

Rapid U.S. Divorce Rise Menaces Family Life Sociologists Are Told

Chicago — (NC) — The appalling rise of divorces in the United States is endangering American family life, noted Catholic scholars and scientists at the eighth annual convention of the American Catholic Sociological Society here.

OHIO NUN NAMED NOTRE DAME HEAD

Cleveland — (NC) — An Ohio nun, Mother Mary Vera, a native of Toledo and for the past three years president of Notre Dame College here, has been selected superior general of the Sisters of Notre Dame, according to word received here following a general chapter at the European mother house of the worldwide community of 4,000 Sisters.

Mother Mary Vera becomes the fifth superior general of the community, succeeding Mother Mary Antoinette, who died in July when the Brazilian steamship Duque de Caxias, on which she was bound from Brazil to Rome, burned in the Atlantic off Brazil. Mother Mary Vera had come to Brazil with other United States Sisters of Notre Dame to consult with Mother Mary Antoinette shortly before her tragic death.

The new superior general has been provincial superior of the Cleveland province of the Sisters of Notre Dame since 1943. From 1929 to 1943 she taught at Sisters College in Cleveland, now known as St. John College. She holds degrees from Notre Dame College, the University of Notre Dame and the University of Southern California.

Dublinites Pledge Loyalty to Pope

Dublin — (RNS) — The Most Rev. John C. McQuaid, Archbishop of Dublin, has sent to Pope Pius XII a message of loyalty from Catholics of his archdiocese. The loyalty pledge followed the Pope's recent address denouncing anti-clericalism in Italy and urging Catholics to resist "the profaners of the divine Church."

"In this hour gravely saddened by base attacks on the sacred office and august person of Your Holiness," the message said, "the Archbishop, clergy and faithful of Dublin humbly offer to the Vicar of Jesus Christ, in assuagement of his sorrow, filial acknowledgment of our affectionate loyalty."

Arab State Sends Envoy to Vatican

Jerusalem — (RNS) — Charles Hellou, of Beyrouth, well-known Near East journalist, has been named Minister to the Vatican from Lebanon. It was announced here. He is the first envoy to the Holy See from an Arab state. Lebanon has a large Christian population.

Hellou's appointment indicates a rapprochement between the new Lebanese government headed by Riad El-Sulh, pan-Arabist, Moslem, and Maronite Patriarch Pious Arida, who has strongly disapproved of pan-Arab extremism.

Hellou is the editor of Le Jour, French-language newspaper published in Beyrouth, and comes from a highly-esteemed Maronite family.

Sponsored by Loyola University of Chicago, the two-day meeting attracted 500 delegates, representing schools and social institutions from all sections of the nation.

The Very Rev. Leo J. Robinson, S.J., Provincial of the Order of Jesus, was elected president of the Sociological Society, succeeding Alphonse H. Clemens of the Catholic University of America.

Judge Edward M. Ruddy of the St. Louis Circuit Court pointed out the dangers of the mounting number of divorces and asked for legislative tightening of divorce laws to save American family life.

430 Percent Increase

"There has been an increase of 430 percent in divorces in St. Louis alone since 1933 to date," he said. "Such increases are noted over the nation. Family life is deteriorating under the avalanche of divorce. It is imperative that something be done. Every one should be concerned about what is happening to the collapse of family life in America."

Pointing out that the fundamental reason for the increase of divorces is godlessness, he continued:

"Many American people are forgetting God. They seek divorces on all kinds of foolish grounds. The divorce laws of today, in fact, endanger the union of the spouses. Many persons have divorces today because of legislative tightening of these laws. I suggest abolishment of many of the grounds for divorce."

He also proposed that reconciliation boards be attached to all domestic relations courts in the nation, and that no divorce case be tried unless recommended by the board.

Speaking on the same panel, the Rev. Edward Dowling, S.J., of the Institute of Social Order, St. Louis, said:

"Perhaps some of the married people ought to solve their marital problems as the members of 'Alcoholics Anonymous do.'"

Dr. Herbert A. Ratner, of Loyola University school of medicine, who spoke on a "Socio-Medical Program for Family Living," regretted the fact that more of the physical charges than of the value of the child. He also maintained that good health is a great contribution to successful family life, warning, however, that we must remain human beings instead of worshippers of x-ray machines and pills.

Pope Benedict XV Memorial Rites Set

Rome — (RNS) — Churches in Rome and other parts of Italy will hold commemorative rites on January 22 for Pope Benedict XV on the 25th anniversary of his death. Special celebrations will take place in Genoa, where the Pontiff was born, in Bologna, where he was archbishop at one time, and in Milano, where he founded the Catholic University.

1946 CATHOLIC WORLD IN PICTORIAL REVIEW



The year 1946 was crowded with history-making events for the Catholic world. His Holiness Pope Pius XII, (1) in the seventh year of his pontificate, worked to relieve the wounds of war, filled the Sacred College of Cardinals and presided at several canonical ceremonies. His representative in the United States, Archbishop Aloisius Ruan, (2) of Chicago, presided at the consecration of new American bishops and participated in the Hawaiian Catholic centennial. Dean of American Cardinals, Archbishop Dennis Dougherty, (3) of Philadelphia, observed his 25th year in the Cardinalate and opened the annual meeting of the Society of the United States at Catholic University in November. The trial and sentencing of Archbishop Aloisius Stepien, (4) of Zagreb, (4) by a prejudiced Yugoslav court brought protests from the Christian world. Dr. Wu, (5) Catholic convert, was sent to the Vatican to represent China. Bishop Joseph P. Hurley, (6) of St. Augustine, and Bishop Aloisius Ruan, (7) of Chicago, assigned special missions in Europe by Pope Pius XII. Myron Taylor, (8) returned to Vatican on a temporary assignment as President Truman's personal representative to the Holy See. Very Rev. John Baptist Janssens, S. J., (9) Belgium, was elected head of the Society of Jesus. Archbishop John T. McNicholas, O. P., (10) of Cincinnati, resumed President-General of the National Catholic Educational Association and chosen new chairman of the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. Of the 32 new Cardinals named by Pius XII, 28 received the Red Hat at the February Consistory, four of them Americans, (11) Archbishop Stritch of Chicago, Archbishop Glennon of St. Louis, who died March 8, Archbishop Mooney of Detroit and Archbishop Spellman of New York. The first U. S. citizens raised to the altar of sainthood, Mother Francis X. Cabrini, was canonized at St. Peter's Basilica, (12) July 7. Commanders Robert J. White, (13) former Navy chaplain, chosen head of Army and Navy Chaplains Association. Mrs. Henry Mezzan, (14) of Brooklyn, was elected president of National Council of Catholic Women. Cardinal Bernard Griffin, (15) of Great Britain participated in Fordham University's centennial celebration. Bishop Raymond Lamm, M. M., (16) Lawrence, Mass., chosen Superior of Maryland Fathers. Mrs. Jack Forster, (17) of Cleveland, chosen "Catholic Mother of 1946." Rev. Patrick O'Connor, S. B. C., (18) went to Japan and China as NC representative for Catholic press. War Relief Committee—N. C. W. C. continued its huge program of distributing food and clothing (19) to war-torn peoples abroad. Bishops St. J. Brady of Columbia, O., and John F. O'Hara, C. S. C., of Buffalo, invited to Japan, (20) where they studied reconstruction problems of the Church. Auxiliary Bishop Martin J. O'Connor, (21) of Scranton named rector of North American College, Rome. Miss Florence Mason, (22) of Cleveland, chosen head of the National Conference of Catholic Charities. Monsignor Howard J. Carroll, (23) of Pittsburgh, renamed General Secretary of N. C. W. C. Carolyn Hayes, (24) of New York, former Ambassador to Spain, received the Lorette Medal of Notre Dame University. Courtesy Hayes (24) of Chicago, author and playwright, died in Rome. Very Rev. Valentin Schaal, O. P. M., (25) of Cincinnati, head of Order of Friars Minor, died in Rome. (NC Photos)

Cardinal Sees Good vs. Evil Will

New York — (NC) — One year after the first peacetime Christmas "men of ill and evil will are still fighting men of good-will, threatening to bear unto the world a stillborn child of peace." His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, declared in a brief address at Midnight Mass in St. Patrick's Cathedral here.

Expressing concern that "vengeful hatreds," rampant throughout the world today, may lead to another armed conflict, Cardinal Spellman called upon each individual to ask himself whether, in his personal life, he was helping mankind on the road to war or the road to peace.

"Will man in perverse stubbornness and greed enter again upon the way that leads to battlegrounds where scorching scorings burn and brand the bodies and minds of masses of men, forging new links in the chain of hatreds fettering mankind?" Cardinal Spellman asked. "Let each of us this Christmas night promise the Holy Child of light and heaven to follow the light of Bethlehem's star and live the love of Christ."

U. S. Catholics Thanked At Budapest Yule Parties

Budapest (NC) — American, Papal and Hungarian flags decorated the Christmas tree at the holiday celebration for 200 workers of Aeslo Catholice here as Mgr. Sigismund Mihalovics, director of the national laymen's organization, referred gratefully in his address at the party to the aid given Hungarians by War Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference.

A Christmas dinner sponsored by the American Catholic relief agency for 100 members of the Cardinal Pannony Society, of Journalists and Writers, also brought forth expressions of thanks for the help rendered by the Catholics of the United States.

Many States Planning More Rigid Divorce Laws

New York — (RNS) — Measures relating to marriage and divorce will be widely introduced in state legislative sessions throughout the country during 1947, a survey indicates.

Whether South Carolina should continue as the only state in the nation without a divorce law is expected to be revived as an issue there.

More stringent laws governing divorce costs and residence period will be noted of the 1947 Michigan legislature by groups seeking to prevent Detroit from becoming the "Reno of the lower income brackets." Proposed legislation would extend residence requirements for divorce from the present one year to three years and would raise court costs.

"Cooling Off" Period

A proposal advanced in Colorado calls for legislation to require a six-month "cooling off" period before interlocutory decrees as a means of reducing the growing number of divorces, particularly in war marriages.

Stronger divorce laws also have been proposed in Minnesota. Asserting that the state's present law requiring a six-month waiting period between divorce and remarriage is being repeatedly violated, a committee of the Minnesota State Bar Association has recommended an amendment to provide an interlocutory decree, the divorce not become final until lapse of the statutory period.

A special committee which has been studying Rhode Island's divorce laws is scheduled to report to that state's 1947 legislative session.

Tax on Divorces

Imposition of a \$5 tax on divorces and a doubling of the present marriage license fees were recently recommended in Nevada in a tax study report drawn up by an official committee.

Whether "incurable" insanity should be a divorce ground is a recurrent issue in state legisla-

Ruthenians Seek Haven in Canada

Montreal — (NC) — A memorandum submitted to the Canadian government asks that steps be taken to permit part of the 300,000 Ukrainians and Ruthenians now in displaced persons camps in Europe to emigrate to Canada.

The memorandum was signed by Bishop Basil Vladimirsky, Apostolic Exarch for Ruthenian Catholics of the Byzantine Rite in Canada, and the heads of the Ukrainian Catholic Council in Canada.

The number of Ruthenians now in Canada is estimated at about 300,000, most of them being Catholics. The Apostolic Exarchate in Canada embraces 245 parishes and 80 missions in charge of 115 priests. Emigration of Ruthenians to Canada began in 1920. Most of them are farmers, but there is an increasing number of business and professional men, particularly among the younger generation. During the last war, 40,000 Ruthenian Canadians served with the armed forces.

The total number of Ruthenians and Ukrainians who were driven from their homes during the last war is estimated at about seven millions. Many of them died in Nazi concentration camps.

In pleading for measures to open the gates of Canada for these homeless persons, the memorandum protests strongly against their forced repatriation.

Negro Barred, Game Cancelled

Pittsburgh — (NC) — Refusal of Coach Charles Davies to withdraw Charles Cooper, Negro forward, from the Duquesne University basketball team which led to the cancellation of the basketball game which the local school was to have played against Tennessee University here, conforms to the University's policy, officials of the school here have stated.

Cooper, a non-Catholic navy veteran, is attending Duquesne University under the provisions of the GI bill of rights. The visiting team demanded that only white players be used in the contest, but Coach Davies stood firm in his contention that since he is a bona fide student, Cooper had a right to play.

Amnesty Campaign For Prisoners of War Launched in Britain

London — (NC) — A national campaign inspired by the Catholic World, weekly newspaper here, proposing a general amnesty by the victor nations for the thousands of war-time political prisoners and enemy soldiers who are still in British custody, has been launched in Britain.

SHORTAGES CURB GERMAN PRESS

Frankfurt — (NC) — The German periodical press in Germany is being curbed by shortages of newsprint. The shortage is particularly acute in the American zone, although it is difficult to establish whether proper allocation of the available pulp is made to the religious press.

Only recently the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung and the Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, two of the most influential publications and news papers, such as the St. Peter's Evangelical, had to reduce their circulation considerably.

On the other hand, the Catholic press in Germany is being curbed by shortages of newsprint. The shortage is particularly acute in the American zone, although it is difficult to establish whether proper allocation of the available pulp is made to the religious press.

The Holy See is expected to be deeply concerned over this situation of the Catholic press in Germany. A plan is being worked out whereby it is hoped that funds made available through the Holy See will be used to purchase newsprint for the Catholic press in Germany to satisfy the most urgent needs of the religious publications.

A general amnesty of this kind, the paper continues, would clear away the fog of hatred and bitterness in Europe, give "life again to thousands of men and women, now dead to their families and their children," and "enormously raise the moral prestige in the eyes of the world of the victors and the ideals for which they fought."

Stated Archbishop McGrath in his reply appearing in the Catholic Herald: "All professing Christians should make a united stand for the fulfillment of Christ's fundamental law of charity. This law is the touchstone by which we can most certainly ascertain the purity of motives which directed both nations and individuals when they persecuted, as they did so badly and so often during the war, to be fighting for the preservation of their Christian civilization. It is the test of our own sincerity as individual followers of Christ."

Mr. Shaw wrote: "Until we have a genuine amnesty we shall go on plundering and slaughtering and persecuting people whom there is no peace. We have had enough of exemplary executions to effect such deterrence as such measures can claim." It applied the view of the Catholic Herald.

Near East Missions

Francis Cardinal Spellman, President, Catholic Near East Welfare Association, Inc., New York City, is the guest of honor at the annual meeting of the association, held here today.

Gifts of the Magi

Epiphany reminds us that the gifts which the three Kings laid at the feet of the Divine Babe were offerings made out of love. How we rejoice when someone sends a thoughtful gift for needy Near East missionaries and how we should use it where most needed.

ACCIDENT RECALLS

NAZARETH CARMELITES

Miss Mary Collins of the Holy Family convent in Nazareth, the convent of Jesus and Mary, was killed in a car accident in the last few days. She was the only one killed in the accident. The convent is a very old one and has a long history. The accident was a great loss to the convent.

SPECIAL CHARM

Follow this charm to protect your home from evil spirits. It is a very old charm and has been used for centuries. It is a very powerful charm and will protect your home from all evil.

WANT ONE?

We have a very good one for you. It is a very good one and will be a great help to you. It is a very good one and will be a great help to you.

AVIOL LOMB

The Church is calling for a very good one. It is a very good one and will be a great help to you. It is a very good one and will be a great help to you.

LUKE TEST

Follow this test to see if you are a true Christian. It is a very good test and will be a great help to you. It is a very good test and will be a great help to you.

DO YOU KNOW?

The Church is calling for a very good one. It is a very good one and will be a great help to you. It is a very good one and will be a great help to you.

YOUR DAUGHTER

Only let your daughter see the light of the Holy Land. It is a very good one and will be a great help to you. It is a very good one and will be a great help to you.

SUCCESS

Follow this success to see if you are a true Christian. It is a very good success and will be a great help to you. It is a very good success and will be a great help to you.

THIRTY DAYS

Follow this thirty days to see if you are a true Christian. It is a very good thirty days and will be a great help to you. It is a very good thirty days and will be a great help to you.

CHILD'S WILL

Follow this child's will to see if you are a true Christian. It is a very good child's will and will be a great help to you. It is a very good child's will and will be a great help to you.

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