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New British School Law Is Denounced

London — (NC) — Britain's 1944 Education Act came under fire again from Archbishop Richard Downey of Liverpool, speaking at a "welcome home" dinner for 100 Catholic teachers who have been discharged from the armed forces.

"This present folly," said the Archbishop, "cannot go on. Give us a national system of education with equal opportunities for every boy and girl. What a wonderful thing it would be. I think it will come, though perhaps not in my time or yours.

"Anyway, we are going on fighting until it does come. We are not satisfied with the present measure and we will carry on until our children are not penalized for a belief in definite religious principles.

"It is a calamity that Ministers of Education get into political parties. They never have time to get to know their job."

As it stands at present the Education Act gives equal opportunities for education to every child. Catholics, however, who want their own schools, must pay a large part of the cost. The Act has also laid down new standards for school buildings and all schools must be brought up to those standards. This means that if Catholics wish to keep their schools they are faced with a crippling financial burden.

In a recent pastoral, Archbishop Amigo, Bishop of Southwark, disclosed that it will cost his diocese some eight million dollars to reorganize the diocesan schools in conformity with the Act.

Chinese Republic Mass

Rome — (Radio, NC) — A Mass marking the 31st anniversary of the establishment of the Chinese Republic was offered here by Msgr. Stanislaus Lokuang, ecclesiastical consultor of the Chinese Embassy. Those attending included the Chinese Ambassador to the Holy See, Cheou Kang Sie and the Chinese Ambassador to Italy.

JOE and JUDY — By Wade

Sodality of Our Lady

A Timely Activity

By REV. ROY B. MORPHY
Diocesan Director for Sodalities

Our Sodalities oftentimes need suggestions for interesting and practical projects. Although the National Sodality Office supplies us with unlimited ideas for practical activity, yet very often we pass over these simply because they are so manifold. Thus, I hope on occasion to seize upon a worthy project which will aptly fit into the Sodality's program and assist our Sodality leaders in offering a brighter and more definite program. The coming week, known as National Catholic Book Week, is one of them.

Originated by zealous Catholics, Doctor Fitzgerald of the Catholic Library Association and Charles L. Higgins, this week was planned, not as a campaign to sell books, but as a systematic campaign of publicity to introduce the average Catholic to literature of his own splendid tradition. To foster good reading is a real apostolic work and thus is very close to the great fundamental work of the Sodality. National Catholic Book Week, then, can well be the focus point of fine intellectual activity for the Sodality.

Practice Mind

The real worth of a Sodality consists in this, that it makes the supernatural vivid and clear, that it helps the Sodalist to sanctify himself and his neighbor and to defend the Church. The Sodalist will believe this and will work at it, only when he sees that it is worthwhile. Now this is beyond the power of the senses. Thus the Sodalist will have to think, will have to use his intellect and his understanding. And he is not going to be able to use his mind skillfully or readily if he doesn't have the practice. He will get that practice and exercise from the reading of books.

Sodalists need topics for thought. They need information. Without reading, and in particular without reading books they are not going to develop thought or obtain useful and necessary information. Sodalists will build the future only as they plan the future. And this can be done only if they go through the labor of hard intellectual work, namely reading, thinking, discussing and then acting. The training ground for the mind, as well as the source of food for the mind, will be found in books.

A number of practical plans for this have been offered by the various services of the Sodality National Office. If carefully planned and executed they will produce one of the Sodality's most interesting literary and apostolic projects of the year.

First, there are our libraries. Naturally our own Rochester Catholic Evidence Library comes first. Begun and maintained principally through the efforts of Father Benedict Ehmann, one of Rochester's most apostolic priests, this library has done magnificent service in providing good reading for all Catholics and is offering to visit this peerless though unpretentious powerhouse of the apostolate. Too, they should make it known to others through the Sodalities' channels of publicity and encourage others to make use of this library.

Cooperating With Libraries

Then, we have the public libraries. If our Catholic people, particularly Sodalists, who patronize the public libraries would see to it that these libraries carry Catholic books, then, we would be able to spread the cause of good reading to the exclusion of many of the harmful, trashy books that are being published these days. Too, our Sodalists would have to make the practice of seeing that these books are loaned out, thus creating the demand that will keep them on the open and active shelves where they can be available to all. Sodalists also could distribute lists of Catholic Books available to Catholic borrowers at the public libraries.

Catholic Book Week should not pass without such Sodality sponsoring an exhibit of Catholic books. Jacket designs of Catholic Books, illustrations of scenes from one or more fine books, collection of photos of various authors, reviews and advertising ideas from publishers are all practical suggestions for such an exhibit. Sub-exhibits on convert literature and vocation material would also prove useful. And an invitation to the whole parish to visit the exhibit would be the climax.

To get your Sodalists working on such a project as National Catholic Book Week, to sponsor an activity that would stir our people to a realization of the fine Catholic books that are easily available to all, to foster a growth of good reading would surely be fulfilling every aim and purpose of the Sodality. We recommend a study of this activity and an immediate attempt to work it into your Sodality program for November.

U. S. Envoy Doing 'Everything Possible'

Washington — (NC) — Assurance that "everything possible is being done" on behalf of Archbishop Stepinac of Zagreb has been cabled by Richard C. Patterson Jr., U. S. Ambassador to Yugoslavia, to U. S. Senator Mead of New York.

Ambassador Patterson's cable was in reply to a message sent to him earlier in the month by Senator Mead. The legislator stated: "Am intensely interested in case of Archbishop Stepinac. Hope all opportunities will be taken by you in order to see ends of justice achieved in regard to the Archbishop. There is considerable doubt in the minds of American people that Archbishop Stepinac received a fair trial."

Hungary's Apostle Honored

Budapest — (NC) — A gathering of 150,000 Catholics, nine-tenths of them farming folk from the rural districts of Southern Hungary, assembled in Szeged to celebrate the 900th anniversary of the martyrdom of St. Gerard, "Apostle of the Hungarians." Josef Cardinal Mindszenty, Primate of Hungary, addressed the throng.

NCCW Speaker

MARGARET M. KELLY

Diocesan Women Meet Here Nov. 7

(Continued from page 1)

diocese from His Excellency, Bishop Kearney.

"In a recent allocution by His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, the Supreme Pontiff issued a call to the Catholic women of the world to a greater participation in the social and political life of their respective nations," the Bishop's letter states.

Catholic Action Program

"Heeding the call of His Holiness, the National Council of Catholic Women here in the United States has energetically undertaken an even greater program for Catholic Action."

The letter asks that the pastors "warmly recommend" the convention on Nov. 7 to parishioners stating that "attendance is open to every Catholic woman of the diocese." The Bishop believes reorganization and renewal of the N. C. C. W. is particularly timely.

"In the reorganization to follow, I trust that all societies of Catholic women will join this admirable federation established by the Bishops of our country, for, while respecting the parochial autonomy of each affiliated group, the N. C. C. W. serves admirably to inform, instruct, and guide along the lines set down by His Holiness, Pope Pius XII," the Bishop's letter states.

Besides Fathers Shamon and Callahan, other directors to take part are: Auburn Deanery, the Rev. Leo McMannus; Ithaca, the Rev. L. John Hedges; Corning, the Rev. Thomas K. Cleary; Hornell, the Rev. Paul Gibbons; Elmira, the Rev. Joseph Merkel and Geneva, the Rev. John Brill.

District Chairmen

District chairmen with the priest-directors are: Mrs. John C. O'Toole, Auburn Deanery President, Mrs. Fred DeMuth, Corning Deanery, Miss Mary Newsome, Elmira Deanery, Mrs. Thomas J. Bolger, Geneva Deanery, Mrs. Henry Urband, Ithaca Deanery.

On the Reception Committee are: Mrs. Louis Whalen, Mrs. Edwin Kress, Mrs. Ronald McDonald, Miss Marie Mayer, Irene Martin, Margaret Raib, Betty Whalen, Sylvia Martin, Ruth Martin, Mrs. John Glessman, Mrs. Leo Marckle, Mrs. Frank J. Kennedy, Beckman Little, Mrs. Ray Creedon, Jessamine Crawford, Mrs. James Malone, Perry Burke, Emily O'Donnell, Charles J. Baker, Anthony Ryan, Mrs. Camilla Hazelauer, Mrs. Florence Harper, Mrs. T. J. Gallagher, Mrs. James Malone, Mrs. Minnie Kelly, Mrs. T. A. Kane, Mrs. Julian James, Mrs. Charles Byron, Miss Mary Hickey, Miss Dorothy Ovenburg, Mrs. Frank G. Shaughnessy, Mrs. Harold F. Burke, Miss Janette Anable, Mrs. Arthur O'Brien, Mrs. John Duignan, Mrs. George W. O'Grady, Miss Kathleen D'Oller, Miss Katherine Doerbecker, Miss Regina Kennedy, Mrs. John Foley, Mrs. Eugene Tibbils, Miss Hilda Connors, Miss Nellie Farrell, Mrs. Charles F. Ward, Mrs. Philip Donnelly, Mrs. Agnes Roche, Mrs. Alexander Hone, Mrs. Harvey Rockwell, Mrs. Peter Tettlebach, Mrs. Frank E. Donnelly, Mrs. William J. Maloy, Mrs. Daniel Macken, and Mrs. Lewis Boyce.

Baptists Hit Marriage Law

Syracuse (RNS) — The Catholic Church's requirement that Protestants marrying Catholics bring up their children in the Catholic faith was condemned in a resolution adopted here at the 139th annual meeting of the New York Baptist Missionary Convention.

Harold E. Stassen, former governor of Minnesota also addressed the convention.

— National Council of Catholic Women — Members of the N.C.C.W.

— By Rev. Albert J. Shamon, Director —

With so much talk among women about the coming Diocesan Convention, the question has been asked again and again, "Who exactly belong to the Rochester Diocesan Council of Catholic Women?"

(Convention Story on Page 1)

Many, many women have expressed the desire of assisting at the Bishop's Mass at Old St. Marys, on November 7 at 9:30 a. m. and equally as many at the sessions and luncheon at the Hotel Seneca immediately after the Mass, but the question of membership has stifled many a desire.

Recall what the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women is. It is not a new organization. It has no individual members in the sense that a Sodality or an Altar Society has individual members. It is a Federation of all Catholic Women Societies in the Diocese, uniting them, helping them to strengthen, increase, and inspire their membership. It is not competitive, it is all-embracing.

Now if you are identified with any organization affiliated with the Diocesan Council, you are "ipsofacto", by that very fact a member of the N. C. C. W.

Do you belong to any women's society approved by the Bishop and affiliated with the N. C. C. W.? If you do you are a member of the N. C. C. W.

* * *

Besides this class of members, there are what the Diocesan Constitution terms "Contributing Members." A woman's organization may not exist in a parish, or a parish organization may not be affiliated with the Diocesan Council, yet a woman may seek such affiliation. She can become a "contributing member," i. e., one who pays a nominal annual dues of $2.00. This entitles her to participate in the sessions of the Council, with but one exception, that she may not vote on the matters deliberated.

However, since this convention is basically on the plans for re-organization, all women are welcomed.

* * *

As the federation of all Catholic Organizations is necessary for the complete realization of the Unity of the Church — The Mystical Body of Christ — it is also necessary as a solid barrier of defense against the tide of paganism and a consolidated medium for reconstructing the Social Order.

"United we stand, divided we fall."

Letters to Editor

Editor:—

The Commanding Officer of the Continental Base Section of the United States Forces in the European theater has sent a request to all commanders to have a Christmas party for all the children between the ages of two and sixteen. The organization of these parties has been left in the hands of the chaplains. Father Raymond F. Gillis, the Catholic chaplain at Bremerhaven, Germany, solicits your help in obtaining presents for the 18,000 children in his area. He has requested me to contact individuals and societies who would be willing to send a box of Christmas gifts for the children between the ages of 6 and 16, both boys and girls. He has already placed boxes around so that the soldiers can drop a few candy bars into them. While Father Gillis will be grateful for any presents, he suggests that shoes, caps, mittens, sweaters, etc. will be more practical as these children are almost entirely without them.

This is surely a most worthy cause and I am sure that Father Gillis will be grateful for any aid that you may be in a position to give in soliciting these gifts. The boxes may be sent directly to him. The complete address is:

Rev. Raymond F. Gillis,
Port Chaplain,
Headquarters, 17th Major Port
APO 69
C/o Postmaster, New York

Perhaps you would be kind enough to reprint this information for the benefit of the many Catholics in this diocese of German extraction. They may be glad of this opportunity to help make Christmas happy for the German youngsters.

(Rev.) Thomas Chapman, C.SS.R.
St. Joseph's Church,
Rochester, New York.

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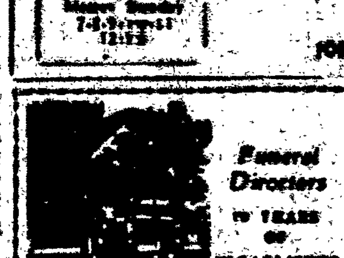

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