

# The Catholic Record.

"Christianus mihi nomen est Catholicus vero Cognomen."—(Christian is my Name, but Catholic my Surname) St. Facien, 4th Century

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## WEEKLY IRISH REVIEW

### IRELAND SEEN THROUGH IRISH EYES

NORTH AND SOUTH

Secret negotiations have been proceeding between some of the leading Unionists of the South, who are now loyal supporters of the new Irish government, and Sir James Craig, the head of the Belfast government—for the purpose of trying to reconcile the Northeast to the rest of Ireland. Lord Glenavy represented the Southern Unionists. It has not been disclosed whether he was acting with the knowledge of the Irish government or not; but it may easily be surmised that President Cosgrove was not entirely ignorant of what was proceeding. Lord Glenavy was recently elected President of the Irish Senate, being thus chosen by the generosity of the overwhelming Nationalist majority in the Senate, a fine example of the tolerance and broad-mindedness of the Irish people.

It is said that Lord Glenavy wrote a letter to Sir James Craig proposing that the Boundaries Commission—provided by the Treaty for the purpose of rectifying the boundaries between the Northeastern government and the rest of Ireland—should never be called to act; but that the Northeast should make compromise and join with the rest of the country. Lord Glenavy is said to have proposed that the representation which the Northeast government sends to the Westminster parliament should be withdrawn therefrom, and instead sent to the Dublin Parliament, the Dail Eireann. At the same time he proposed that the Northeast should keep its own parliament to legislate for the purely Northeastern affairs, while the representative they would send to the Dail should join in legislation for matters affecting all Ireland. He is also said to have suggested that instead of the Belfast parliament representing only six counties of Ulster, it might be arranged that all the nine counties of that province might join under the Belfast parliament.

It may be taken for granted that what Lord Glenavy proposes, though it is far from being the ideal thing, would yet be acceptable to the Irish government—acceptable as a bridge joining the Northeast to the rest of Ireland. It would be presumed that after peace was thoroughly established with the Northeast, and that they got working together amicably, all the differences would be ironed out in a few years, and the Northeast would consent to give up its hole-in-a-corner parliament and have the Dail legislate upon all matters for the whole of Ireland.

The Belfast Government officials, being questioned regarding the rumored peace proposals, say they know nothing about them. They say that Sir James Craig is absent from Ireland, and they know not what proposals he had from Lord Glenavy. But the leading Belfast paper, the Northern Whig, comes out in denunciation of the alleged proposals, calling Glenavy a renegade, calls the people of the other three-quarters of Ireland murderers and the "Free State" the Murder State with whom Belfast people do not wish to join. It says no business man outside Bedlam would think of placing his commercial interests at the mercy of the South, and calls the proposals "Southern Impudence." This sort of language augurs ill for the negotiations.

### ULSTER AND MINORITIES

Meantime, the Northeastern Government is carrying on a thorough campaign for the disfranchising as far as possible of the Nationalist minority. So that cities like Derry and Enniskillen, which had Nationalist majorities and Nationalist representatives in the Councils of these cities have refused to take their seats, leaving all the city affairs entirely in the possession of the Unionists. When also, as mentioned before in this column, very many officials in the Northeast who are Nationalists are now ousted from their positions automatically because they refuse to take the oath of allegiance to King George, that the Northeastern Government prescribes for all persons in the six counties who draw public money. Altogether, life is being made highly uncomfortable, and in many cases unbearable, for people of sincere Irish conviction who live within the area swayed by the Belfast Government.

### TO COMPLETE LAND PURCHASE

A big problem in Ireland today is that of the completion of land purchase. Under the old Land Purchase Act, about two thirds of the land of Ireland had been bought outright by the tenants, from their landlords. The agreed-upon purchase money, which was in each case advanced by the Treasury to the landlords, is being repaid by the tenants in instalments extending

over sixty-four years. When the World-War broke out, and the money stringency set in, Irish land-purchase was halted. Now the one third of the Irish tenants who did not get advantage of the Land Purchase Act are clamoring for a new Act of the Irish Government which will enable them to buy out their landlords also. The unpurchased tenants have formed a Land League of their own, have well organized themselves, and are making their demands upon the country. They are asking for much more generous terms than were given under the old Land Purchase Act. There is a good deal of difference of opinion in the country, regarding what should or should not be done for them. Their agitation is swelling, and conservative opposition is at the same time getting bolder,—so that the land-purchase agitation threatens to be a new difficulty complicating an already difficult situation.

The Irish Government, through its Post Office service, has established a new government Savings Bank to take the place of the Old British Savings Bank—which also was operated through the Post Office service. In the old days, almost every post office was a branch of the Government Savings Bank, accepted the smallest deposits and paid an interest of about two and one-half per cent. per annum. The new Irish service was begun on January 3rd of this year, and seems to be very successful from the start. It is announced that during the month of January there was an average of nine hundred people per day opening Savings Bank accounts. In the first twelve days alone, deposits in small sums amounted to £100,000 or half a million dollars. The deposits will be used by the Government for national development purposes.

### MICHAEL DWYER OF WICKLOW

The fact that there has recently been mountain fighting in the Glen of Imaal in County Wicklow, recalls to us that this glen was made famous in the rebellion of 1798, and after, by the immortal hero Michael Dwyer. The Glen of Imaal and its neighborhood saw many of the wonderful exploits of this wonderful guerrilla fighter, whose name, figuring bright in song, story, and legend, during the Anglo-Irish war, and also during the present Civil War. Many amazing exploits of the guerrilla fighters have been reported, not the most heroic, or most dashing of all the modern heroes could even approach Michael Dwyer, who, with only a handful of followers fought and fooled a whole English army for a long period of time. Michael Dwyer finally surrendered on honorable terms and emigrated to Australia where he rose to be Chief of Constabulary in Sidney. In Redfern Cemetery there a stone stands to the remains of Michael Dwyer, bearing the following inscription:

"Gloria in excelsis Deo  
Sacred to the memory of Michael Dwyer, formerly of Imaal, Co. Wicklow, Ireland,  
Who departed this life,  
August, 23rd, 1825.  
Aged 55 years.  
Leaving a wife and seven children to lament his loss.  
Lord have mercy on his soul."

### TILLAGE AND GRAZING

There is at present an Agricultural Commission sitting in Dublin, holding inquiry, to which agricultural experts are summoned from various corners of Ireland—for the purpose of discovering how tillage may be increased in the country. Ireland is one of the most favorable countries in Europe for agriculture, but almost all of the country is given over to pasture—only a small fraction of it to tillage. It was reported, for instance, at this inquiry, that Ireland raised only enough wheat to supply the needs of the population for three weeks! Devoting herself, almost entirely to the raising of cattle, Ireland neglects to raise food stuffs for the population. As a consequence, this island which might lead most other countries in food raising, imports most of her food stuffs. There are now in the air several proposals for changing this state of affairs. Compulsory tillage is one of them. It is thought that a law might be enacted compelling farmers to till a certain section of their holdings. But, an iron-bound rule like this could not in practice have equitable results. The very large farmers say that the price of labour in Ireland is so high as to prohibit their tilling any considerable extent and that if they were compelled to change from cattle raising to tillage, they would soon be bankrupt. One of the most sensible proposals considered is the breaking up of the large farms into small holdings, which would be taken by the hundreds of thousands of people who presently have no land. In the small holdings, the owner or his children provide their own labour, and consequently there is a far higher proportion of tillage on the small holdings already in existence.

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## EDUCATION WITHOUT RELIGION

### UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER SAYS IT MAY BE UNDOING OF SOCIETY

Declaring that education that confined itself entirely to the accumulation of knowledge without regard to the will or intention of man was a menace to society, Dr. John J. Tigert, United States Commissioner of Education, made a strong plea for the moral and religious training of youth at the annual convocation of the School of Religion at Howard University.

"In its widest connotation," said Commissioner Tigert, "education is the result of all the forces which affect the life of man. Taken in this sense, religion is the most universal element in education as well as a very powerful stimulus to human action.

"It is not only true that the notion of God exists and has existed in all species of mankind known to us but is likewise true that the notion has everywhere been a powerful force, if not actually the most powerful force, operating in the lives of men. In every form of communion with the supernatural, the notion of the Deity has been sufficiently powerful in its influence upon man to move him to make the supreme sacrifices of his own life or the lives of those dearest to him.

### RECOGNITION OF DEITY ESSENTIAL

"Again, we think that sufficient significance has not been attached to the fact that among the great thinkers who have interpreted reality and who have explained the origin and the meaning of the cosmos—almost without exception these philosophers have required the notion of the Deity to make the universe possible, intelligible, or thinkable. Those few who have not required the Deity for an explanation of the universe do not loom up among the great figures in the history of philosophy. We have atheists among the Greek philosophers in Democritus and Leucippus, but they sink into insignificance as compared to such thinkers as Pythagoras, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle and others. We do not recall an outstanding atheist to match the cloud of theologians and schoolmen of the middle ages. Among the moderns, Diderot and the so-called French encyclopedists, a few Germans, including Haeckel, a small number of Englishmen and others who compose the atheistic schools of thought, hardly are recognized within the pale of philosophy in a large sense. As against these stand Descartes, Leibnitz, Spinoza, Locke, Berkeley, Kant, Fichte, Hegel, Lotze, America, James, Bowne, Ladd; and a whole host of others who include within their number the great names of modern philosophy, who have grappled seriously with the explanation of this world and who have travelled many paths but have all reached the same destination—God.

"If education consists in the evolution of the man's inherent capacities or in giving 'the buckle of possibilities' if religion be a universal phenomenon among men, and if great thinkers find God indispensable to the explanation of reality, then education which lacks the religious element is certainly seriously defective.

"Education which devotes itself entirely to the discovery of knowledge without regard to the will or intention of man is likely to prove the undoing of society. Certainly, it is not worthy to be called education.

### ETHICAL TEACHING INSUFFICIENT

"How shall we direct the will and train the heart as we enlighten the intellect? Naught but religious feeling, the inspiration of the soul, and faith in God can accomplish this. Even ethical teaching and morality, though helpful, will not suffice. Moral philosophy may be similar to other knowledge, the product of man's mind but not a force which controls his acts. There are abundant examples of the failure of ethical teaching to affect life. France has given non-religious moral training a more thorough trial perhaps than any other nation. And yet, says an eminent authority, 'In fifty years criminality has increased three-fold, though there was scarcely any increase in population.' This statement was made before the War and does not comprehend the violent increase of crime since the War. One French professor complained, 'My prize pupil in morals is the biggest knave of the lot.'

"But this moral instruction requires the reinforcement of religious teaching and feeling. . . . Rousseau, a great name in the history of education and philosophy, gives us his ideal training for Emile and dwells especially upon the value of his moral code, meantime neglecting shamefully the rearing of his own child and engaging in dissolute living. His confessions are amaz-

ingly frank but even they do not uncover the villainess of his life.

"Morality is indeed the worthy helpmate of religion, but history and experience reveal over and over again that it cannot be substituted for it. Ethical societies have failed to supplant the Church.

### TRUTHS THAT ARE NOT POPULAR

"I am well aware that the position that I am taking is not popular today among educators, but I reiterate the words of a chancellor of one of our colleges uttered in his inaugural address more than a decade ago, 'Powerful as is the force of opinion today in the direction of secularized education, mightily as are the millions devoted to that purpose, earnest and numerous as are the advocates of education without religion. . . . yet I am undismayed. For there is a power greater than the opinion of men; there are resources vaster than the millions of earth. Let us not trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God.'

## LIBELLER OF THE K. OF C.

San Francisco, February 19.—The institution of proceedings against Bob Shuler of Los Angeles on the ground that he has libeled the Knights of Columbus is advocated by resolution of Berkeley Council, K. of C., as a result of the publication in The Literary Digest of a reprint of an article written by Shuler and said to have been used as a Ku Klux Klan advertisement in an Oregon newspaper.

### Among other things this article said:

"The Knights of Columbus has an oath, just as binding, or more so, than the Ku Klux oath. Moreover, the Knights of Columbus oath is not one-half so American as the Ku Klux oath. If you charge that the Ku Klux has put over mobs, I answer that the Knights of Columbus has put over two mobs to where any other secret organization on earth has ever put over one. . . . We have not heard of any investigations of the Knights of Columbus, although the un-American oaths are historic and their mob activities have been repeatedly published and heralded from platforms far and near."

The recent conviction of Lieut. David J. Gordon, former Canadian army officer, and his sentence to serve six months for publishing a bogus oath attributed to the Knights of Columbus, has called forth favorable comment from several California newspapers.

"The man whose life is spent in stirring up religious prejudice, when the toils overtake him, can expect no sympathy from anyone," says the San Jose Mercury-Herald. "The day is long gone when intolerance stalked from town to town in false guise without meeting the protest of peaceful communities pursuing their own religious ways in peace and satisfaction. . . . The resolutions of Berkeley Council have been forwarded to State Deputy Supple and State Advocate McWilliams.

## SUPREME KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

James A. Flaherty, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, has issued the following message concerning the necessity of supporting the Catholic newspapers of America:

"Time and again successive Supreme Pontiffs have urged upon the Catholic people of all countries the necessity of supporting the Catholic press. I do not recall to my experience any time when the Catholic press was more interesting and more needed than it is today. I am proud to know that in several sections of the country the Knights of Columbus have actively interested themselves in the promotion of the local Catholic press, with very substantial results. I do not see how a Catholic home can fittingly claim the adjective unless there can be found upon its reading table a selection of Catholic newspapers and magazines of interest to all members of the family."

## THE TWO BEST THINGS

Helen V. Collins, the little crippled girl whose letter to a New York newspaper asking for a chance to have "one good time" before she died, brought her one week of education into her life. The guest of Mr. and Mrs. George McManus, has returned to her home in Amsterdam, N. Y. The most interesting thing she saw in New York, she said was St. Patrick's Cathedral.

In response to a question as to what incident or thing was most prominent in her recollections of the week she said: "Oh, St. Patrick's Cathedral where you took me and where I offered up a prayer of thanksgiving to the good God above and a prayer for all of you who have been so good to me. The next thing was the grand opera. It was simply wonderful."

## CATHOLIC WORKMEN

### TO HOLD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS AT WURZBURG

By Dr. Friedrich Funder

Vienna.—A general conference of Catholic workmen is to be held at Wurzburg during the coming summer for the purpose of establishing a Catholic labor and professional organizations throughout the world are to be invited to send representatives. This projected conference is the result of a recent meeting of representatives of Catholic workmen from various countries at Konstanz am Bodensee, during which the possibility of convoking a general international Catholic workmen's congress was discussed, with very encouraging results. Catholic Workmen's Associations in Belgium, Holland, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Spain were represented at the meeting and communications were received from similar organizations in Italy and France, announcing willingness to participate in an international Catholic labor conference if it should be decided to hold one.

### OBJECTS OF CONFERENCE

The primary object of the movement is to present to Socialism the solid opposition of a general workmen's organization pervaded by the Christian spirit and directed along uniform lines. At the same time, it is hoped that means may be found whereby, in accordance with the public declarations of the Holy Father, mutual understanding among nations may be brought about and hostile feelings and mutual hatreds may be done away with. The possibility has also been suggested that the International Catholic Laborers' Congress may prove to be the starting point for a centralization of all professional organizations of Catholics, which may later form a community encompassing the entire world.

At the conference at Konstanz, speakers expressed the opinion that the proper preliminary conditions exist to warrant the holding of the Congress that has been called to meet at Wurzburg. Leopold Kunechak, M. P., representing the Austrian Catholic Workmen, discussing this question said:

"Now is the time to replace the atmosphere of hostility and revenge by one of peace and justice, eliminating all deeds of violence. The sublime peaceful thoughts of the Holy Father must be supported and carried out by the Catholic workmen. They must take the initiative in bringing about the reconciliation of nations. Thereby the Catholic cause will be rendered the greatest service."

## FLEMISH AND IRISH

By Rev. J. Vander Heyden

All through the agitation in Belgium against the supremacy of the French language over the Flemish, Flemish writers have laid great stress upon the affinity between their people's fight for the maintenance of their language and culture and the fight in Ireland for "Home Rule." The setting-up of the Irish Free State has turned the Flemish people's eyes with more eagerness than ever towards the Green Isle, encouraging them in their own battle for the Flamanization of the State University of Ghent that has just been fought out to a finish in the Chamber of Deputies and—won.

Past researches into the history of both Ireland and Flanders are recalled and popularized and new ones made, to set forth the century-old connection between the Flemish and the Irish people.

### IRISH AND BELGIANS CONNECTIONS

Such sayings as "There is no country in Europe with which the Irish have been more intimately connected than with Belgium;" and "There is scarcely a town in Belgium that has not some monument recording the bravery of the Irish people," are currently quoted as an earnest of the relationship of the two nations.

I have before me a book "Erin," written by a Fleming who glories in the fact that his ancestor Thomas McEoin was one of the "Wild Geese" who fought with the Irish Brigade in Flanders in the first half of the XVIII. century. The work's purpose is to increase his Flemish fellow-citizens' admiration and love for Ireland. Translated into English, it would undoubtedly also warm up the Irish people's affection for Flanders. It refreshes the reader's memory to many an interesting event in both the ecclesiastical and the profane history of the two peoples so closely knitted through the common bonds of the same faith, of the same struggles to remain their own selves and of the gratitude for mutual services. To this gratitude Ireland has first claims as the sequel shows.

Saint Dymphna, one of Belgium's early saints, "Lily of stainless purity," was of Irish birth. Her cult, which has continued unabated in the Flemish land since the VI.

century gave rise to the "Gheel Colony," a town that is one vast asylum for poor unfortunates bereft of reason. They are boarded and lodged at the homes of the people and left to walk about unhindered, every citizen, young and old, being trained to look after them.

St. Dymphna was followed by hundreds of Irish missionaries who helped to spread the Faith in Belgium from the VII. to the X. century. Thirty-four of these share with her the honors of the altars, and the Mechlin Cathedral church, over which Cardinal Mercier presides, is one of forty temples through which their memory is perpetuated in the land.

The faith which missionaries from the Green Isle brought to our shores from the VII. to the X. century, Irish warriors, by enrolling in the armies that fought the Protestant Dutch invaders commanded by William of Orange, helped to preserve in the XVI.

### BELGIUM'S DEBT TO IRISH EDUCATORS

But it was not for military honors only that the countrymen of the missionaries who converted the land contended in Belgium; they were also leaders there in the avocations of peace, particularly in scientific fields. Louvain was proud of its three Irish colleges and of the Irishmen who taught at its University. One, Dr. Thomas Stapleton, was its Rector for several terms and another was the celebrated Francis O'Hearn, professor of the immortal Daniel O'Connell, and an ardent protagonist of the Flemish language, writer of Flemish as well as of Irish, French, Latin, English and Italian poetry.

### FLEMINGS IN IRELAND

If throughout the centuries, ever since St. Patrick converted the Island to Christianity, of its sons and daughters have crossed over into Flanders, Flanders has also sent its children to Ireland. Their descendants are still recognized in the name "Fleming" common in Kilkenny and Tipperary, to which Flemish weavers were brought in the XIV. and in the XV. century respectively. Before those epochs in the year 1263 a Fleming, Robertus Fleming, was consecrated Bishop of Connor, Ulster.

May these and the many other recollections of times gone by, contribute to maintain between the Flemish and the Irish races those bonds of mutual sympathy so consoling when fortune frowns, so thrilling when it smiles.

## OBERRAMMERGAUERS TO GO TO AMERICA

Oberrammergau, Feb. 10.—A contract has been signed whereby ninety of the artisans who worked on the production of the Passion Play here last summer will go to America next fall. This step was made necessary because the directors of the Oberrammergau Home Arts Company which produces the Passion Play was financially unable to raise the money necessary to begin preparations for the next play. The artisans' work will be exhibited in New York.

In this connection it was revealed that Anton Lang, the Christus of the play, received 25,000 paper marks for his services during the past summer. Recently Lang had occasion to visit a dentist in Munich and the bill for the latter's work amounted to 200,000 paper marks or eight times what Lang had received for his presentation of the leading character in one of the most famous productions in the world.

## SERMON PREFERENCES OF COLLEGE BOYS

Note Dame, Ind., Feb. 5.—Preachers may find food for thought in the preferences expressed by the student body of Notre Dame in reply to the question "What type of sermon do you prefer?" A summary of the answers follows:

Explanation of doctrine..... 163  
On vices..... 199  
On virtues..... 128  
Explanation of Epistles and Gospels..... 56  
Life problems..... 18

Many of the boys gave suggestions regarding the treatment of sermon matter, and if their views express a universal standard of preference, preachers may find the suggestions helpful. "I like them short and to the point," says one student; and several hint more diplomatically at the same view. "My preference," wrote another, "is for sermons brought down to modern times, using analogies of everyday life; not with slang, but without flights of oratory or archaic language." One student says by way of comment: "Too many of them are drawn out and a person falls asleep listening to them."

Other opinions were: "The only time we hear about vice is during a mission. We need to be put on our guard against it by good sermons." "I like sermons that point out faults and tell how they may be remedied, and that give some hope to a person who falls frequently."

## CATHOLIC NOTES

John D. Ryan of New York City has been created a Knight of the Order of St. Gregory the Great, according to an announcement made at the Vatican.

London, Feb. 16.—Copies of the American book on birth control called "Family Limitation" are to be destroyed, as ordered by a London magistrate. An appeal from the magistrate's order has been dismissed by the court.

Madrid, Feb. 10.—The Spanish press has commented favorably upon the plans for the foundation of a Spanish-American University. These plans have now received the approval of the government, the king and the various American associations of Spain.

Rev. James H. Burns, newly appointed pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Syracuse, N. Y., in answer to an urgent appeal which he made for funds to build a new church, has received an offer of \$30,000 from John K. Mullen, a mine owner of Denver. Mr. Mullen is a native of Father Burns' parish.

Paris, Feb. 7.—An actor who, in the garb of a Catholic priest, attended to recite an alleged confession of a well known artist, was badly beaten by members of an audience in Metz. A workman in a front seat dragged the actor off the stage, amid shouts of approval from the audience, members of which resented the attempt to substitute irreverence for amusement.

Father Jose Aglave, S. J., Director of the Jesuit Observatory in the Philippines, has won distinction by his scientific work. His "Philippine Cycles" is regarded as a classic by oriental navigators, and has been translated into several languages. He is the inventor of the world famous "barocyclonometer," by which storms can be foretold.

New York, Feb. 8.—The Rev. Walter J. Dwight, S. J., literary editor of America, the National Catholic review died on Thursday of heart disease at the Jesuit Novitiate, St. Andrew's on Hudson, in Poughkeepsie. He was fifty years old. Father Dwight was born at Agawam, Mass., and entered the Society of Jesus in 1894. He was a contributor to periodicals in addition to his work for the review.

A fund of \$1,000,000 for the erection of Catholic High schools in Rhode Island is to be raised by subscription from the Catholics of that State, according to announcement made here by the Right Rev. William A. Hickey, Bishop of Providence. The Bishop declared that, while years ago a High School was regarded as a luxury, today it has become a necessity such as to warrant great sacrifices for its establishment.

Following are the expenditures by the various denominations for the construction of buildings devoted to religious purposes throughout the country during the coming spring and summer in the United States: Catholics, \$14,000,000; Episcopalians, \$10,000,000; Northern Methodists \$9,000,000; Baptists, \$8,500,000; Presbyterians, \$6,000,000; Congregationalist, \$2,500,000; Lutherans, \$2,500,000; and other denominations, \$6,000,000.

Yokohama, Feb. 7.—Many members of the higher nobility of Japan were included among converts to the Catholic Church last year and the decision of the Government, despite the opposition of the bonzes, to send a personal representative to the Vatican is regarded as one of the most favorable signs yet of the vigor of Catholicity in the Island Empire. In one single parish in Tokio there were two hundred baptisms during the year; an unprecedented number.

Panama, Feb. 12.—This city is to be the scene of a great Catholic Convention during the coming year. This will be an event of more than ordinary significance, since only a few years ago Panama was the meeting place of the Protestant Church Convention at which plans were laid for the vast work of propaganda and proselytism which has been carried on by the Protestant sects throughout Latin-America during the last few years, with such grave results. The coming Catholic Convention is intended to offset the harm done by the Protestant sects.

Denver, Feb. 5.—An effective method of bringing non-Catholics to lectures in the Catholic Church has been evolved by the Rev. William Ryan of St. Catherine's Church. Two weeks before the beginning of his lectures Father Ryan distributed printed post cards to his parishioners, each card containing a courteous invitation to the recipient to attend the lectures. The cards were then sent by parishioners to their non-Catholic friends. No cards were mailed anonymously. The result was that Father Ryan lectured to a thronged auditorium of interested listeners each night.