

# The President And The League

By THE REV. OWEN B. MCGUIRE, D. D.

Just after finishing the article for this week I have seen in the "New York Times" report of a speech by Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. (Grandson of the late Senator Lodge) from which I extract this passage: "Do we want to remain true to our ideal and keep out of such fights as may arise, or do we want to have ourselves inevitably becoming involved?"

That sums up pretty accurately all that I had to say of the President's address on foreign affairs.

Last week we saw what the League of Nations was in its origin and what it was intended to do. It was a compromise of the conflicting interests of the Great Powers, an instrument of the military to check the normal growth and aspirations of those who had been rendered impotent.

It was a compromise of which the League of Nations was the result, and bitterness, if not desperation, were bound to be the consequences. (It is worth and through which) the Great Powers were to combine to subordinate all interests to their own.

(Of which instrument) might be the fundamental principle (in which) justice is secondary, might be primary.

To subordinate all interests to their own, and to respond to the demand of the moralist (which President Wilson) they had arranged this new Alliance with a name and called it "The League of Nations" but whatever it may be called or however it may be organized, it is in reality an Alliance of the Five Great Military Powers.

Such was the League as it appeared to Mr. Lansing on the morning after he was born and with its "hale" around its head was presented to the admiration of the world by its sponsors, Lloyd George and Monsieur Clemenceau.

But I would have you remember that what Mr. Lansing then said of it in 1919, has been said by thousands of authentic witnesses since, and since then distinguished Americans and the "American" people, as

the reason has leaked out. The British Admiralty had told the Government that if war in the Middle Sea came immediately and before the assistance of other Powers was certain and ready, Italy might be able to inflict incalculable damage on the British fleet. But the government had sent a note to the Italian government on Dec. 8. In the meantime Eden had visited and obtained a pledge of assistance from Greece and Jugoslavia, and a counter-pledge of assistance from the Laval-Hoare agreement was published the Admiralty believed that now Britain could take the risk of war. But the Laval-Hoare agreement had been brought forward by the two governments backed by no doubt ignoring the protests of the "independent" small nations.

The Italian government was not the most prompt to heed the new call to Catholic Action. Many Catholic institutions were in full swing when Catholic Action was first talked of and, besides, it was feared that Catholic Action, if introduced into our country, might be spoiled by Poland, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Canada and other, and without any central organization, and capable of bringing them to submission.

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## Catholic Action In Many Lands

### Belgium

By REV. ANTHONY COPPENS

Belgium, the Boy Scouts, the Furber, the Young Farmers, the K.A.C., the Catholic Young Workers, the young men of the middle class, the young employers were affiliated with the League. Later there was added the Association for the Deaf, His Eminence Cardinal Van Roy said at the time: "We do not start the work of Catholic Action in Flanders, we just organize it so that it diffused and isolated work may be joined together and work in full cooperation." From that time these associations have had a common link and the spirit of Christ the King animates them. The A.C.J.B. in Wallonia and the A.C.J.B. in Flanders are run on the same principles and follow the same purpose.

The young women leading them to children and winning them to frequent communion in the Crusade have been in the interest also in apostolizing. They have devoted young priests to their guide. The first assembly was held at Ghent and this was the origin of the A.C.J.B.F. for Flanders and the A.C.J.B. for Wallonia. The members number 50,000 for Flanders and 50,000 for Wallonia. They are from 11 to 25 years of age. They are the most active and the most energetic of all. They are the most active and the most energetic of all. They are the most active and the most energetic of all.

It should be noted that the A.C.J.B. gathers the young men of the Holy Father to Catholic Action in Belgium. His Holiness in a letter of felicitation addressed to the Archbishop of Mechlin, in a gathering of young men and priests the office of Catholic Action in Flanders. The organization was named the A.C.J.B. (Jeunesse Catholique de Belgique) and the A.C.J.B. (Jeunesse Catholique de Belgique) and the A.C.J.B. (Jeunesse Catholique de Belgique).

## Dr. J. J. Sherry Donates Services To Leper Colony

Dr. J. J. Sherry, a prominent physician, has donated his services to the leper colony at Lourdes, France. Dr. Sherry was born and educated in Dublin and practiced in London. He served as Medical Officer with the British Army in the World War on nearly all fronts and following hostilities on demobilizing forces.

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