Catholic University Professor

Atheist School Alien To U.S. Traditions

Paterson, N. J.—(NC)—It is "unhistorical to refer to [illegible] Catholic state schools as irreligious and destined [illegible] of religion from education," and it is Catholics who are perpetuating the [illegible] attitude of American [illegible] of necessary of association [illegible] with education."

[illegible] ARE THE conclusions [illegible] by the Very Rev. Raphael [illegible], O.F.M. Conv., in his [illegible] book, "The Part Played by Religion in the History of Education in the United States of America," published here by MacCrellish and Quigley. Father Maher is professor of American Catholic Church History at the Catholic University of America.

"It is not true," the author declares, "that proverbially, traditionally, and historically public schools here in the United States were godless and opposed to the teaching of religion." But, he adds, they have [illegible] become so, and it is the educational pragmatists, led by Professor John Dewey, who are mainly responsible.

In advocating the "complete rejection, elimination, or lack of consideration for the supernatural and the spiritual side of man," Father Maher asserts that they have entirely broken away from American traditions.

TO FURTHER their "pernicious endeavors" to "divorce education from religion," he says, the pragmatists "not only have given a false interpretation of the First Amendment to the Constitution," but have also "used every artifice at their disposal" to make the Supreme Court adopt an "unhistorical and untraditional" attitude in its McCollum Case decision.

Discussing this decision, he states that the court, "in trying to bend itself backwards to assure 'freedom of religion,' . . . has gone to the other extreme by denying even the possibility of it being freely imparted to our youth in the schools of the very nation which built its foundation on the trust in God and invoked Providence for the perpetuation of man's God-given rights of freedom, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Irish Forces Invoke Patron Blessed Virgin

Dublin — (RNS) — Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, was invoked as Patroness of the Irish defense forces in military chapels all over Ireland. Solemn High Masses were offered in honor of the Virgin and for the welfare of the defense forces. The ceremonies were accompanied by full military honors.

In many centers, the bishop of the diocese presided at the rites and recited a Prayer of Invocation composed by the Most Rev. John C. McQuaid, Archbishop of Dublin and Primate of Ireland.

ARCHBISHOP McQUAID presided at High Mass in the military church of Dublin's Arbor Hill barracks. Those in attendance included President Sean T. O'Kelly, Prime Minister Eamon de Valera, Minister of Defense Oscar Traynor, and Senator Andrew Clarkin, Lord Mayor of Dublin.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Patrick Boylan, of Dun Laoghaire, County Dublin, preached the sermon to the assembled soldiers. He said that in Ireland Our Lady had often been chosen as the patroness of groups of people and of territories. He recalled that at the international Eucharistic congress held in Dublin in 1932, Pope Pius XI proclaimed Mary the Queen of Ireland.

"THE PROCLAMATION of Mary as their Patroness is no mere ceremonial gesture on the part of the officers and men of the defense forces," Msgr. Boylan said. "It comes from their hearts and it is altogether in the spirit of traditional Irish faith and practice."

Following the ceremony, Archbishop McQuaid sent a telegram to Msgr. Giovanni B. Montini, Vatican Substitute Secretary of State, on behalf of the officers and men of the defense forces. The message pledged "filial homage and enduring loyalty to the Holy Father" and asked the Apostolic Blessing for "their country, themselves, their families and their comrades."

Pakistan, Vatican In Diplomatic Pact

Vatican City — (NC) — The Holy See and Pakistan have agreed on the establishment of diplomatic relations, according to an announcement by the Vatican Press Office.

IN ROSARY CRUSADE FOR PEACE

Following the appeal of His Holiness Pope Pius XII, dioceses throughout the United States are participating in a special crusade of rosary prayers during the month of October. Getting instructions directly from a Cardinal is little Tommy Kirk, of St. William's School, Chicago, seated in the lap of His Eminence Samuel Cardinal Stritch.

Former Russian Orthodox Bishop Celebrates Mass At Fatima

Fatima — (NC) — A feature of the Fatima celebrations was the con-celebration of Sacred Liturgy in the Byzantine-Russian Rite at which a former Orthodox Bishop officiated.

Celebrant was Bishop Paul Meletyev, a convert from the Russian Orthodox Church and now Ordinary for Russian Catholics in Western Europe. He spent five years in a Soviet prison camp and made his submission to the Holy See in 1946. He was named Titular Bishop of Greater Heraclepoli and now maintains residence of Chevetogne, Belgium.

Con-celebrants at the Mass were the Rev. Gustav Welter, S.J., rector of the Russian College in Rome, and the Rev. Anthony Koren, its spiritual director. Clerics from the Russian College sang and assisted at the Mass.

It was believed to be first time that a solemn, public celebration of the Mass according to the Byzantine-Russian Rite was ever held at the Fatima shrine. Members of the Russian college came to Fatima to participate in the ceremonies at the invitation of Bishop Jose Alves Correia da Silva of Leiria.

Students at the Russian College hope eventually to bring the Faith back to Russia when conditions are ripe there. American Catholics are aiding in the project through contributions to the college by the Catholic Near East Welfare Association. In her Fatima apparitions the Blessed Mother urged prayers for the conversion of Russia.

Manchester Diocese Holds Peace Hour

Manchester, N. H. (NC) — Described as the largest mass demonstration of faith in Manchester's 200-year history more than 11,000 Catholics from all parts of the State took part in a Holy Hour for Peace sponsored by the Holy Name Society.

Senators Press For Action On Hospital Grants

Washington, D. C. — (RNS) — Three senators joined in a demand that the Senate call up for regular debate a bill authorizing grants to sectarian hospitals in the District of Columbia before adjournment of the present session of Congress.

Senator John O. Pastore (D.-R.I.) made the request of majority leader Ernest W. McFarland (D. Ariz.) after the measure was objected to for a second time on the unanimous consent calendar of the Senate. Senators Brien McMahon (D.-Conn.) and Pat McCarran (D. Nev.) joined in the request.

OBJECTION TO the bill was raised by Senator Olin D. Johnston (D.-S.C.) who also had objected to the first time the bill was considered on the consent calendar.

"I object to this bill and will continue to object to it," Sen. Johnston said, "for I think it would set up a precedent in the United States which we do not want. It would say to every religious hospital in the United States 'Come in and we will let you have money with which to build a hospital.' That is what is proposed, in effect, and for that reason I think it would result in a mixture of Church and State. I shall continue to oppose it for that reason."

Senator McCarran promptly replied that he was "sorry to see the senator from South Carolina make such a statement."

"BECAUSE THE Cross of Christ may be on the turret of some hospital is no reason why it does not render Christian service to the sick, the needy, and the afflicted," he said. "And certainly if there was ever a time in the history of this country when we should forget that there are differences in religious beliefs, and remember that we are a Christian nation, and that Christianity comes out of such institutions as would be aided by this bill, that time is now."

Two sectarian hospitals in the capital, one Roman Catholic and the other Methodist, would receive direct grants under the bill, as well as two private non-sectarian hospitals.

Priest-Botanist Discovers Plants

Latrobe, Pa. — (RNS) — The Rev. Maximilian G. Dutman, O.S.B., professor at St. Vincent College here, has returned from a 3,000-mile trip into Northern Quebec, where he studied plant life fringing the Arctic.

He discovered several new plants, and visited sections of the limestone Mountains that never had before been studied by botanists.

With two other priest-scientists, Father Maximilian flew in a Canadian Air Force plane to Fort Chimo, 250 miles north of the new Labrador Iron Mines at Burnt Creek, Labrador.

Switching to canoes they pushed northward to within less than 500 miles of the Arctic Circle.

Father Maximilian said their findings will help in reading aerial photographs by giving an idea of ground conditions where different kinds of plant life are found.

Irish Priest In Congress

Washington — (NC) — The Rev. Philip O'Connor, priest from County Derry, Ireland, offered the prayer opening a session of the House of Representatives here.

Baltimore Archbishop Tells How Pontiff Delayed Prelates To Bless Dirty Urchin

Baltimore — (NC) — How Pope Pius XII once turned aside dignitaries of the Church, himself included, to give ear to the appeal "of a little fellow" for a blessing, was recounted here by Archbishop Francis P. Keough of Baltimore.

The Archbishop was celebrant of the Radio Mass for shut-ins in the chapel of Mercy Hospital here. After the Mass, he read a cablegram in which the Holy Father imparted the Apostolic Blessing upon all participants in the program. The Archbishop then went on to tell the story of the experience he had on his recent pilgrimage to Rome.

"THE HOLY Father came to St. Peter's about six o'clock in the evening," the Archbishop narrated. "This time the Basilica was filled. Oh, filled to the walls. As soon as the Holy Father descends from his elevated throne to the Sanctuary steps, the first thing he does, is to greet prelates and dignitaries who are present. On the afternoon of which I speak, the Ambassador from Vatican City to Italy, one of the most influential Archbishops in Rome, was standing beside me. Bishop Shehan (Lawrence J. Shehan, Auxiliary of Baltimore) was there. Near us were several Bishops and Archbishops from Germany, Spain, France and other European countries.

"Ordinarily the Holy Father would come right over to us, but he could not help hearing a voice directly behind me, the voice of a little fellow. He was about ten years old. His hair was all dishevelled. His face was not clean. His little hands showed that he had just been playing. But what a voice!

"As soon as the Holy Father set foot on the Sanctuary floor, that little fellow began to cry out: 'Il Papa! Il Papa!' And really his voice was almost violence to your ears. But to show you what our Holy Father really is and what his blessing meant to that little fellow, the Holy Father brushed aside every one—Vatican representatives, Bishops, Archbishops, they were as nothing.

As the little boy cried out: 'Il Papa!' he really meant it. ("Holy Father come over here and bless me.") And the Holy Father did. The Holy Father went right over to that little boy and offered him his hand just as graciously as he would to me or to you. And the little fellow kissed his ring.

"You may remember a picture that appeared in the newspapers where I was greeting the Holy Father. The face of that little boy is between us. If you look at his eyes you appreciate what the blessing of the Holy Father meant to that little boy."

Economic Associations

Boston (NC) — "Economic science and the Catholic social program" will be the theme of the Catholic Economic Association's 10th annual meeting at the Hotel Statler here December 29th.

Gandhi, 'Father Of India,' Opposed To Birth Control

Poona, India — (NC) — Social Action, a Catholic-directed publication here, quotes from many writings and statements by Mahatma Gandhi to show that this "father of India" was unalterably opposed to artificial birth control.

THE PUBLICATION is the organ of the Indian Institute of Social Order, an agency established by the Rev. Jerome D'Souza, S.J., member of the Indian parliament, for the purpose of propagating Catholic social principles.

Social Action recalls the writings of Gandhi in an effort to counteract the present campaign to established government-aided birth-control centers throughout India. Recommendations to that effect were made by the Planning Commission of India, headed by Premier Jawaharlal Nehru.

"Contraceptives are an insult to womanhood," Gandhi said during a tour of Bengal. Social Action recalls. "It is cowardly to refuse to face the consequences of one's acts," he wrote in Harijan on April 17, 1937.

"THERE IS ONLY one noble method of birth control," Gandhi wrote in Young India on March 12, 1925, "and this is continence. Those men who are highly advocating artificial methods cannot do better than study the subject afresh, stop their injurious activity and popularize continence for both married and unmarried."

Franciscan General, Observes Jubilee

Rensselaer, N. Y. — (NC) — The Minister General of the Order of Friars Minor Conventual, the Most Rev. Bede M. Hess, O.F.M. Conv., observed the golden jubilee of religious profession on October 17 at a celebration at St. Anthony on Hudson here.

The Minister General, the 112th successor of St. Francis of Assisi, resides at the Basilica of the Twelve Apostles in Rome, and has been in this country since May to preside at the Provincial Chapters of the four American Provinces and to make canonical visitations.

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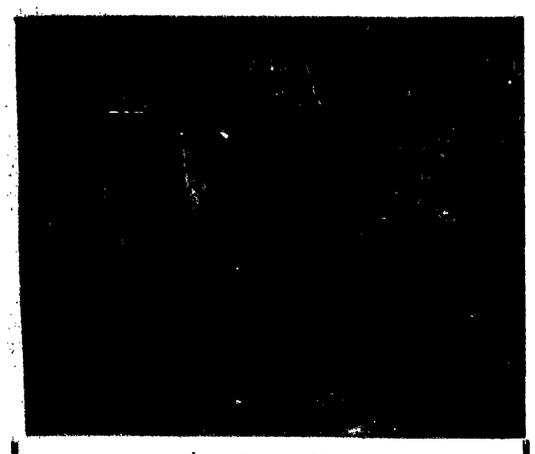

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