

Church's Attitude on Modern Social Work Defined By Noted College Dean

BISHOP KEARNEY LAUDS ELMIRA Charities Record At Annual Banquet

ELMIRA—In the light of 1900 years' experience, the Church is obliged to look with suspicion and even disdain upon some of the theories being advanced in social work today.

This message was brought to an audience of 800 by the Very Rev. Ignatius Smith, O.P., dean of the school of philosophy at the Catholic University of America at the third annual banquet of Elmira Catholic Charities at the Mark Twain Hotel, Wednesday evening of last week.

The record of the Elmira Catholic Charities during the past year was highly commended by the Most Rev. James E. Kearney, Bishop of Rochester, who spoke following the report made by Miss Mary E. Fitzgerald, executive director of Catholic Charities here.

Speakers were introduced by Dr. John F. Lynch, chairman of Elmira Catholic Charities. "Changes are not always progressive, some are radical and others are reactionary," Father Smith said in his address.

"We are reluctant to surrender our old principles and methods because we must judge these new ideas on the basis of past disastrous experiences," he said.

Social problems can be solved with the use of some philosophy, scientific research and divine inspiration, according to Father Smith.

Catholic leaders in social work are wary and cautious when new remedies and theories are advanced, Father Smith declared.

"There never has been a time when the great men and women of our faith have not been concerned to the work of helping the needy. Consequently, new methods and objectives must undergo scrutiny based on experiences of the ages," he asserted.

The problems faced by Catholic social workers throughout the country are complicated and above any thought of race, creed or beliefs, he concluded. They are big to be solved by mere humans.

God must enter into the work. Economic, political and social factors that dull true conditions are being solved progressively because experience is teaching writers how to avoid past mistakes, he said.

Declaring that the Catholic Church is standing at the firing line today, he said, "We need make no apology for our work. We have 1900 years' experience to draw on, sufficient funds the best brains we can muster, and our par excellence social schools."

Referring to criticism of the Catholic Church as being mysterious, full of contradictions because it professes hopes for human betterment yet adamantly opposes methods advocated for human betterment—sterilization for example, he said, "There is nothing mysterious about the Church's attitude. It is guided in social and charitable work by beliefs based on experience and on sentiment."

He said that textbooks on political and economic theories are being prepared to outline the Catholic Church's attitude, which will be available to every citizen who prizes liberty and a democratic form of government.

"Social workers," he declared, "must be convinced of the fact that the whole mass of humanity is on no higher a level than that of the lowest member of our society."

The Catholic Church strongly supports democracy and publicly denounces Fascism, Nazism and Communism because it knows that the state cannot place itself above its citizens, he asserted.

Declaring that governments have their limitations and must halt when confronted by laws of nature, rights of family and obligations toward God, he said "changes are not always progressive. Some are radical and others are reactionary."

Father Smith advocated the reputation of theories that man is not immortal and called for a re-examination of the philosophy which concludes any possibility of a totalitarian regime in the United States.

"We must reestablish the dignity of free humans regardless of race, creed or color and maintain it un-surrenderingly."

Asserting that perfect happiness in this world is impossible, he declared "we should be proud in having created a philosophy because it is the essence of God."

God commanded that man love his neighbor and to do so he must give either of his time, efforts or money, he said. A man may fail the Community Chest, but he cannot evade his obligations to God.

A final accounting will be demanded on the basis of what has been given and done for the naked, hungry and distressed, he concluded.

AT BEATIFICATION OF BENEFACTOR



This picture, taken in St. Peter's Basilica, especially for the N. C. W. C. News Service, shows two of the most interested spectators at the beatification ceremonies of Mother Francis Xavier Cabrini, Peter Smith (left) of New York City and Sister Dolina Grazzola (right) of Seattle. They were both cured of incurable diseases in 1921 and 1923, respectively, through the intercession of "the little nun" foundress, the first American citizen beatified. They have just returned from Vatican City.

VERDICT REFUTES CLAIM THAT ONLY Catholics Fight 'Jehovah's Witnesses'

MONTREAL. The assertion by the writer of an article in The New Republic that neither Jews nor Protestants, but only the Catholic Church has challenged the activities of the "Jehovah Witnesses" is refuted in a communication sent to that publication by Gerald A. Coughlin, a member of the Knights of Columbus. The charge was made in the list of a series of articles entitled "The Church in Politics" written for the magazine by an "ex-priest."

Mr. Coughlin reviews the trial of three "Jehovah Witnesses" convicted by a jury of sedition conspiracy at Wotton, Quebec. The charge was based on distribution by them of pamphlets printed and published by the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of the International Bible and Tract Society.

"The case was appealed and Mr. Coughlin quoted from the judgment of Justice Bayley, a non-Catholic who denied the appeal. Referring to pamphlets titled 'His Judgment', 'Who Shall Rule the World?' and 'Liberty' the Canadian jurist said: 'Satan at the Helm!'

"If these pamphlets mean anything, they constitute an appeal to the sedition of our country. They are the doctrine of this organization is that 'Satan has become the prince of the earth and humanity is in his grip, all human institutions are in his control, the church the financial bodies, the political governments, the law, the law, have become corrupt and serve the purposes of Satan, who has blinded humanity.'"

"In the present time with freedom of the press and the free right to hold political meetings and to write criticism of public men and affairs, an attempt to restrain the liberty of the subject should be jealously guarded against and that is the principle of the 1st, 2nd and 4th of the Bill of Rights of the United States. One is in perfect liberty to point out defects in the government or to call for its improvement, or to request the alteration of any matter in the Statute Book."

All condemnation of the present situation is a right. There is no attempt to point out any error or defect. There is no criticism of anything that is done in the name of the sacred religion of the Holy Trinity. It is not an attack on the Catholic religion, but it is an attack on the government of the United States."

The author of the article in the New Republic, a member of the Knights of Columbus, has been a member of the same organization since its inception in 1919. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus in the city of Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

The Bureau of Information of the American Catholic Church has received a copy of the pamphlets referred to in the article. It is being distributed to all members of the Bureau for their information.

This has been pointed out in a letter to the writer of the article. The writer of the article has been given an explanation of the Catholic Church's attitude. The article will be published shortly.

Mr. Coughlin denied the charge that the Knights of Columbus is a Fascist organization. He said that there are anti-Fascist members in the Knights of Columbus and that the organization is a highly efficient and patriotic organization.

The apostle, Delegate cited the example of the Spanish priests who have died in the present troubles, saying "these martyrs found the force and courage of the early Church."

The Grand Seminary has given from 1500 priests to the church in Canada and the United States, of whom 75 become members of the hierarchy, the Rev. Rosario Lessner, P.S.E., Superior, told the gathering.

Chicago—The Catholic Salvage Bureau, a project of the E-Edgely Name Society and the CVO League has just purchased a three-story building. The building has been used for many years in carrying on the work of the Bureau, which collects discarded clothing, furniture, paper, rags, medals, and the like, and sells them for the benefit of the Lewis Holy Name School of Aeronautics.

Correction To Be Made Of Criminal 'Priest' Story

WASHINGTON—Readers of "Startling Detective Adventures," a monthly magazine which publishes detective stories based on court records, will soon learn through an editorial announcement in that publication that Phillip Goodwin, a criminal whose story was recently printed in the magazine, was not a Roman Catholic priest, as many were inclined to believe.

Goodwin, convicted of murder in California a few years ago after a career which was as colorful as it was crooked, became a clergyman of a sect which is not the American Catholic Church and which uses somewhat different terminology from that of the Catholic Church.

The Holy Father asked the pilgrims to pray for some intentions which he had not made before beginning the spiritual retreat as he did not know certain things which are happening and which threaten us.

HOLY FATHER TALKS For Twelve Minutes To Pilgrim Group

VATICAN CITY. His Holiness Pope Pius XI, who this week has been making a spiritual retreat, took time on Wednesday to receive a pilgrimage of 600 newly married couples and to address them for twelve minutes.

The Holy Father asked the pilgrims to pray for some intentions which he had not made before beginning the spiritual retreat as he did not know certain things which are happening and which threaten us.

YENCHOWFU, CHINA, Nov. 6.—Only two weeks after his arrival in China, a 29-year-old German missionary, the Rev. John Arndt, S.V.P., passed away here.

She disclosed that 1892 home visits were made and 1460 office consultations were held dealing with family difficulties, personality, alcohol cases, convalescents, American-born children of immigrants, problems of parenthood and inadequate family budgets.

She paid tribute to the Community Chest and other social agencies for their cooperation and praised the work of Mr. Arvey Cornelius O'Lea, who for nine years was chairman of Elmira Catholic Charities, being succeeded by Dr. Lynch.

She emphasized that Catholic Charities carries on its activities with a firm belief that a love of God is necessary to success and in thanking Bishop Kearney for his cooperation she referred to him as the "father of the people."

At the speakers' table was the Rev. Gerald C. Lambert, Diocesan Director of Catholic Charities. Dr. Lynch expressed regret that the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John J. Lee, pastor of St. Peter and Paul's Church, was unable to be present and thanked the Rev. J. J. Moriarty and the Rev. William J. Brian, vice-presidents of Catholic Charities, directors, committees and the Justice-Catholic Daughters of America for making the meeting a success. Dinner music was provided by Miss Loretta Ryan.

A message was sent to Vice-Chairman Clarence H. Kennedy wishing him a speedy recovery from injuries received in an automobile accident.

Dionne, father of the famous quintlets, has no intention of allowing his five little daughters to be shown at the New York World's Fair, Premier Mitchell F. Hepburn of Ontario and Dr. Allan Dafoe have also voiced their opposition.

"As far as the Government of Ontario is concerned such a project definitely must be abandoned," Mr. Hepburn declared here. Mr. Hepburn previously had stated the matter was one primarily for the guardians of the five little sisters. Mr. Dionne and Dr. Dafoe are members of the board of guardians. These declarations mean definitely that the quintuplets will not be at the world fair.

TORONTO, ONT. (NC).—Following the declaration of Oliva Collander, O.P. (NC).—Oliva Dionne, father of the famous quintuplets, has no intention of allowing his five little daughters to be shown at the New York World's Fair next year.

EASTMAN THEATER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 16 AT 8:20 BALLET CARAVAN American Ballet at its Finest Seats Now: 76c, \$1, \$1.25 and \$1.50

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