

Bishop O'Brien Heads Extension Society For Second 5-Year Term

CHICAGO—The Most Rev. Samuel A. Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago and Chancellor of the Catholic Church Extension Society, has just received word from the Sacred Consistorial



Most Rev. William D. O'Brien

Congregation of Rome, through the Apostolic Delegation in Washington the Most Rev. William D. O'Brien, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, has been confirmed in the office of President of the Society for another term of five years.

Inasmuch as the Extension Society is a Pontifical Institution, the office of President is reserved to the Holy See and the selection of the President is made only every five years. After his selection by the Board of Governors of the Extension Society, the President serves for a period of five years and until his successor is again nominated by the Holy See and elected by the Board. This is the fourth term of five years as President of the Extension Society to which Bishop O'Brien has been appointed by the Holy See.

Under Bishop O'Brien's rule, Extension has adhered rigidly to four methods of assisting Home Mission work, namely: building, restoring and supplying missionary churches; assisting missionary Bishops in the education of students for their poor dioceses; subsidizing a number of missionary priests in most Home Missionary territories; acting as a depository agent for surplus Mass Intentions which are distributed at once to the missionary Bishops of the country.

Endowment Fund

As early as 1925, foreseeing the constant need of assistance for the Home Missions of this country, Bishop O'Brien conceived the idea of building up an Endowment Fund, to which most of the Archbishops and Bishops, many priests and hundreds of our Catholic people have contributed during the past 17 years. The Endowment Fund of the Extension Society consists of five different sections: (1) that which assists in the educating of students for the priesthood; (2) the subsidizing of poor priests; (3) the helping of poor mission schools; (4) the assisting of missionary religious communities and (5) the building of memorial chapels.

Besides his work as President of Extension Society, Bishop O'Brien is pastor of Old St. John's Church, one of the pioneer parishes of Chicago. Engaged in the active work of Auxiliary Bishop in a large Archdiocese, he has confirmed nearly 150,000 men, women and children in the last eight years. Extension Magazine's representatives are found in all the large centers of the United States and number more than 500. Its office staff consists of a force of nearly 75 young men and young women.

Catholic Nurses Will Discuss War Effort

DETROIT.—Catholic nurses in the national war effort will be one of the principal topics to be discussed at the convention of the National Council of Catholic Nurses here May 24-27. The Most Rev. Edward Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit, will be host to the convention.

The convention will open the morning of Monday, May 25, with a Solemn Pontifical Mass in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. In the afternoon the opening business session will be held, followed by a general session in which speakers and delegates will discuss "Catholic Action in Nursing" and "The National Council of Catholic Nurses as a Catholic Action Group." That evening there will be another general session with an address on "The Catholic Nurse in the National Defense Effort."

Train For Navy

Moraga, Cal. St. Mary's College here has been approved as one of the pre-flight aviation instruction training centers being organized at four colleges by the United States Navy.

WILL AID IN USO WAR FUND DRIVE



When women leaders in the nation's war effort met in New York recently they were addressed by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., honorary chairman of the USO 1942 War Fund Campaign, to be launched soon. The National Catholic Community Services is one of the six member agencies of the USO which will benefit from the drive. Shown at the meeting are Mrs. Maurice T. Moore, chairman of the National Women's Committee of the United Service Organizations; Mr. Rockefeller; Aimee Marachon Hooley, assistant director of the NCCS, and Mrs. S. Sloan Colt of the Red Cross. (N.C.W.C.)

Urges Congress To Abolish Excise Taxes On Buys By Religious Groups

WASHINGTON—(N. C.)—Amendment of the manufacturers' excise tax under the Internal Revenue Code and the code's new Retailers' Excise Taxes law to exempt religious, charitable or educational organizations from provisions of the legislation is urged by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Ready, General Secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, in a letter to Representative Robert L. Doughton, Chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Holy See-U. S. Relations Possible, President Infers

WASHINGTON (NC) - Broad indications of the possibility of permanent diplomatic relations between the Holy See and the United States were given here Apr 4 by President Roosevelt.

Asked the direct question at one of his regular press conferences if he expected to have a permanent representative at the Holy See, the President said he could not tell. He added that it is a question of transportation.

Prelate To Preach At First Mass Of Youth He Baptized

CHICAGO The Rt. Rev. Msgr. James J. Horaburgh, Diocesan Director of the society for the Propagation of the Faith, will preach the sermon at the first Solemn Mass next Sunday of a young priest whom, as an infant, he baptized. The priest is Rev. James Davonport, a native of Holy Name Cathedral parish, who was ordained in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Springfield, Ill. by the Most Rev. James A. Griffin, Bishop of Springfield.

The President said voluntarily that he understood the Holy See and China were discussing the exchange of diplomatic representatives.

(A dispatch in the last week from Chungking, Capital of the Chinese Government, said that China had made a request to the Vatican for diplomatic relations. An official was quoted as saying that the request had been favorably received.)

President Roosevelt also said that the Government of the United States had not communicated with the Vatican expressing anxiety over the proposal to exchange representatives between the Holy See and Tokyo.

One President was told that the British wireless had in recent days announced that Great Britain had called the attention of the Vatican to the anxiety with which it would view the exchange of diplomatic representatives between the Holy See and Tokyo. He was asked if the United States had made similar representations. The President said the United States had not. He indicated, too, that he did not know about the report of the British representations.

Writing at the direction of the Administrative Board of the N. C. W. C. Monsignor Ready emphasizes the traditional, American and democratic policy of excluding religious and charitable institutions from the burdens of taxation, and points out that such institutions are now in fact subject to excise and "luxury" taxation under the Revenue Act of 1941.

Monsignor Ready stresses that political subdivisions of governmental bodies and agencies thereof are exempt from the provisions of the taxes and suggests that, in order to eliminate what he calls such a discriminating and preferential situation, Section 5442 of the Internal Revenue Code be amended by the addition of religious, charitable and educational organizations under the classes of individuals and groups exempt from the application of the Code with reference to the manufacturers' excise tax and that Section 2406 of the Retailers' Excise Taxes, Chapter 19 of the Code, be amended "to provide for substantially similar treatment of religious, charitable and educational organizations."

Imposed Temporary Tax

"In 1932 the Congress in the Revenue Act of that year enacted into law a provision imposing a temporary tax with respect to the sale of certain articles," Monsignor Ready says in his letter to Congressman Doughton. "This tax was imposed on the basis of the sale price of the article sold by the manufacturer to the retailer. This tax was passed on to the public in the retail sale transaction. Among the articles with respect to the sale of which the tax was imposed were tires and inner tubes, automobiles, radio receiving sets, mechanical refrigerators, gasolines and certain other items."

Thus, Monsignor Ready points out, religious and charitable institutions paid the tax upon making such purchases, although governmental agencies did not. "The preference accorded governmental agencies rendering essentially the same kind of social service as is rendered by these organizations," he adds, "or, if viewed in another light, the discrimination against non-governmental agencies rendering public service, is apparent."

However, Monsignor Ready states, "no real opposition was registered to this type of taxation at the time," because "the list of items whose sale was taxed was a list of articles not normally purchased in quantity" by social service institutions, and because the rate of taxation was relatively low, and because the tax was labeled "temporary."

Acclaim Nuncio

Lima.—It is a matter of great satisfaction to Peruvians that the Most Fernando Cento, Papal Nuncio to Peru, has been sent to Santiago as Ambassador Extraordinary of the Holy See at the inauguration of Chile's new President.

Travels 14,000 Miles, 39 Days On Water

WEST SCRANTON, Pa. - War, which has made so many homeless and sent others away from their homes, has brought the Rev. Stephen P. Sweeney, C.P., a native of Dunmore, Pa., back home.

Father Sweeney, who has served as missionary in many parts of the globe, travelled a distance of 14,000 miles by water for 39 days to come back to this, his home Diocese, from the island-continent of Australia. He is at present stationed at St. Ann's Passionist Monastery here.

Sent with three other Passionists to labor in the Australia missions for a period of five years, Father Sweeney and his fellow missionaries were ordered home after 18 months "down under." Missionary work became virtually impossible because of the war's disruption of normal life and blackouts, he declares.

However, distance and Father Sweeney are not strangers after nearly two years in Australia. The continent, almost as large as the United States, is sparsely settled in most of its sections, 83 per cent of the population living in and

around the cities of the southeast from Adelaide to Brisbane, because of the scarcity of water, the missionary points out. This, Father Sweeney says, leaves a large area of the country to the "Bushmen" and aborigines. It also has the effect of giving missionaries parishes of staggering dimensions, he adds. A pastor may live anywhere from 400 to 500 miles from some of his parishioners. One missionary, he says, "visits" his parishioners by means of a Ford truck, which is

Catholic Educators Meet

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and colleges and they dare not be list. "To fight for their preservation does not involve any attitude of business as usual," he added. "Were they lost, the victory of our armed forces would be a hollow one and brave men would have died in vain."

'We Must Win War'

That systems which involve complete state control over the education of youth may never prevail in the United States, "our boys are fighting on land, on the sea, and in the air," Dr. Johnson added. "They are dying that the advantages that have been ours under a free government may continue to live. Behind them are mobilized our intelligence, our labor, and our wealth. There is one concern that

transcends all others at the present moment. We must win this war."

Although schools and colleges, he said, "thrive best in peace, they must now give themselves for war," for "when freedom is imperiled, their very reason for existence hangs in the balance."

Dr. Johnson, warning against continued Federal control attempts, stressed that there are dangers from without and within the country to Catholic schools and colleges. "The National Catholic Educational Association," he said, "is our medium for developing a united front against external attack and at the same time of achieving a common mind concerning the internals of Catholic education."

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