PARENTS' RIGHTS RESPECTED

EVEN BY REVOLUTIONARIES

IN MEXICO ARTICLE VI.

By Eber Cole Byan (N. C. W. C. News Service)

Two important facts stand out prominently in the history of education in Mexico.

First; despite the efforts of every revolutionary government to monopolize education, none of them has violated parental rights by laws compelling children to attend official schools exclusively.

Second; the war against religious schools has resulted in a decrease of educational activity; a loss in the number of schools; a marked increase in illiteracy; and a deterioration in the quality and a diminution in the number of schools including for higher education; professional and technical institutes

FOUR EDUCATION PERIODS

Education in Mexico may divided into four distinct periods. First; there are three centuries of constructive development to 1810. Second: seventy years of destructive efforts which succeeded in wiping out completely the entire educational establishment inherited by the republic from the Spanish regime. Third; a period of reconstruction from 1880 to 1910. And fourth; the destructive period still in progress.

The fragmentary data, much of it incidental, that have survived the past century of destructive revolu-tions, indicate that educational facilities in Mexico were numerous and efficient during the Spanish rule. It appears that individuals were free to establish schools. One example is that of the College of San Diego, for girls, in Guadalajara; it was begun, at about the opening of the eighteenth century, by a poor woman who took poor girls into her home where she taught them the three "R's" and domestic duties. In 1707 the bishop lent his aid. In 1712 a clergyman bought a plot of ground and erected a suitable building. This building was sufficiently large to serve Juarez as a military hospital, after he had closed the schools and confiscated the property. That there were Public schools is evidenced by incidental mention of four such institutions being established in 1785 in Guanajuato with \$54,000 taken from the confiscated properties of the Jesuits who had been expelled in 1767. The activities of the bishops in educational matters is evidenced by the mention of the Archbishop of Mexico (1722) establishing schools in every town in the Huasteca (a district in northern Vera Cruz) and paying many of the teachers himself. In 1785 the Bishop of Sonora had just com-pleted his pastoral visit during which he had established 7 primary schools, 2 grammar schools, and a were not greatly lacking nearer home; and if the Bishop of Sonora could be as diligent on the distant frontier among the Yaqui Indians, it is evident that the populous and ealthy dioceses in the central part of the country were just as active in proportion to their population

MANY INDIANS TRAINED

Schools were early established by the friars for the Indians, and the Indian college of Santa Cruz was established in 1584. The printing press was imported shortly after and books were printed in the native languages because, so the Bishop there are so many who know also read." The magnitude of in how to read. the Indian primary schools is Steps were also taken to confiscate indicated by that established and conducted by Pedro de Gante which cared for some thousand pupils. Similar schools were conducted in tions in this country. connection with every mission. A report dated 1570, covering the Franciscan missions in the Archdiocese of Mexico, shows that a population of approximately 750,-000 Indians were cared for by 51 self to oust the faction that had missions with an average of three place him in power. From this friars in each. At each mission there was a school with as many as 1,000 in attendance. The secular feated faction to regain power, priests also conducted schools. while those most interested in pre-Speaking of the Yaquis Indians, during the last quarter of the sixtheir own language, and many of them in ours." Beside every church

and their properties and remaining begun in 1578, two hundred and four years before such a study was known in Harvard. The study of anatomy was begun and dissection practiced in 1661, eighty-six years before William Hunter opened the first school of dissection in England. "Humboldt visited Mexico in 1808, and regarding the educational and several other cities have agricult and several other cities have agricult and several other cities have a study of medicine was and their properties and remaining funds confiscated. The buildings was begun and dissection practiced in 1661, eighty-six years before William Hunter opened the first school of dissection in England. "Humboldt visited Mexico in 1808, and regarding the educational institutions in Mexico he says: "The capital and several other cities have a study of medicine was and their properties and remaining funds confiscated. The buildings was begun and dissection practiced in 1661, eighty-six years before were allowed to fall into ruin. The present rate of illiteracy is the properties and remaining funds confiscated. The buildings were devoted to various public uses, or were sold to private parties, the present rate of illiteracy is the present of the State schools the most prominent members of th officially opened

the new continent, without even excepting those of the United States, can display such great and solid scientific establishments as the which had been created to support capital of Mexico."

U. S. MINISTERS TESTIMONY

Joel Poinsett, first American Minister to the newly born Mexican three centuries, were swept away and no other created to replace them.

"The wealthy Spaniards had been "The wealthy Spaniards had been generation of revolutionary conflict had made education a luxury increasingly difficult to obtain. The educational policy embodied

present Mexican constitution was formulated by the radicals who ousted Iturbide and took possession of the government in 1824. It is the lineal descendant of the ill-advised policies of the Bourbon Kings of Spain and the Spanish In 1767 Charles III. expelled the

Jesuits from his dominions. In Mexico they numbered 528. They had been engaged in conducting colleges, and in missionary work among the Indians around the Gulf of California. In 1804 Charles IV. ordered the transfer to the Crown of all the invested funds known as Pious Funds. These were miscellaneous funds applied to a variety of pious and charitable purposes; a great many of them were scholarship funds. The total amounted to \$44,500,000. The endeavor to convert this sum into cash forced the foreclosure of the loans made, and this threw so large a number of properties on the market at once that values retreated rapidly toward the zero mark. The distress caused by this act compelled the government to desist from its purpose after some \$10,000,000 had been converted. The government promised to pay interest and repay the sums taken; it bequeathed this promise to the republican govern-ment, which naturally failed to fulfill it.

In 1812 the Spanish radicals adopted a constitution, not greatly dissimilar from the present one governing Mexico, but this and its authors went into eclipse with the downfall of Napoleon. In 1820 a barrack revolution in Spain returned the radicals to power, and with them their dreaded constitution. It was this act which precipitated Mexican independence. During the short time that this constitution was operative in Mexico the Jesuits, who had been permitted to return, were again expelled; the Belemitas, Hipolitos, and Juaninos, likewise were compelled to leave. The Belemitas conducted primary schools in addition to their hospital work; the Hipolitos cared for the demented; and the Juaninos conducted hospitals for the poor.

GOVERNMENT SEEKS SCHOOL CONTROL The policy of the republican government simed at control by the government of the Church establishment and the nationalization of college among the Yaquis. If the Archbishop of Mexico could go so far afield in establishing schools it is evident that these necessities were not greatly lacking nearer where not greatly lacking nearer political control of the Church by the State, but were unable to protect the educational and beneficent institutions of the country and their

The expulsion of the Spaniards, under the most revolting circumstances, involved a considerable number of Spanish friars. This was particularly unfortunate for the poor of Mexico, whose children had been educated by these friars. A number of schools thus were necessarily closed.

The laws of 1888, which placed the appointment of the parish priests in the hands of the State, also prohibited the clergy engaging any educational enterprise

The efforts to carry out this fomenting a revolution against him time on the struggle resolved itself into repeated attempts by the de serving the existing order and protecting their properties failed eenth century, Mendieta says: take the necessary steps to do this. they now know how to read in armed intervention of the United States government, resulted in the there was a school. And in every town there was a church.

The University of Mexico was were completely

scientific establishments which will bear a comparison with those of Europe." And again: "No city of this to say:

bear a comparison with those of this to say:

bulletin directed school teachers to act as spies on employers of labor and to propagate the revolutionary

the educational institutions of the republic.

"The great private foundations, which had accumulated through

one of the greatest sources of these endowment funds, and as the Spaniards were expelled in 1828 that fount was definitely closed.

"The attacks upon wealth, and particularly upon the clergy completed the work of preventing any

pleted the work of preventing any further donations for the support of educational institutions, and the government itself was penniless,

SCHOOLS PROSPER UNDER DIAZ

The tolerant policy of Porfirio Diaz permitted the establishment of Catholic schools and beneficent institutions. The introduction of American capital into the countr finally brought an era of remark able prosperity, and the Mexican people were able to establish a arge number of such institutions As the private schools increased in number and efficiency the government schools were compelled to follow, but the government officials used the subjects studied as a means to undermine the religious faith of the pupils; the natural sciences, history, civics, and even mathematics were so treated as to bring religion into contempt. In fact, the Public school teachers carried on a constant propaganda against religion. Those studying in private schools found many difficulties in securing the licenses necessary to the practice of any

According to the report the Congress on Primary Education, published 1911-12, the primary schools and pupils were as follows: 9,692 Public primary schools, 2,726 private primary schools, 12,418 total; 698,117 pupils in Public schools, 191,392 pupils in private schools, 389,509 total.

Unofficial estimates place the number of pupils in private schools as above 300,000. According to the report cited the private schools in the State of Jalisco accounted for 31.4% of the average attendance. This State had a population of 1,202,802 in 1910. The private schools numbered 518 with an

average attendance of 45,099. For obvious reasons the Mexican Catholics exercised caution and reticence in giving out information regarding their educational activibecause these activities excited the dangerous animosities of the radicals. To placate this radical element Porfirio Diaz found it necessary from time to time to raid different educational establish-

CARRANZA TRIUMPH DISASTROUS

chools and no private schools.

The president of Mexico recently

has declared that Mexico is 65% illiterate. According to the judgment of many observers the figures of previous administrations this estimate is very conservative. sidering that a number of schools existing in 1910 have been closed it is obvious that those reaching school age since then have had fewer opportunities to obtain an education than were previously available. It is obvious, therefore, that the percentage of illiteracy in 1923 must, of necessity, be greater

Figures for illiteracy in Mexico, as evidenced by President Obregon's estimate, must be accepted with some reserve. They are useful, however, in a general way, for

purposes of comparison. The Minister of Education reported the illiteracy, in 1851 as 75%. The marked education in school establishments, that had been effected in the thirty years previous to that date, makes it clearly apparent that the percentage of illiteracy in 1810 must have been very much less. The revolutionary activities during this period; the lack of funds for official schools and the extinction of private schools, raised illiteracy to 93% in 1876. The peace and security that returned after that date together with the unusual prosperity, reduced the illiteracy to 86% in 1884; 1890; 76.3% in 1900; and

70.6% in 1910.

spirit in their pupils One circular contained the declaration that "Religion is Ignorance and as The Revolution Triumphs God Wanes." Only recently the Normal school of Zacatecas was closed, so it was officially declared, because "it had officially declared, because "it had arrived at the highest grade of in-discipline and immorality."

ENEMY OF BIGOTRY

PRAYERS OFFERED UP IN CATHOLIC CHURCHES FOR LATE PRESIDENT

(By N. C. W. C. News Service)

Washington, August 3 .- Stunned by the unexpected news of the death of President Harding in San Francisco, officials and residents at the National Capital are making sorrowful preparations to pay final tribute to the nation's Chief Execu-

In the churches, where a short time ago there were prayers for the President's speedy recovery, peti-tions are now being offered up for the soul of the departed. At all the Masses in the Catholic Churches of the city today, thronged with First communicants. prayers were recited for the Presi-

Many times in his public utter-ances President Harding took occa-sion to express his disapproval of the efforts of various individuals Martyrs. and groups who attempt to promote religious and racial bigotry in the United States. He whole-heartedly United States. detested such attempts to divide American citizens into conflicting factions and openly expressed his feelings whenever the opportunity offered.

One of his most notable statements of this character was that made in March, 1922 when he declared: "In the experiences of a year in the Presidency, there has come to me no other such unwel-come impression as the manifest religious intolerance which among many of our citizens. exists I hold it to be a menace to the very liber-ties we boast and cherish."

On that occasion the President went on to say:

"There is no relation here be-tween Church and State. Religious liberty has its unalterable place, along with civil and human liberty, in the very foundation of the Repub-

Again in his speech at the unveiling of the Alexander Hamilton statue here last May, President Harding declared : "We have our factions challeng-

ing both civil and religious liberty and unless both are made everlastingly secure, there can be no real human liberty."

When the Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, met in

member of the organization, took occasion in his address to the convention to warn against the use of any fraternal organization for purany fraternal organization. The revolution headed by Carranza wiped out all these institutions. In 1910 the schools in the Federal District appeared as 442 groups of citizens. While he mentioned no names it was generally the long vacation. But it is of interest to know that during term

'Secret fraternity is one thing, cret conspiracy is quite another. 'In every worthy order," he con-nued "the principles of civil and religious liberty, justice and equality are taught in lecture and obligation. A respect for the rights of one of Dom others, the very essence of fraternity, is stressed everywhere, until the rule of justice is the guarantee of righteous fraternal relationship. And then referring to the misuse of fraternal organizations to spread bigotry and hatred, he said :

"This isn't fraternity, this is conspiracy. This is not brotherhood, it is the discord of disloyalty and a danger to the Republic."

When a Solemn High Mass was celebrated in St. Patrick's Church here last January for Gabriel Narutowiz, assassinated President of the Polish Republic, President Harding attended. He was accompanied by Vice-President Coolidge who now succeeds to the post of Chief Executive, by Ambassador George Harvey, and by his military and naval aides.

TELLS PROTESTANTS TO COPY CATHOLICS

Melbourne, Australia. July 2 .-The recommendation that Protestants in Australia follow the example of Catholics and establish schools of their own was voiced by Sir William McPherson, Acting Premier of Victoria, in an address at a Methodist church here. His statements have created a sensation.

ENGLISH CATHOLIC SUMMER SCHOOL

London, August 1.-A notable series of lectures was given this year at the annual summer school of the Catholic Social Guild, which was held at Ruskin College, Oxford and attracted Catholics from many foreign countries as well as from England, Scotland and Wales. England, Scotland and Wales. Included among the visitors were Father Verian Ovecha, S. J., from Czecho-Slovakia, Father Guitton. S. J., of the Action Populaire of France; Herr Aughren from Switzerland and Miss Molloy of New York.

Perhaps the most profoundly learned of the courses given was that by Father Keane, S. J., one of the most brilliant members of the Jesuit college at Campion Hall, who lectured on the subject of Ethics.

Equally profound, though more richly colored with romance, was the course on Mediaval History, given by Mr. W. E. Browne, who, although a Catholic occupies a high post as Lecturer in History at one of the secular universities of Scotland. In a land such as Great Britain, with rich monuments of Britain, the Catholic past abound on all sides, a course on Medieval History is one that seldom fails to make the widest appeal. Mr. Brown is one of the lay specialists in history appointed by the Scottish Hierarchy to take part in the preliminary work of the Cause of the Scottish

Mgr. Brown, Vicar General of the Southwark diocese, whose parish contains more than its fair proportion of slums, lectured on Urban Land Values in Relation to the Housing Problem, which is a topic of nation-wide interest in view of of hation-wide interest in view of the acute discomfort prevailing through lack of houses. The Mon-signor quoted the Rerum Novarum of Leo XIII., where that Pope said that working men should be encouraged to become the owners of land. This, said Mgr. Brown, evidently meant rural land; and so far as he knew, no Catholic writer had taken in hand the subject of Urban land and the unearned increase on it. Mgr. Brown urged that owners of land in townships should be compelled to essence of treason. declare its value, and on that declaration be made to pay taxes.

Socialists and Communists are more or less in agreement in this matter, but Mgr. Brown opened up a point of view which the holders of Socialist theories have left unouched. This is that it is necessary have been created by the owner or owners sinking capital in that land, and values which have come about by no effort of the owner, but solely by the growth of towns or establishment of industrial centres.

On the Sunday during the course the members attended High Mass in Washington for their annual convention last June, the President, a Aloysius, at which a fine sermon on We w with the Summer School, not very long ago two communities of nuns, one of Dominicans the other of Carmelites, were canonically enclosed

RENE BAZIN RECEIVES HONOR FROM POPE

Paris, July 27.—It is reported from Rome that the Holy Father has raised to the dignity of Grand Cross of the Order of Saint Gregory the Great, the famous French novelist, Rene Bazin, a member of the French Academy and honorary president of the Corporation of Christian Publicists and of the Confederation of Catholic intellect-

Rene Bazin is the author of many works which have become deservedly famous. Among others are: Les Noellet, La Sarcelle Blene, De Toute Son Ame, Donatienne, La Terre Qui Meurt, Le Ble Qui Leve. Les Oberle, La Vie du Pere de

Foucauld. He is distinguished for his portrayal of the lives of the humble, the tillers of the soil and of servants.

MEXICAN PRELATE DIES

Washington, D. C., July 30.—The Most Rev. Francisco Mendora, Archbishop of Durango and one of

number of clergymen permitted to officiate in the State to twentyfive. The law caused great indigna-tion and Catholics immediately organized demonstrations of protest. Archbishop Mendoza himself issued a pastoral letter on the subject.

As a result of a protest made by Catholic organizations against the law, street rioting, in which ten persons were killed and seventeen were injured, occurred in May.

There are reported to be close to three hundred Catholic priests in Durango and the severity of the law is such that it will mean a practical suppression of the major portion of the activities of the Church in that State.

TRAITORS ALL

Prohibition Commissioner Hayne's article in Saturday's Times was par-ticularly useful and informative. It reduced a favorite Anti-Saloon League argument to the absurd, so thoroughly that it seems possible to hope that we shall hear less of it in future. If these gentlemen like to fill their own bellies with the east wind, let them; persons of different tastes ask no constitutional amendment to interfere with their dietary preference. But let us hope that they will give up the attempt to pump the east wind into the rest of

Mr. Hayne's article deals with what he calls the Dreibund of Defiance—the former manufacturers and sellers of liquor, the boot-leggers and "the organization for propaganda against the law and the Constitution". So for as one the Constitution." So far as can be gathered, Mr. Haynes holds that these three groups work in close relation: "it is one mess of meat unclean." And the worst of it is the spirit of nullification and of

Caught in this web of iniquity are many good men, great men, but de-luded men, some of them undoubt-edly insane men. There is no other explanation for the man of once mighty intellect who cannot see that

Every law passed by Congress nust be within the Constitution if it is to stand the test of Supreme Court approval. Thus it appears Whoever proposes to change any of the statutes of the United States is to distinguish between values which have been created by the owner or would be pointless to observe that Eighteenth Amendment. No other

We wonder how Commissioner Haynes will escape the notice of that body's inquisition for his careless admission, a little further down, that the bootleggers want the Volstead act to remain unchanged.

It is good enough for themselves the many parts of the world at the present time has induced the council to adopt this resolution to be carried out on the summit of the hill known as the Madonna of the Angels. We wonder how Commissioner now, with all the colleges closed for lt is good enough for them now. the long vacation. But it is of Accordingly, they must be the most interest to know that during term loyal and least treasonable of citi-time on an ordinary day Mass is zens, even if they do occasionally offered at no fewer than sixteen violate a few other statutes. Other separate altars within the confines of the university part of the city. Also, and this has nothing to do tional guarantees of the rights of the citizen. Mr. Haynes rudely insults this Sacred Band by accusing them of collaboration with the "nullification propagandists" who want the law changed. "All such work together to build up a spirit of lawlessness and discontent with the present order of things." There is no discontent with the present order of things among bootleggers.-N. Y.

PRESIDENT PRAISES K. OF C.

Canadian Press Despatel

Montreal, Aug. 5.—A tribute from President Calvin Coolidge of the United States was received through William C. Prout, State Deputy of Massachusetts at the 41st supren international convention of Knights of Columbus today

Mr. Coolidge said: "The Knights of Columbus is in every sense a patriotic order. You have established great war charities, you have helped to fill the national treasurer with your contributions to the various Liberty loans, and you have sent your dearest and best to bear the heat and brunt of battle. men have served nobly and well in the army and navy. Your order has ever shown its steadfast devotion to American principles and American ideals.

CATHOLIC NOTES

Valencia, (Spain) July 26.—More than 7,000 children received Communion in the cathedral on the day known as the "Feast of the Chil-dren." The Bishop of Fessea pontif-icated at the Solemn Mass.

Madras, India, July, 25.—The Archbishop of Madras has invited the Norbertine Fathers to take up missionary work in this diocese and already a group of priests has started from the Abbey of Hees-wight, in Holland, bound for India. The Norbertine (Premonstratensian) Order was founded in the year

Salamanca, Spain, July 25.— Reverend Father Mauricio de la Cruz recently appeared before the oruz recently appeared before the judge of Instruction and delivered to him 286 Railway Bonds worth 500 pesetas each. The bonds, representing a total of 118,000 pesetas had been given to the priest by a penitent in the confessional who had stolen the bonds from the district of lort terms. district of Jerte some time before.

Rome, July 26.—On the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy, an unusual ceremony took place on the square in front of the church of that name. Following the religious ceremonies a large crowd gathered outside the church, and in the midst of great applause a large bonfire was built of obscene books and periodicals. Deputy Cingolani, of the Popular Party hailed the event as another sign of the great spirit of regeneration which is inspiring the Italian people.

has received 2 more requests for authorization from religious congregations which desire to open estab-lishments in Paris. The Dominicans wish to open a house for the recruit-ing of their foreign missions and the Sisters of Saint Vincent de Paul desire to open another orphanage. The Minister of the Interior referred the requests to the Municipal Council of Paris. The Council voted favorably on both requests.

to cripple or repeal the enforcement laws is to nullify the Constitution of the United States, and that to of the United States, and that to Catholic priests in the State of Chihuahua to seventy-five, has been Covernor Enriquez. The vetoed by Governor Enriquez. The bill is similar to the one recently passed in Durango, which limited the number of priests to twenty-five. Governor Enriquez, in his comment on the bill, said that it was both unpatriotic and unconstitutional and that it would deprive Mexicans of the privilege of wor-

shipping as they pleased. The diocesan council of the Apostleship of Prayer of Madrid recently decided to make annual commemoration in solemn manner of the con-secration of Spain to the Sacred part of the Constitution counts.

Treason lies simply and solely in 30 in the year 1919 by His Majesty disagreement with the Anti-Saloon the King, assisted by the royal family and the Spanish Episcopate.

> London, July 30,-St. Edm College at Ware, which besides being the Westminster diocesan seminary is also a general college for Catholic youth, is fast becoming — says Cardinal Bourne in a recent address, what the great colleges of Winchester and would have been if the Er nation had not apostatized from the faith in the 16th century. For St. Edmund's is an ecclesiastical seminary, with the accompaniment, under full safeguards, of a school for boys destined for professional or ommercial life and not for the priesthood.

> London, July 26:—A band of thieves, all small boys, has been discovered in London following a series of church thefts and fires. The boys were the cause of the fires which have broken out recently in ten Catholic churches in the south-ern part of the metropolis. In all cases the fire was started in the same manner. Gaining access to the sacristy by fording a window, the boys poured oil or some inflammable iquid on the sacred vestments in the cupboards and then set fire to them. The leader of the band was a boy fifteen years old. He has been sent to a house of correction.

Quebec, July 26.—The cornerstone of the new Basilica at the Shrine of St. Anne de Beaupre was laid today in the presence of a crowd estimated at 15,000 persons. A Solemn Pontifical Mass celebrated by the Right Rev. A. O. Gagnon of the diocese of Sherbrooke, opened the ceremonies. The prelate wore vestments ancient "You are Knights of Columbus, Canada in 1666 by Anne of Austria. A chalice used in the celebra-