

Answering The Spanish Question

(The Rev. Dr. Owen B. McGuire, special writer for the Catholic Courier and an authority on the Spanish question herewith presents the second of a series of articles on the background of the present crisis.)

Two weeks ago I wrote that to understand the present calamitous situation in Spain it would be necessary to have some knowledge of the background in which the causes of the situation were developed. The background goes very far back; and, indeed, it should be clear to the most casual observer, who reflects on what he sees, that the causes of what we have seen happen in Spain since last February, even for the past six years, are not such as may develop suddenly, and as it were, overnight. For that reason I had agreed with the Editors to go back and trace them in their logical and chronological sequence.

There are, however, just at present some utterly false impressions constantly fostered in the dispatches and comments of the daily press, about the situation in Spain, which call for attention. I will deal with these first. The background can afford to wait.

I hope the reader will not imagine that what is happening in Spain is something that does not concern him, at least not immediately. I believe that since the French Revolution nothing has happened in this world that should be of more interest or concern to Catholics everywhere.

**Warns Against
'Red' Propaganda**

And it would be a fatal mistake to imagine that we are immune in this country from its insidious causes, and widespread propaganda directed from Moscow which have turned Spain into a shambles, and for the moment have destroyed the Catholic Church in those parts of Spain where the Red government is in power.

The attitude of our daily press is instructive. It has shown itself throughout to be thoroughly misinformed and misguided. But it is a case of not wishing to see. It is instructive in its voluntary blindness, for it shows how deep rooted and still alive when we thought it was dead is the traditional hostility to the Catholic Church and to everything with which the Church is supposed to be allied or identified.

Had Spain not been a Catholic country, had this combination of Socialists, Communists, and Syndical-Anarchists which are now described as democrats and loyalists, and are called the legitimate government, appeared in any country with a non-Catholic population and tradition, they would be denounced by every daily paper in the country, for that, they are the bulwarks of our civilization. Should they appear in this country they would be treated as the enemies of all that Americans hold dear and considered the bulwarks of our civilization. They happen to be operating in Spain and their victims there are the Spanish Church and Spanish Catholics. That makes all the difference. But our reporters in Spain and their commentators at home do not see that the line in Spain is not drawn between Monarchists and Republicans, but between Democrats and "reactionaries" nor much less between Catholics and Liberals.

**Agnostics Quoted
To Clear Issue**

It is perfectly evident that the line is drawn between chaos and anarchy on the one side and the civilization of the United Nations on the other. The Spanish army has just declared in another interview in Paris, "The Spanish army is fighting for to preserve Western civilization from destruction by an Oriental despotism." And Unamuno has for half a century been considered the outstanding Spanish "Liberal," an agnostic and anti-clerical. Lerroux also an Agnostic and a declared enemy of the Church. He was the leader of the only Republican party under the Monarchy. In the elections of June 1931 he returned 109 Deputies. In the elections of 1933 he returned 163, when Azana's party returned only six. He is now at the age of 72 a refugee in Lisbon, and repeats what was said in Paris by Unamuno. His chief lieutenants in the party have been executed by the Red mob in Madrid.

**Hostility to Church
Seen Evident**

The same has been the fate of Melquiades Alvarez, also a "Liberal," an agnostic who had acquired, and deserved the nickname of Don Haterados. He also had been the leader of a Republican party called the Reformist. In his seventieth year he has been taken from the Model prison in Madrid and with a number of his fellow-prisoners was shot by the Red mob that was armed by the "Government" to preserve order.

But our Liberals of the daily press see only Catholics, Monarchists and reactionaries in the revolt against the "legitimate Government." They see only the destruction of Catholic Churches where there is a destruction of civilization. It is a blindness due to an unwillingness to see, and it teaches us the sad lesson that the tradi-

A TIMELY PRIZE
CONTEST FOR
YOUTHS
PAGE 11 THIS WEEK

Americas Seek Peace; Europe Arms

U.S. President Calls For
Expansion of His 'Good
Neighbor' Policy

WASHINGTON (N.C.)—Washington, surveying world affairs for the moment from a point of quiet seclusion, is fixing its attention on two widely separated corners of the world where momentous events are in the making. One is Buenos Aires, where the Pan-American Conference will attempt to further the cause of peace in the western world. The other is the Far East, where Russia and Japan may come to grips.

President Roosevelt, in his address at Rio de Janeiro, stated succinctly the purpose of the conference by saying "In this crisis, since we have the opportunity to banish war from the New World and dedicate it to peace. It is unthinkable to me that in this time of world-wide approach, we should fail to seize this opportunity to meet what is a common responsibility. This is to be achieved."

But Washington's interest is not in the purpose of the conference, but in the methods. It will be proposed to achieve them. No League of Nations. The President has indicated that a western league of nations of any kind of a league is not contemplated. In other words, peace is not to be attained by the imposition of authority from a body anything the savors of a super state. It is to be achieved by agreement on the part of the various governments concerned. The aim of the conference is the expansion of the "good neighbor" policy.

Significance is attached to the emphasis laid by the President on the "good neighbor" policy. In the Old World which he said "presents a grim picture of armed camps and threats of conflict," it carried the implication that the purpose of the conference will also be protective of the American republics must stand together to ward off the threat of being embroiled in Old World conflicts.

To this end the President suggests a modification of the Monroe Doctrine making the defense against foreign aggression of any kind a collective responsibility of all the governments of the American republics.

Whether he had reference to the growing hostility between communism and fascism and the possibility that these contending forces would eventually come to grips in the Western Hemisphere must be left to surmise. The President denounced war as destructive of "the deals of individual liberty and of the democratic form of representative government which is the goal of all the American republics."

This may be taken as a denunciation of both communist and fascist governments. Unhappily, some of the American republics are not entirely free of the communist and Mexico especially constitutes a problem which will probably lurk in the deliberations of the Buenos Aires deliberations.

**Cardinal Asks Prayer
For Congress Success**

Buenos Aires. The closest cooperation of the Church with the Inter-American Conference for the maintenance of Peace was pledged by His Eminence Santiago Luis Cardinal Copello, Archbishop of Buenos Aires and primate of Argentina, in a pastoral letter which he called for daily prayers of the faithful for the success of the conference. The clergy was directed to include prayers for peace in all Masses during December.

"The happy idea of convoking the Inter-American Conference for the Maintenance of Peace has received the maximum approval of all the nations of our continent," his Cardinal's message said.

**Mexican Court Abolishes Law
Requiring Priests To Marry**

MEXICO CITY—The Supreme Court has declared unconstitutional any law, regulation or disposition issued by State Government or Legislature, or by local authorities which seeks to impose modalities in the exercise of religious worship.

This decision was rendered in the case of the Rev. Martin Ramirez Lavalle, plaintiff, against the Municipality of Campeche and against the law regulating religious worship promulgated by the Legislature of the State of Campeche.

VOLUME VIII • NUMBER 49

Catholic Courier

Published at Rochester, New York THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1936 TWELVE PAGES • TWO SECTIONS

LEADERS
AT
INDUSTRIAL
CONFERENCE

'It Can Happen Here,' Archbishop Warns In Plea For Cooperation



Here are four of the leading figures at the Catholic Conference on Industrial Problems held at the Columbus Civic Center this week. The Rev. Dr. Owen B. McGuire, special writer for the Catholic Courier and an authority on the Spanish question herewith presents the second of a series of articles on the background of the present crisis.)

**BISHOP GUILFOYLE
IS CONSECRATED AS
ALTOONA ORDINARY**

ERIE, PA. The Most Rev. Richard T. Guilfoyle, titular bishop of the Eritrean Diocese, was consecrated as the third Bishop of the neighboring Erie Diocese.

In the presence of His Eminence Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia, who occupied the throne in St. Peter's and who as Bishop of Buffalo, in 1917, ordained Father Guilfoyle, the former Erie Diocese Chancellor became Bishop.

One of the greatest gatherings of church dignitaries in the history of the Erie Diocese, assembled in St. Peter's for the ceremony.

In addition to Cardinal Dougherty, two Archbishops, 20 Bishops and hundreds of monsignori and priests participated in the solemn but colorful ceremonies.

From the hands of the Most Rev. John Mark Gannon, Bishop of Erie whom he had served for 15 years as secretary and 18 of those years as Chancellor of the Erie Diocese, the new Bishop received the robes of his new office. The Most Rev. Thomas J. Walsh, Bishop of Newark, and the Most Rev. Francis J. Tif, Bishop of Concordia, were co-consecrators. The sermon was delivered by the Most Rev. George L. Leach, Bishop of Harrisburg.

**Pope's Legate's Visit
CHICAGO En route to California, His Excellency, the Most Rev. Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, stopped here Friday and paid a visit to the Rev. Benjamin French, Provisional Superior of the Scranton Fathers of St. Charles Borromeo.**

Twenty Martyrs Pen Farewells, Meet Death Singing Bravely

Use Handkerchiefs, Paper
Scraps For Their
Final Messages

WASHINGTON—Positive identification of 20 more Claretian missionaries, the last of a group of 50 who were massacred by Reds at Barbastro, Spain, has been received at the headquarters of the community in Rome and relayed to the Very Rev. Eugene Sugrues, C. M. F., Superior of the Claretian College at the Catholic University of America.

The Claretian community is in possession of messages of farewell to their loved ones, written on scraps of paper and on handkerchiefs by the victims of the mass murders on the eve of their martyrdom.

Cemetery Death Scene
When on August 12 the Communists at Barbastro came to the prison and took 20 Claretians—one priest, 17 clerical students and two lay Brothers—fastening them with ropes by two, they led them to the place of execution in the municipal cemetery.

As they left the prison, one of the executioners said to the remaining twenty "Your turn will be tomorrow."

**Executioner Strums
Guitar as Claretians
Are Burned at Stake**

WASHINGTON—Testimony of an eye-witness, given before the Superior of the Claretian Curia at Rome, has confirmed news from Spain of the mass murder of Claretian priests, clerical students and lay Brothers at Cervera, near Barcelona, soon after the outbreak of the Spanish civil war in July.

The Claretian martyrs, the witness testified, were tortured by the mob and then burned alive on a huge pyre.

The information has been communicated from Rome to the Very Rev. Eugene Sugrues, C. M. F., Superior of the Claretian College at the Catholic University of America.

As the victims of the mob went to their death, the witness said, one of the leaders of their executioners stood by strumming a guitar and crying out: "Now I feel like Nero singing the death knell and funeral dirge of the Catholic Church."

**Son Sends Birthday Poem
To Mother Before
He Dies**

WASHINGTON—The whole day to us was a day of intense grief. We were told that the son of the martyr, who was killed in the civil war, had written a poem to his mother before he died.

The poem was written in the prison, and it was found among the papers of the martyr when he was killed.

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TEXT OF SPEECH BY ARCHBISHOP MOONEY AT MEET

Archbishop of New York

The Archbishop of New York, Cardinal Patrick Joseph Mooney, delivered the following address at the meeting of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, held at the Columbus Civic Center, New York, December 2, 1936.

I am very glad to be here with you today, and I am sure that you will find my address of interest and value.

The first of the great problems of our time is the problem of peace. We must find a way to live together in peace and harmony.

The second of the great problems of our time is the problem of justice. We must find a way to live together in justice and equity.

The third of the great problems of our time is the problem of religion. We must find a way to live together in religion and faith.

The fourth of the great problems of our time is the problem of education. We must find a way to live together in education and knowledge.

The fifth of the great problems of our time is the problem of science. We must find a way to live together in science and progress.

The sixth of the great problems of our time is the problem of art. We must find a way to live together in art and beauty.

The seventh of the great problems of our time is the problem of music. We must find a way to live together in music and harmony.

The eighth of the great problems of our time is the problem of dance. We must find a way to live together in dance and rhythm.

NEED WE SAY MORE

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ANNOUNCEMENT
Prize announcements for last week's Christmas club contest will be made next week.