

ORTHODOX REUNION WITH ROME

JOINT CONGRESS TO MEET AT VELEHRAD

Prague, March 15.—Arrangements for a Congress of Catholic and Orthodox theologians and prelates to consider the question of a union between the Catholic and the Orthodox churches were made at a meeting held in Olmutz during the past week. The Congress is to be held in Velehrad July 31 to August 3, 1924. It was said at the Olmutz meeting that the Pope plans to send a special representative to the Congress and assurances have been received that many of the distinguished prelates and scientists of the Catholic and Orthodox bodies in Czecho-Slovakia will attend.

AGENDA DRAWN UP FOR CONGRESS

The preliminary meeting at Olmutz was held under the auspices of Archbishop Precan. Previously questionnaires had been sent out to a number of prominent ecclesiastics asking for suggestions as to subjects to be considered and methods of procedure. Among those from whom answers to the questionnaires had been received are the Greek Rutenian Archbishop Szepczycki of Lwow; Father D'Herbigny, President of the Oriental Institute in Rome; Father Grivic, Professor of the Ljubiana University in Jugoslavia; and Father Dvornik of Paris. Based on the suggestions received and upon discussions in committee meetings a tentative agenda for the consideration of the Congress has been drawn up embracing the following five subjects:

1. Eastern doctrine of the constitution of the Church and the principles of Union.
2. The duties and powers of the Patriarchates from standpoints of history, dogma and canon law, with special reference to possibilities of Union.
3. What is to be done in order to bring about Union in the Slav countries.
4. The Apostolate of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, suggested as the most readily available means of bringing about Union.
5. Social welfare work and charity to aid Russian emigrants.

ASK FOR MASS IN SLAV TONGUE

Some progress has been made toward drawing up a program for the various sessions. Archbishop Szepczycki will report on "The Unionist Question at the Last Ecumenical Council," Father D'Herbigny will discuss "Attempts at Union Between the Anglican and Orthodox Churches," Dr. Dvornik will speak on "The Church of Constantinople at the Time of the Schism of Photius," and Dr. Zivkovic of Zagreb will deal with "Unionism Among the Jugo-Slavs."

Sub-committees are already working out the details of such matters as providing lodgings for those who will attend the Congress and an effort is being made to have the Government grant special transportation facilities for them. The Foreign Minister of Czecho-Slovakia will be invited to attend. A petition is being drawn up addressed to the Holy See asking that ecclesiastics attending the Congress be given permission to celebrate Mass in the Slav language.

MARYKNOLL MISSION IS ASSIGNED SANCIAN ISLAND

Ossining, N. Y., March 17.—Word has come from Rome that an important territory has been assigned by the Sacred Congregation of Propaganda to the Catholic Foreign Missions of America. This new territory adjoins that in which the Maryknoll priests have already been at work for the past six years. The entire Maryknoll mission field now covers a large area in the Province of Kwangtung to which is annexed, by previous grant, a section of Kwangsi.

The whole district will be known for the present as the Prefecture Apostolic of Kongmoon. Kongmoon is a large city conveniently situated in the delta and within easy reach of Canton or Hongkong. Boats go from it to the several sections of the Maryknoll Mission on the South China coast as well as the West River.

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Of special importance in this assignment is the fact that the new territory includes Sancian Island made famous by the death of St. Francis Xavier. In allotting the island to the American Mission, Cardinal Van Rossum writes to the Maryknoll Superior:

"It is the good fortune of your Society to be chosen to take over the spiritual care of this island, and this Sacred Congregation, entrusting it to you as a sacred thing, has confidence that your Society will appreciate the importance of such a sanctuary.

"I am sure, therefore, that you will be pleased with this evidence of good will shown you by the Sacred Congregation of Propaganda, and that it will serve to stimulate the Fathers of your Society to dedicate themselves with all zeal to the conversion of China.

"The Brief relative to the erection of the Prefecture will be sent to the Apostolic Delegate of China, and you will be able to read it in the Action Apostolicae Sedis in which it will be published. In a short time we shall name the first Prefect Apostolic."

NOVENA OF PRAYER

In our issue of March 15, we announced a solemn Novena of Masses and Prayer for an increase of vocations to the Religious Life, to be made from March 10th to the 19th, in all the houses of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Toronto, throughout Canada. In connection with this Novena, a small leaflet has been prepared giving further announcement thereof, and containing a brief notice of the establishment, work and spirit of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph, some extracts on Vocation, and the approval and imprimatur of His Grace, the Archbishop. These leaflets are for distribution among the young Catholic women of the Dominion, that those who feel any attraction of the Religious Life may learn in what a Religious Vocation consists and the pressing need of all the Active Communities in Canada today, of new members, to carry on the great work of co-operation with our worthy bishops and priests in saving souls. Copies of this leaflet will be sent on application to the Mother Superior, St. Joseph's Convent, Toronto.

PRIEST ORGANIZES IRISH FISH INDUSTRY

Through the efforts of Rev. E. McSweeney, C. C., Arklow town in Wicklow County, has founded a "Fisherman's Association" to do for the fishing industry what cooperation has sought to do for agriculture as regards transportation facilities and the marketing of produce.

Father McSweeney has expounded the scheme for a national organization with headquarters in Dublin. He announced that this new organization was not out to supersede any existing efforts. Questions that would have to be dealt with if the fishermen were to reap the fruits of their labor were transport, curing, insurance and unemployment. Hitherto, fishermen, alone of all the workers, have been debarred from receiving State unemployment grants.

This new movement comes at an appropriate time when measures are afoot to protect and develop inland as well as sea fisheries. At the present time much distress prevails along the Irish sea-board because of the failure of the fishing industry last year. One of the remarkable features of the situation is that even when the fishermen can obtain a price for their catches and are forced to bring them back into the sea, fish is a luxury in the Irish inland towns, not more than fifty miles from the sea.

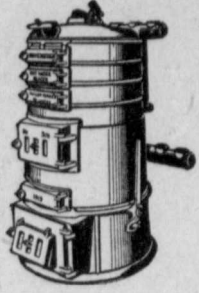
This anomaly arises from transport difficulties and from lack of proper distributing arrangements. If, as is intended, the fishermen now develop their own marketing system on cooperative lines, they will not only reap the profit to which they are entitled, but they will do a service to the inland residents.

CAHIR HEALY CASE AIRED IN BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS

(N. C. W. C. News Service) Dublin, March 8.—The case of Cahir Healy, Member of Parliament for Tyrone and Fermanagh, who has been held in custody by the Belfast Government for eighteen months, has been brought to the attention of the House of Commons. Mr. Pringle, a Liberal member, after pointing out that no charges have ever been formulated against Mr. Healy and that no attempt has been made to place him on trial, asked the House to appoint a select committee to investigate the circumstances of Mr. Healy's detention. He argued that this detention was a breach of the privileges of the House. He showed that an important document relating to the matter had been suppressed by the Belfast Government.

The amazing revelation was made that ten months after Mr. Healy's arrest a police inspector sought to obtain from another prisoner evidence incriminating the elected representative for Tyrone and Fermanagh. This other prisoner was told that if he would give certain information, the nature of which was indicated, against Mr. Healy, he would be granted his

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freedom. The episode is regarded as an effort to have false witness borne against Mr. Healy, who is acknowledged to be the greatest expert on the Boundary question which the Belfast Government does not wish to have opened.

WELFARE FUND CAMPAIGN

March 31st has been set as the date for the beginning of the campaign of the United Welfare Fund Association for the support of the fourteen participating agencies. This is the fifth annual appeal of the Association to help the sick, the orphaned, the aged, the friendless and helpless of London. The amount asked for this year is \$125,000.

In making plans for the campaign this year, arrangements have been made to reach as nearly as possible everyone in the city, with the belief that this great work of charity should be borne by all in proportion to ability to contribute. Among the employees of industry, stores and other institutions in the city, the basis of contribution has been placed at one hour's pay per month for twelve months. Employees of offices, and executives will be asked to contribute on a scale approved by a committee made up of financial men of the city. This scale is based on the income of the contributors and as is the case with other workers the payments may be spread over the entire year. The executive of the Association has given very careful consideration to the campaign this year and is endeavoring to distribute the burden of giving so equitably that the load will not fall heavily on anyone.

Two of the fourteen agencies participating in the Fund, the Mount Hope Home for the Aged and St. Joseph's Orphanage are conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph.

DIED

O'LEARY.—At his home in Centre Adjala, on March 3rd, 1924, Mr. John O'Leary, aged eighty-one years. May his soul rest in peace. SCOTT.—At Tralee, Ontario, on March 11th, 1924, Gerald Aloysius Scott. May his soul rest in peace.

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