope"; Rev. Nicholas Higgins, O.F.S.C.
 - 7:45 P. M.—Meet the Composer with Rosa Spinelli
- Tuesday, August 23
- 6:00 P. M.—Cosmopolitan Quintette
 - 6:30 P. M.—"Loved Songs of Many Nations"; Leo de Hierapolis, Baritone
 - 7:00 P. M.—Organ Reveries
 - 7:20 P. M.—Talk
 - 7:45 P. M.—"The Eyes Have It"; Edward O'Brien, soloist
- Wednesday, August 24
- 6:00 P. M.—Florentine Ensemble
 - 6:15 P. M.—Maja and Myra
 - 6:30 P. M.—Kelly and Keith
 - 6:45 P. M.—Frank Flanagan, Violinist
 - 7:00 P. M.—Under the Russian Moon; Lucien Tamar, tenor
 - 7:30 P. M.—"Question Box"; Rev. Henry P. Fisher, C.S.P.
 - 7:45 P. M.—"The Crinoline Girl"
- Thursday, August 25
- 6:00 P. M.—"Memory's Garden"; George O'Brien, soloist
 - 6:30 P. M.—Ensemble Classique
 - 6:45 P. M.—Cotton Blossoms
 - 7:00 P. M.—Organ Reveries
 - 7:30 P. M.—"Timely Topics"; Rev. John T. McGinn, C.S.P.
 - 7:50 P. M.—Ensemble Classique
- Friday, August 26
- 2:00 P. M.—Symphony Orchestra
 - 2:15 P. M.—"Modern Youth and Education"; Jervid O'Neill
 - 2:30 P. M.—Maja and Myra
 - 2:45 P. M.—"Man in the Moon"; 6:00 P. M.—Olga Della Fagan, Soprano and Orchestra
 - 6:30 P. M.—Paul Watson, baritone
 - 6:45 P. M.—Symphony Orchestra
 - 7:15 P. M.—Florentine Ensemble
 - 7:30 P. M.—"Bon Voyage"
- Saturday, August 27
- 6:00 P. M.—Hungarian Musicale
 - 6:30 P. M.—WJWL Players
 - 7:00 P. M.—Castleton Instrumentalists
 - 7:15 P. M.—The Minstrel Boy
 - 7:30 P. M.—"Endorsed Motion Pictures"; Mrs. Thomas A. McGoldrick
 - 7:45 P. M.—County Meath Boys

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH SOCIETY

Editor's Note: This highly interesting report of Father Blatter's sojourn as first residing priest in Afghanistan is being reprinted serially with permission from The Medical Missionary, publication of the Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries, Inc.)

(Continued from Last Week)

During the first week of July, one of the nearby mountains revolted, and soon the streets swarmed with armed men, called in to suppress it. But even these wild men gave me no cause for apprehension and laughed at my efforts to make myself understood. The rebels must have been contented without mercy, for soon the city and surrounding roads were filled with troops of these men conducting herds of spoil-laden donkeys and domestic animals as their share of the booty. Later a number of the leaders were led to the mouth of a ravine and blown to fragments. As I feared to give scandal, I did not accompany my fellow guests to the nearby execution grounds, but plain I heard the loud cannon shots heralding the dread ending of the rebels.

I received an official request for an interview from the minister of foreign affairs, in which I had an opportunity to discuss the Christian religion and vicesent philogony on points which touched also the most interesting phases of our common faith. He showed himself quite interested. I proposed also the project of establishing a dispensary for women and children through the Catholic Medical Missionary Society in Rawalpindi. He gave only a qualified assent, acknowledging that it was a commendable project and worthy of further consideration. Later on I visited the Kabul hospital consisting of some one story buildings near the Russian embassy and containing perhaps a score of men patients, but no accommodation for women. The rumor was spread that the government was preparing part of the compound for the reception of women and children. But under Mohammedan laws and customs I do not see how such a woman's hospital could be arranged or kept going. There are no nurses nor any women doctors, and the treatment of women patients by men is repugnant to all Moslem sense of propriety.

The Afghans like to engage in religious discussion and seem ready to yield to logic, but their logic is founded entirely on that written in the Koran which they claim is the authentic record of Mohamet's teaching. Mr. Hogen introduced me on a formal visit to the father-in-law of the King, a typical and venerable Mohammedan Afghan who spoke a little English. We had quite a discussion about the Trinity and about Christ; the one he insisted on calling three gods and the other a mere woman-born man, but a prophet secondary only to Mohamet. Strange as it may seem, other Moslems maintain that Christ will judge men at the end of the world. With great ado and show of veneration he gave me a magnificently bound English translation of the Koran. He wrapped it carefully in a costly silk scarf and kissed it devoutly, demanding a promise that I would handle it with utmost care in reading it.

I had several talks with some of the officials connected with the government and met the prime minister, the minister of war, and of education and the treasurer, the editor of the only paper that is published now who also sought interviews. I received an invitation to the royal durbar or festive reception, held in the parks of the Ark by Nadir Khan and after the speech of the king at the concluding ceremonies, he approached me to shake hands and expressed his good wishes and the hope that I found my stay pleasant. An official visit to the premier and to the king, which was to be arranged, was unfortunately cut short by a sickness, threatening to be fatal, which forced me to leave Kabul. Thus in every way and by every means I was made to feel quite welcome and no objection, only certain misgivings about my own safety were expressed in regard to a protracted stay in Kabul on my part.

In September the manager of the hostelry took sick of a deadly attack of malaria and several times I had no doubt it would end fatally. He had been very friendly with me and showed considerable sympathetic understanding of the Catholic religion. As there were no screens or doors or windows in the hostelry and he occupied a neighboring room, it was inevitable that the mosquitoes transmit the malaria parasite to the guests. Mr. Russell was soon brought down with the sickness for several weeks but, under treatment of Dr. Pauschart, of the German legation, and of Dr. Ewert, of the British, recuperated sufficiently to continue his journey to Kandahar and Herat. Unfortunately I took little heed, trusting to a strong constitution. In the second week of October I was so saturated with malaria that I lay

helpless and nearly unconscious, expecting the end. Dr. Pauschart and Elliot found the blood full of parasites, and only after five or six days' treatment my condition was somewhat improved. They assured me that I was threatened with a complication of typhoid, heart disease and malaria and that my only chance of recovery was to leave as soon as possible for the lower altitudes. Even so a complete restoration was doubtful and would require continued dosing with quinine.

(Continued Next Week)

Spiritual Thoughts

Our human nature is apt to cry out, "Oh, dearest God, why?" But we must not even ask why. It is quite enough that it is His loving, sovereign and august will. Therefore we can only thank Him for doing His own will in His own way.

In suffering which comes to us through our own will, we can be so certain that we are doing His will, in which is all holiness. When we work for Him there is a great deal of natural satisfaction in what we do, and it is more difficult to know that we are seeking God.

As suffering is completely contrary to our natural will, when we are patient and know that we are seeking Him and His will and not our own.

The sufferings of this life patiently borne will atone for sin and add to eternal glory.

No kind of disquietude, although for a good end, comes from God.—St. Alphonsus.

Feelings of despondency and low spirits often come from nerves or liver, and then they must be borne with as you would bear with a headache, as a penance, knowing that they will pass.—Father Willberforce.

Give thyself to compunction of heart and thoughtful devotion.

Fives rules given by Cardinal Newman to a convent:
1. Not to ask for reasons why.
2. Not to say "I told you so."
3. Not to desire to hear news.
4. To be willing to be ignorant of many branches of knowledge.
5. In a conflict of opinions and judgments, instinctively to feel that you are less likely to be right than others.

The enemy of our nature is much relieved when a soul opens itself to a good confessor, or some spiritual person who knows his cunning and malice, for he foresees that when once his snares have been laid bare, he will no longer be able to complete his treacherous work.

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