

NATIONAL NEWS

APPROVE APPOINTMENT OMIT RELIGIOUS QUESTIONS

LEGION RENEWS EFFORT TO REMOVE COMMUNIST

Text of Apostolic Constitution Erecting Washington Archdiocese

Named New Editor Of Augusta Bulletin

Americans Of All Creeds Laud Naming Of Envoy To Vatican

WASHINGTON, N.Y. — The action of President Roosevelt in appointing Myron C. Taylor as his representative at the Holy See to cooperate with Vatican officials in "endeavors for peace and the alleviation of suffering" has met with acclaim from press in all walks of life throughout the United States.

Leaders of the principal religious groups of the press in all its branches, and distinguished individuals have proclaimed the move one that could not but have the most salutary effect upon all efforts to bring about a cessation of armed conflict in the world.

Reacting to messages received at the White House told the story of the nations response to the President's message to His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

Few Under Misapprehension

White House Secretary Stephen T. Early stated that only four of four hundred messages received could be placed in the President's file, he said, had been sent by persons who were laboring under the misapprehension that the President's letter meant re-establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Holy See.

Two other recipients of messages from the President inviting them to cooperate with him in peace efforts were the Protestant and Jewish groups — warmly commended the letter sent by Mr. Roosevelt to the Holy Father in their responses sent to the White House. Dr. George A. Buttrick, president of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, and Rabbi Cyrus Adler, president of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, took occasion to extend "cordial greetings and to send good wishes to His Holiness."

"This telegram," Dr. Buttrick's response said, "gratefully acknowledges your Christmas message of hope and faith. We are glad that through your action we have the public opportunity to extend our cordial greetings to His Holiness the Pope and to Dr. Cyrus Adler and to all whom they represent. We share your confidence that men and women in every land have a basic faith in God and therefore in human brotherhood and that even in the present chaos and darkness they are preparing a better day. We join you in the prayer that a lasting peace of justice and good will may soon bless mankind. Your invitation to the continued opportunity of conference is gratefully accepted. The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America pledges itself through you to the people of America and of every church and land to seek under God a world order in which unmerited poverty and lurking fear and the threat of war shall be banished. Appreciating the leadership indicated in your telegram we assure you of our Christmas wishes and our prayers that God may guide you."

Goes to Vatican



Myron Taylor of New York, who has been appointed by the President of the United States to represent him at the Vatican to assist in "endeavors for peace and the alleviation of suffering." He is the first American representative to take up residence in the Vatican since relations with the Holy See were terminated in 1867. Mr. Taylor is an Episcopalian (N.C.W.C.)

Census Rejects Plea Of Church Majority

WASHINGTON — Despite its being strongly urged by representatives of the great preponderance of the larger religious bodies in the United States, the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce, has refused to include religious questions in the questionnaire of the 1940 Census.

Efforts to have religious questions made part of the census schedules of population go back several years, and have been actively promoted by the Association of the Statisticians of American Religious Bodies. The Association represents all the larger religious groups in the United States.

In 1935 the efforts of the statisticians seemed to enjoy the entire sympathy of the Department of Commerce, of which the Bureau of the Census is a unit. Meeting in Washington in May of that year, the religious statisticians were invited to draw up suggested questions for possible inclusion in the 1940 schedules of population. These questions were drawn up and a suitable resolution adopted at a meeting of the statisticians subsequently held in New York. The only dissenting vote at this meeting was cast by Dr. H. S. Landfield, representing Jewish bodies.

Heads Philosophers



Dr. Francis E. McMahon, professor of philosophy at the University of Notre Dame, elected president of the American Catholic Philosophical Association at its 15th annual meeting held at the Catholic University of America (N.C.W.C.)

NEW YORK — Renewing its efforts to bring about the removal of Simon M. Gerson, an avowed Communist, from his present position as a confidential examiner for the Borough of Manhattan, the American Legion of New York State has announced it would institute a taxpayer's suit for this purpose.

The suit according to Maurice Stember, adjutant of the State Legion will be filed within two weeks. Mr. Stember made this announcement after Borough President Stanley M. Isaacs of Manhattan had again refused to dismiss Mr. Gerson from office.

The Legion claimed that Mr. Gerson was ineligible to hold office under the DeWany Act, which excludes from office members of groups which advocate the forcible overthrow of government. It also alleged that Mr. Gerson was contributing part of his salary to the Communist Party, which under the City Charter is held to be illegal.

The DeWany Act forbids civil service employment in New York State to any person who "organizes or helps to organize or becomes a member of any society or group which advocates that the Government of the United States, or of any State, be overthrown by force of violence or by any other unlawful means."

Section 888 of the City Charter forbids civil service employees of New York City to contribute to political parties.

VATICAN CITY (NC) — The text of the Apostolic Constitution for the erection of the Archdiocese of Washington is contained in an Official Bulletin of the Holy See made public here.

The bulletin begins by recalling that it is the right of the supreme ecclesiastical authorities to create dioceses and to give adequate hierarchical rank to those which are prominent for their dignity.

"Now," the Apostolic Constitution says, "in the confines of the Archdiocese of Baltimore there exists the city of Washington, seat of the Government of the United States of North America, in which many splendid Catholic institutions flourish, among them the illustrious Catholic University of America and many distinguished colleges for the education of youth. In these last years, it has had an admirable increase in the number of inhabitants, and it still grows from day to day with such energy and prodigality that the Holy Apostolic See is right in thinking that it should be dignified with the splendor of an Archepiscopal Chair. The latter, the more so, as it is more willingly since this year marks the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the city itself as Capital of the United States and of the erection of the Episcopal See of Baltimore."

The Constitution continues saying that this decision was taken after opinions had been received from His Excellency the Most Rev. Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, and the Most Rev. Michael J. Curley, Archbishop of Baltimore. It then describes the conditions under which the establishment of the Archdiocese of Washington should be carried out.

The new Archdiocese, it is stated, shall comprise all the territory within the District of Columbia, which is contiguous with the City of Washington, and shall have all the rights, privileges, prerogatives, obligations and burdens of Archepiscopal Sees and have its Archepiscopal Chair in St. Matthew's Church, which becomes the Cathedral.

The Archdiocese of Washington, it is stated, is united to the principle with equal rank and dignity to that of Baltimore, with the sole name of "Baltimore-Washingtonensis" under the regime of the one Archbishop of Baltimore and of Washington. The latter, it is directed, will take possession of the two Sees separately — giving precedence to that of Baltimore — and will continue to have his customary residence in Baltimore. He will, however, some time during the year in Washington.

With the object of having the regime of his two archdioceses more closely united, it is directed that they shall have a single Archepiscopal Curia, a single board of Episcopal Consultors and, at times when the See is vacant, a single Vicar Capitular.

LOS ANGELES — The Catholic Press for World Peace will be the theme of 40 speakers who will address the New Year meeting in Los Angeles, Calif., on Jan. 10. The meeting is being held at the Hotel California and will be presided over by Michael O'Garrahan and Leo L. Barry. They are expected to continue the campaign begun last month and which has already added 2,000 subscribers to the "Peace" magazine. The meeting will be the end of February, Catholic Press month.

Family Communion Sunday

Baltimore reports that 30 French soldiers departed to France for service in the war. The blood of martyr is still the seed of the Church.

our prayers that God may guide you.

Acclaimed by Rabbi

"Your fellow-countrymen and the world at large," Dr. Adler said in his reply, "take new courage from the fact that you are again throwing your vivid and forceful leadership into the cause of peace. I have the confidence that the leaders will unite the members of their churches and synagogues into a unanimous support of your efforts."

"I gladly take opportunity to send good wishes to His Holiness the Pope and to Dr. Buttrick and feel sure that all true men of good faith will in their several ways further your inspired leadership."

"I shall of course convey your message to the various rabbinical associations for transmission to their congregations."

"But I can say without qualification that the watchword of the Jewish people is Israel's mission of peace, and that this holds true for all the scattered communities, which the Jewish people have been dispersed and are now, alas being further dispersed with great brutality."

"I take this occasion to express to you our grateful thanks for bringing together of the Eviat Conference and the further efforts you have made in aid of the sorely tried refugees."

"It will be a privilege for me to have the opportunity to visit you at the White House."

Christ's Teachings Seen Guiding Parley

(Continued from Page 1)

the two vast camps once prophesied by Christ. The sides are clear and chosen, the forces of God and the forces of the Anti-God.

A common foe has brought together all those who believe in the one true God.

"A year ago I spoke at the Eucharistic Congress in New Orleans in behalf of tolerance which was then a problem of liberty-loving America. Today the alliance of Stalin and Hitler has forced God-fearing men to forget their differences so that there is neither Jew nor Gentile, Protestant nor Catholic with respect to this menace. All are sons of the one true God. Whom this enemy seems determined to destroy."

This tragic year has claimed among its victims Pope Pius XI and his successor, Pope Pius XII. The latter, what the Night he heard called and there in his watchtower in the eternal city of Rome, the watchman lay dead, a martyr to the cause of peace.

New Leader in Rome

"They said of him that he was truly a great man of God, truly a great man of God, truly a lover of his fellowmen, truly a great Pope. And soon after Rome gave to the world a new leader, another Pius, who has taken his place in the watchtower."

"He was already known and respected in America, for he had just visited our shores as Cardinal Pacelli, Papal Secretary of State."

"His first message was of peace, a peace founded upon justice and brotherhood, and he offered the vast army of his followers, his Church, to this cause."

"The presence in the Vatican of a Pope who has wide experience in dealing with international affairs is important to the peace of the world."

"Mr. Connolly listed the death of Pope Pius XI and the election of Pope Pius XII first among the ten greatest news stories of 1939 "that had nothing to do with European wars." Eighth in this list he placed "simply President Roosevelt," saying he has "continued consistently in the headlines." In this connection he mentioned specifically the appointment of Mr. Taylor as representative to the Vatican.

32 Church Bodies Approved

The statisticians association canvassed 32 church groups, including the major ones of the country, and found only the one dissent noted above.

At their Annual General Meeting in 1938, the Bishops of the United States unanimously approved of the proposal. At their 1939 meeting they reiterated their endorsement.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Reedy, General Secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, communicated the Bishops' stand to Harry L. Hopkins, Secretary of Commerce. He has now been informed by Dr. Vergil D. Reed, Acting Director of the Census that the religious questions are not to be included in the 1940 Census questionnaire.

Telling Secretary Hopkins of the Bishops' endorsement and re-endorsement of the proposal to include the religious questions in the census schedule, Monsignor Reedy's letter said:

"The action taken by the General Meeting last year and again this year was based on the conviction of the great worth such an enumeration would be for the social institutions of our country."

The so-called Religious Census taken decennially by the Bureau of the Census since 1906 is inadequate and unsatisfactory. It puts an unnecessary burden on religious associations and heads of families. The Government's appropriation granted for the Religious Census could be curtailed and the remainder more advantageously spent by the addition of one question to the 1940 schedule.

Overwhelming Approval

Furthermore, the resolution supported the almost unanimous appeal of all religious denominations in the United States during the past three years for the inclusion in the 1940 Population Schedule of a simple, adequate question on religious affiliation.

The above points are emphasized because the Bureau of the Census has asserted that considerations of expense and the opposition of some small groups heretofore have postponed favorable acceptance of the petition. The importance of the matter for the general good and the overwhelming favorable expression of citizens generally seem far to outweigh such considerations."

The 32 groups canvassed by the Religious Statisticians all of whom voted favorably except the one noted were:

Methodist Episcopal Church, Southern Baptist National Baptist, Methodist Episcopal South, Jewish Congregations, Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., Catholic Church, Disciples of Christ, Northern Baptist, Protestant Episcopal Church, United Lutheran Church, Lutheran-Missouri Synod, American Lutheran Church, Congregational and Christian Church, Evangelical and Reformed Church, African M. E. Church, Mormon Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Churches of Christ, Russian Orthodox, United Brethren in Christ, Colored M. E. Church, Greek Orthodox Church, International Church of the Four Square Gospel, Church of Christ Scientist, Methodist Protestant Church, United Presbyterian Church of North America, Reformed Church in America, Assemblies of God, Church of the Brethren (Conservative), Seventh Day Adventist, American Baptist Association and Evangelical Church.

Fr. E. A. Walsh Named Finnish Relief Head

WASHINGTON — The Rev. Dr. Edmund A. Walsh, S.J., Vice-President of Georgetown University, has been appointed Chairman of the District of Columbia Finnish Relief Fund by former President Herbert Hoover, Chairman of the National Finnish Relief Fund.

Father Walsh's new position is the latest of a series of important posts he has held in the past two decades concerned with the organization of relief for civilian sufferers in war-stricken countries.

Family Communion Sunday

I have never given to the good God but love: with love He will pay me back. The Little Flower.

Vincentian Fathers' Late Head Was Formerly U. S. Seminary President

WEBSTER GROVES, Mo. (NC) — The late Very Rev. Charles L. Souvay, C.M., Superior General of the Congregation of the Mission, who died in Paris on December 19, was President of Kenrick Seminary here from 1926 to 1932. He was attached to the seminary for 29 years.

Because of disturbed conditions in Europe it is uncertain when a General Assembly of the Congregation will be convoked to choose a successor to Father Souvay.

An erudite scholar, Father Souvay was born at Saulxures-sur-Moselle, France, December 15, 1870. He entered the Congregation of the Mission in 1893 and after studies at the Vincentian mother house in Paris, he was sent to the M. S. University, Rome, and there awarded the degrees Doctor of Sacred Theology and of Philosophy. Ordained in 1896, he was later Professor of Sacred Scriptures, Hebrew and Church History at the Seminary of St. Flour, Cantal, France.

Coming to the United States in 1901, Father Souvay was assigned to Kenrick Seminary. In 1912 he was awarded the degree Doctor of Sacred Scripture by the Pontifical Biblical Commission at Rome. After his presidency of Kenrick Seminary he was appointed Assistant to the Superior General of the Vincentians and in 1933 was elected Superior General.

Parishioners Do All Work In Building Church

PLAQUEMINE, La. — Parishioners of the Church of the Immaculate Conception for Negroes, did all the construction work for their newly dedicated church even making the pews and finishing the interior. The Rev. Charles J. King, of Boston, Mass., gave \$4,000 to make this church possible.

The Rev. Anthony A. Keil, S.S.J., Pastor, was celebrant of the dedication Mass and the Most Rev. Joseph F. Rummel, Archbishop of New Orleans, officiated at the dedication and gave the sermon.

Family Communion Sunday

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