

Masonic, PTA Leaders Urge School Aid Ban

Washington (NC) — Fear that "the principle of separation of Church and State is fast becoming an excuse for outrages of religious intolerance," was expressed by the Rev. William E. McManus, Assistant Director of the Department of Education, National Catholic Welfare Conference, in testimony before the House Committee on Education and Labor here.

"Separation of Church and State means that the Government shall not make church membership a condition for citizenship, nor shall it disqualify any citizen as a beneficiary of its aid because of his affiliation with any church," Father McManus said. "Separation of Church and State was never intended to make church membership a civil liability. Yet, this is exactly what happens when children are expelled from a public school bus for no other reason than that their parents choose to send them to a parochial school, a school which meets every requirement set up by that state in terms of its compulsory education legislation."

Two Proposals Made

The House Committee was hearing witnesses presenting views on legislation looking to the extension of Federal aid to education.

Father McManus made two specific proposals, identical to those he presented earlier at a Senate committee hearing. He advocated a bill which would One, provide funds appropriated specifically for raising the salaries of public school classroom teachers in the poorer States of the nation, and two, provide funds so that children attending all schools, public and nonpublic, would receive essential school services such as transportation, nonreligious textbooks and supplies, and health and welfare services. These funds would be distributed according to the pattern of the School Lunch Act.

Following Father McManus in the witness stand, Elmer F. Rogers, of the Supreme Council of the 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Freemasons, Southern Jurisdiction U. S. A., known as Masons as "the Mother Supreme Council of the World," stated that his group was opposed to all federal aid to education bills but particularly to those which contained provisions to aid sectarian schools.

Foreign Agents

After quoting Pope Leo XII and Pius XI, and the Catholic Code of Canon Law in an attempt to show that Catholics are inalterably opposed to public schools and the freedoms underlying American democracy, Mr. Rogers expressed the conclusion that persons working to get public assistance for parochial schools are foreign agents working toward world domination and a wiping out of the Bill of Rights.

The Masonic official was challenged by Representative John L. Lewis of Michigan who said (Continued on Page 9)

Abp. Curley Dead; Prelate 33 Years

Baltimore (NC) — The Most Rev. Michael J. Curley, Archbishop of Baltimore since 1921 and head of both the Archdiocese of Baltimore and Washington since 1938, has died here at the age of 67.

The archbishop, whose death resulted from a cerebral hemorrhage, had been confined to Bon Secours Hospital since February, and has been in failing health for several years. He underwent an eye operation in 1943 and since that time his impaired sight had curtailed his activities. In February, 1945, he suffered a stroke.

In his 33 years as a member of the American Hierarchy, Archbishop Curley became known as one of the outstanding spokesmen for Catholic education in the country. It is significant that at the time of his death new Catholic high schools were projected in both Baltimore and Washington.

Native of Ireland

Despite his illness, the Irish-born churchman made the effort recently to issue a public statement in answer to a survey made by a Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore) doctor that American physicians were overwhelmingly in favor of birth control. Archbishop Curley replied characteristically that the endorsement of all the doctors in the world of contraception would not change God's moral law by one iota.

The work of the archbishop in defending the interests of the church against the government persecution in Mexico gained wide notice in the 1920's and 30's. He was also tireless in explaining to Americans the issues in the Spanish Civil War. He was known as an opponent of federal legislation for socialized medicine, which he publicly charged was "totalitarianism." He denounced prohibition as "radically wrong in principle."

Archbishop Curley was born in Golden Island, on the River Shannon just outside Athlone, Ireland, on October 12, 1879. One of ten children in his family, he attended St. Mary's School in Athlone, and with the world-famous tenor John McCormack was an altar boy at St. Mary's Church. In later years, when Michael Curley was chosen to head the Archdiocese of Baltimore, Mr. McCormack sent him a pectoral cross patterned after the famed Cross of Cong.

The future archbishop began his studies for the priesthood at Munster College, Limerick, in 1896, and completed a normal six-year course of studies in four years at Florida.

In 1900 he went to study at Propaganda College in Rome, where he made it a point to associate with American students and acquaint himself with the problems of the church in this country. He was ordained in Rome in 1904, and that same year, at the age of 24, took up his first assignment in America, as pastor of St. Peter's Church, Deland, Fla. His rectory at Deland was a room over a store, and it is recorded that his first collection at St. Peter's amounted to \$2.25.

The economic problem was such a pressing one in his 7,200 square mile parish that Father Curley sought to turn an orange



ARCHBISHOP CURLEY

grove and a peach orchard into an asset for his church. The story is that the priest was in overall, tending his trees, when he received word in April, 1914, that he had been named Bishop of St. Augustine.

As Bishop of St. Augustine and the youngest bishop in America when he was appointed, Bishop Curley had to combat such measures born of bigotry as a convent inspection bill and a bill aimed at preventing white Sisters from teaching colored children. The prelate aggressively and eloquently fought these and other anti-Catholic efforts.

Succeeds Cardinal Gibbons

In 1921 Bishop Curley was transferred from St. Augustine to Baltimore, where he became the successor to Cardinal Gibbons. His first official words after his installation on November 21 to the priests of the archdiocese emphasized his interest in Catholic education.

"Where there is a doubt as to which we will erect a stately church or a capacious school," declared the archbishop on this occasion, "let us have no hesitation in making our choice the school." In the first ten years of Archbishop Curley's tenure at Baltimore, at least \$20,000,000 was expended in building operations. Forty-seven schools were established in parishes without them, and new schools replaced old structures in many other parishes. In 1929 the archbishop dedicated the magnificent St. Mary's Seminary at Roland Park, Baltimore, a \$2,000,000 project.

When the new Archdiocese of Washington was created in July, 1939, His Holiness Pope Pius XII entrusted the new See, along with the Archdiocese of Baltimore, to Archbishop Curley. He thus became the first member of the American Hierarchy to govern two archdioceses simultaneously. He continued to reside in Baltimore.

UN Will Study Rights of Holy Land Christians

Lake Success, N. Y. — The religious interests of Christians in the current Palestine clash between the Arabs and Jews are to "receive the most careful consideration" it is promised by the United Nations Special Committee that is investigating and seeking a solution of the problem.

The instructions to guard the rights of Christians, both as residents of the country and as pilgrims to the Holy Land, were embodied in the agenda given to the special committee by the Political and Security Committee of the United Nations General Assembly. The action followed an appeal for a voice in any Palestine settlement by the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, the first organization to point out to the United Nations that Christians would be affected by any decision reached.

Specific request for such consideration was made by the Philippine delegation to the U. N., which brought the matter before the Political and Security Committee.

Acceptance Seen

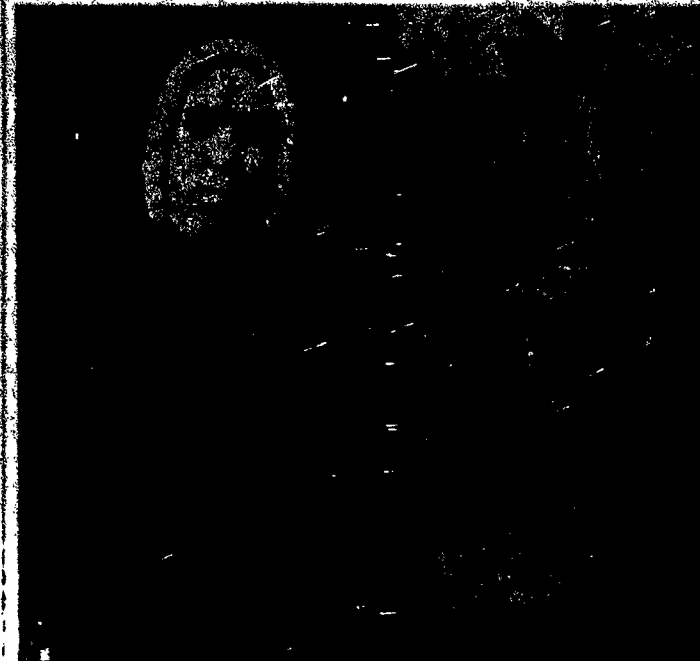
Whether the Catholic Near East Welfare Association will be allowed to present its views rests entirely with the special committee. Mr. Thomas J. McMahon, national secretary of the organization, had made an appeal to be heard. A screening committee, passing on those who wished to appear, rejected the request to appear before the Political and Security Committee and left the way open for its acceptance by the Inquiry group.

The wording of the instructions from the Political and Security Committee is viewed as making acceptance of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association as a spokesman for more than one-third of the Christian population of Palestine certain.

Mr. James H. Griffiths, Chancellor of the Military Ordinate, in a memorandum, declared that the Catholic viewpoint emphasized the "tripartite" and religious aspects of the controversy that must be settled. The Church's view, he said, was entirely dissociated from any consideration of the question of independence of Palestine now or in the future.

"Before we can conscientiously consent to any settlement or modus vivendi," he said in his memorandum, "we demand adequate, factual, implemented guarantees."

SHE SAW FATIMA APPARITIONS



A five-foot statue of Our Lady of Fatima was unveiled and blessed in the Dominican Church of St. Vincent Ferrer, New York. It is the work of the priest-composer, Rev. Thomas M. McElhiney, O.P., who made several trips to Fatima before unveiling the statue. While there he met Sister Dolores of the Teresian Sisters, one of the three who saw the apparitions of the Virgin Mary in 1917. The statue was made in Portugal. (NC Photos)

Bishop Urges 1st Saturday Devotions On Socialists

Representing youth from all sections of the diocese, 2500 Socialists heard His Excellency, Bishop Kearney appeal to them to take up the First Saturday devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at the World Social Day rally Sunday in Columbus Civic Center.

The rally brought nationally known leaders in the social movement with messages for the school and parish socialists.

Youth of today are not ready for the world they are destined to live in, Rev. Daniel A. Lord, S.J., of St. Louis, national director of socialists, declared. Developing his topic "Atomic Leaders in the World," Father Lord said young people are a breed of "rebels-by" — they are satisfied with a 75 per cent correct.

"A leader," he stated, "is one who is always just one step ahead of the rest. We are 20 million Catholics who must learn to labor and sacrifice for the cause which is to bring the whole world to Mass and the Blessed Sacrament."

In throwing out his challenge to Catholic youth to learn to do their job well, the noted Jesuit youth organizer said "May God give you the grace to do the job that would scare me to death."

On the speakers' platform with Father Lord appeared the Rev. J. Roger Lyons, S.J., who spoke on the socialist as a leader in the home. He maintained that man's supreme achievement on earth was the building of a happy home. This can only be accomplished when each individual

Catholic Press Told Great Evil Is Secularism

St. Paul (NC) — Secularism, the influence of Satan upon the world, is "the all pervading evil of our times," the Rev. James M. Gillis, C.S.P., editor of The Catholic World, declared here today in the keynote address to the thirty-sixth convention of the Catholic Press Association of the United States.

Secularism, the domination of all the arts in all the forms of the day, is the greatest enemy of the church, but it is not the big enemy for the Catholic editor to confront, Father Gillis said.

"An foe not," Father Gillis told the convention, "I wouldn't bother any other job at the job I have in any land at any other time. These are the most interesting, most thrilling, most stimulating times that ever were. History is made in a day now that took a century to unfold in former times."

"Of course, we don't know what is going to happen tomorrow," Father Gillis added. "Tomorrow may be the day of the end, but whatever comes it sure to be exciting. It may be ally in us. I hope it isn't stuffy but I should hate to leave this terrestrial scene just now. There is too much going on."

Upstairs Decried

Asserting that "much of our opponents, the more important ones, call us medieval," Father Gillis added: "Of course we are medieval. But we are also ancient. Those who call us 'medieval' and boast of being modern don't realize that they make themselves upstart." Johnnie O'Connell, with his rock in the wall and his hand on the sword, declared that the future of the church is in the hands of the young.

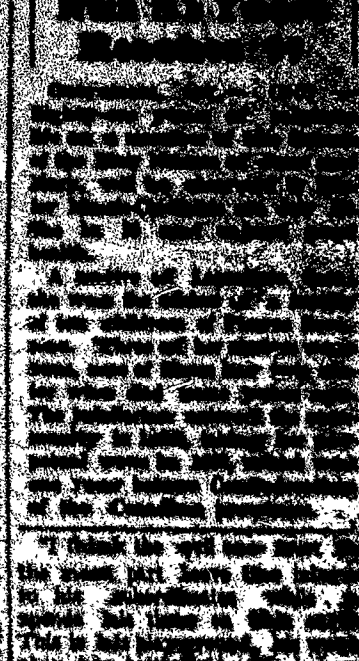
Catholic Institutions

Got \$50,000 Request

Cleveland (NC) — The will of Mrs. Katharine Hildebrandt, wife of Charles Hildebrandt, which was filed for probate here, left \$50,000 to four Catholic institutions. Mrs. Hildebrandt died here in January.

St. Alexis Hospital was given \$10,000; the Home for the Aged, of the Little Sisters of the Poor, \$10,000; St. John's Hospital, \$10,000, while \$20,000 was bequeathed to the Catholic Charities Corporation of Cleveland. The last bequest specified that half the sum should be used exclusively for the children's village of St. Vincent de Paul, while the use of the rest was left to the discretion of the board of the corporation.

Man Saw Fatima Apparitions



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Top to bottom:

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