

### CATHOLICS AND RECONSTRUCTION

#### Bishops of Catholic Church of America lay down Program to Insure Social Justice in Solving Post-War Problems

Drawn up by the four bishops who represent the hierarchy of the Catholic church in America in the administration of the National Catholic Welfare Council, an official pronouncement on the social and economic reconstruction problems facing this nation has been issued from the headquarters of this church council in Washington, D. C. The document bears the signatures of Bishop Peter J. Muldoon, of Rockford, Ill.; Bishop Joseph Schrembs, of Toledo, O.; Bishop Patrick J. Hayes, of New York city, and Bishop William T. Russell, of Charleston, S. C., and reads in part as follows:

"The ending of the Great War has brought peace. But the only safeguard of peace is social justice and a contented people. The deep unrest so emphatically and so widely voiced throughout the world is the most serious menace to the future peace of every nation and of the entire world. Great problems face us. They cannot be put aside; they must be met and solved with justice to all.

"In the hope of stating the lines that will best guide us in their right solution the following pronouncement is issued by the administrative committee of the National Catholic Welfare Council.

"The first problem in the process of reconstruction is the industrial replacement of the discharged soldiers and sailors. The majority of these will undoubtedly return to their previous occupations. However, a very large number of them will either find their previous places closed to them or will be eager to consider the possibility of more attractive employments. The most important single measure for meeting this situation that has yet been suggested is the placement of such men on farms. Several months ago Secretary Lane recommended to congress that returning soldiers and sailors should be given the opportunity to work at good wages upon some part of the millions upon millions of acres of arid, swamp and cut-over timber lands in order to prepare them for cultivation. President Wilson, in his annual address to congress, endorsed the proposal. As fast as this preliminary task has been performed the men should be assisted by government loans to establish themselves as farmers, either as owners or as tenants having long-time leases.

"It is essential that both the work of reparation and the subsequent settlement of the land should be effected by groups or colonies, not by men living independently of one another and in depressing isolation.

"A plan of this sort is already in operation in England. The importance of the project as an item of any social reform program is obvious. It would afford employment to thousands upon thousands, would greatly increase the number of farm owners and independent farmers and would tend to lower the cost of living by increasing the amount of agricultural products. If it is to assume any considerable proportions it must be carried out by the governments of the United States and of the several states. Should it be undertaken by these authorities and operated on a systematic and generous scale it would easily become one of the most beneficial reform measures that has ever been attempted.

"The reinstatement of the soldiers and sailors in urban industries will no doubt be facilitated by the United States employment service. This agency has attained a fair degree of development and efficiency during the war. Unfortunately there is some danger that it will go out of existence or be greatly weakened at the end of the period of demobilization. It is the obvious duty of congress to continue and strengthen this important institution. The problem of unemployment is with us always. Its solution requires the co-operation of many agencies and the use of many methods, but the primary and indispensable instrument is a national system of labor exchanges acting in harmony with state, municipal and private employment bureaus.

"One of the most important problems of readjustment is that created by the presence in industry of immense numbers of women who have taken the places of men during the war. Mere justice, to say nothing of

chivalry, dictates that these women should not be compelled to suffer any greater loss or inconvenience than is absolutely necessary, for their services to the nation have been second only to the services of the men whose places they were called upon to fill. One general principle is clear: No female worker should remain in any occupation that is harmful to health or morals. Women should disappear as quickly as possible from such tasks as conducting and guarding street cars, cleaning locomotives and a great number of other activities which conditions of life and their physique render them unfit. Another general principle is that the proportion of women in industry ought to be kept within the smallest practical limits. If we have an efficient national employment service, if a goodly number of the returned soldiers and sailors are placed on the land and if wages and the demand for goods are kept up to the level which is easily attainable all female workers who are displaced from tasks that they have been performing only since the beginning of the war will be able to find suitable employments in other parts of the industrial field or in those domestic occupations which sorely need their presence. Those women who are engaged at the same tasks as men should receive equal pay for equal amounts and qualities of work.

"One of the most beneficial governmental organizations of the war is the National War Labor Board. Upon the basis of a few fundamental principles unanimously adopted by the representatives of labor, capital and the public it has prevented innumerable strikes and raised wages to decent levels in many different industries throughout the country. Its main guiding principle has been a family living wage for all male adult laborers, recognition of the right of labor to organize and deal with employers through its chosen representatives and no coercion of non-union laborers by members of the union. The War Labor Board ought to be continued in existence by con-

gress and endowed with all the power for effective action that it can possess under the federal constitution. The principles, methods, machinery and results of this institution constitute a definite and far-reaching gain for social justice. No part of this advantage should be lost or given up in time of peace.

"Housing projects for war workers which have been completed or almost completed by the government of the United States have cost some forty million dollars and are found in eleven cities. While the federal government cannot continue this work in time of peace, the example and precedent that it has set and the experience and knowledge that it has developed should not be forthwith neglected and lost. The great cities in which congestion and other forms of bad housing are disgracefully apparent ought to take up and continue the work at least to such an extent as will remove the worst features of a special condition that is a menace at once to industrial efficiency, civic health, good morals and religion.

"Until the level of legal minimum wages is reached the worker stands in need of the device of insurance. The State should make comprehensive provision for insurance against illness, invalidity, unemployment and old age. So far as possible the insurance fund from the general revenues of the state should be only slight and temporary. For the same reason no contribution should be exacted from any worker who is not getting a higher wage than is required to meet the present needs of himself and family. Those who are below that level can make such a contribution only at the expense of their present welfare. Finally, the administration of the insurance laws should be such as to interfere as little as possible with the individual freedom of the worker and his family.

"Society," said Pope Leo XIII, "can be healed in no other way than by a return to Christian life and Christian institutions." The truth of these words is more widely perceived today than

when they were written, more than 27 years ago. Changes in our economic and political systems will have only partial and feeble efficiency if they be not reinforced by the Christian view of work and wealth. Neither the moderate reforms advocated in this paper nor any other program of betterment or reconstruction will prove reasonably effective without a reform in the spirit of both labor and capital. The laborer must come to realize that he owes his employer and society an honest day's work in return for a fair wage and that conditions cannot be substantially improved until he roots out the desire to get a maximum of return for a minimum of service. The capitalist must likewise get a new viewpoint. He needs to learn the long forgotten truth that wealth is stewardship, that profit-making is not the basic justification of business enterprise and that there are such things as fair profits, fair interest and fair prices. Above and before all, he must cultivate and strengthen within his mind the truth which many of his class have begun to grasp for the first time during the present war—namely, that the laborer is a human being, not merely an instrument of production and that the laborer's right to a decent livelihood is the first moral charge upon industry. The employer has a right to get a reasonable living out of his business, but he has no right to interest on his investment until his employees have obtained at least living wages. This is the human and Christian in contrast to the purely commercial and pagan ethics of industry."

#### SCHISMATIC PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE THANKS POPE

It is highly gratifying for us Catholics to see the Schismatic Patriarch of Constantinople applying to the Holy Father to use his influence on behalf of the Armenian people. The other day the Patriarch went personally to thank the Papal Delegate at Constantinople for the Roman Pontiff's intervention.

### Prayer against Epidemic Diseases.

Approved for the Diocese of Prince Albert by Bishop Pascal, O. M. I., on August 30, 1918, and endowed with an Indulgence of 80 days, which can be gained once a day by the Faithful within the said diocese.)

*Antiphon.* Remember, o Lord, thy covenant and say to the destroying angel: Now hold thy hand, that the earth may not be desolated, and do not destroy every living soul.

Lord have mercy on us, Christ have mercy on us. Lord have mercy on us.

Our Father (silently).

- V. And lead us not into temptation.
- R. But deliver us from evil.
- V. The Lord sent his word and healed them.
- R. And delivered them from their death.
- V. Let the mercies of the Lord give glory to him.
- R. And his wonderful works to the children of men.
- V. Lord, remember not our former iniquities.
- R. Let thy mercies speedily prevent us.
- V. Help us, o God, our saviour.
- R. And for the glory of thy name, o Lord, deliver us.
- V. Forgive us, O Lord, our sins.
- R. And deliver us for thy name's sake.
- V. Hear, O Lord, my prayer.
- R. And let my cry come to thee.
- V. The Lord be with you. R. And with thy spirit.

#### LET US PRAY.

O God who dost not desire the death, but the repentance of sinners, through the intercession of the blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, look propitiously upon thy people returning to thee, that thou, whilst it remains attached to thee, mayest graciously remove from it the scourge of thy wrath. Through the same Christ our Lord.

#### ORATIO CONTRA PESTILENTIAM.

*Antiph.* Recordare, Domine, testamenti tui, et dic Angelo percutienti: Cesset jam manus tua, et non desoletur terra, et ne perdas omnem animam viventem.

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.  
Pater noster (secretely).

- V. Et ne nos inducas in tentationem.
- R. Sed libera nos a malo.
- V. Misit Dominus verbum suum, et sanavit eos.
- R. Et eripuit eos de morte eorum.
- V. Confiteantur Domino misericordiae ejus.
- R. Et mirabilia ejus filiis hominum.
- V. Domine, ne memineris iniquitatum nostrarum antiquarum.
- R. Cito anticipet nos, misericordiae tuae.
- V. Adjuva nos, Deus salutaris noster.
- R. Et propter gloriam nominis tui, Domine, libera nos.
- V. Propitius esto peccatis nostris, Domine.
- R. Et libera nos propter nomen tuum.
- V. Domine, exaudi orationem meam.
- R. Et clamor meus ad te veniat.
- V. Dominus vobiscum. R. Et cum spiritu tuo.

#### Oremus.

Deus, qui non mortem, sed poenitentiam desideras peccatorum: per intercessionem beatae Dei genitricis, virginis Mariae, populum tuum ad te revertentem propitius respice: ut, dum tibi devotus existit, iracundiae tuae flagella ab eo clementer amoveas. Per eundem Christum Dominum nostrum.

Approbatur pro nostra diocesi. Concedimus indulgentiam 50 dierum semel in die lucrandam fidelibus has preces infra fines nostrae dioceseos pie recitantibus.

IMPRIMATUR. ALBERTUS, O. M. I.,  
Die 30 August. 1918. Episcopus Principis Albert.

#### Gebet gegen epidemische Krankheiten.

(Von Bischof Pascal, O. M. I., am 30. August 1918 gutgeheßen für die Diözese Prince Albert und mit einem Ablass von 50 Tagen versehen, der täglich einmal innerhalb der genannten Diözese von den Gläubigen gewonnen werden kann.)

*Antiphon.* Gedente, o Herr, deines Bundes und befehle deinem strafenden Engel: Halte jetzt ein deine Hand, auf daß die Erde nicht verödet werde, und töte nicht jede lebende Seele.

Herr erbarme dich unser! Christe erbarme dich unser! Herr erbarme dich unser!

- Vater Unser (leise).
- V. Und führe uns nicht in Versuchung.
- R. Sondern erlöse uns von dem Uebel.
- V. Der Herr sandte aus sein Wort und heilte sie.
- R. Und entriß sie ihrem Tode.
- V. Sie sollen danken dem Herrn für seine Barmherzigkeit.
- R. Und für seine Wunder unter den Menschenkindern.
- V. O Herr, gedente nicht unserer alten Missetaten.
- R. Daß eilends uns zuvorkommen deine Barmherzigkeit.
- V. Hilf uns, Gott, unser Heiland.
- R. Und um der Ehre deines Namens willen erlöse uns.
- V. Sei gnädig unsern Sünden, o Herr.
- R. Und befreie uns von deines Namens willen.
- V. Herr, erhöre mein Gebet.
- R. Und laß mein Rufen zu dir kommen.
- V. Der Herr sei mit euch.
- R. Und mit deinem Geiste.

#### Lasst uns beten!

O Gott, der du nicht den Tod, sondern die Bußfertigkeit des Sünders willst: durch die Fürbitte der allerheiligsten Gottesgebärerin und Jungfrau Maria befüßigt, blide herab auf dein Volk, welches sich wieder zu dir wendet, auf daß du, während es dir getreu bleibt, die Geißel deines Zornes barmherzig von ihm abwendest. Durch denselben Christum unsern Herrn.

# ST. GREGOR MERCANTILE COMP.

## The Big Store - St. Gregor, Sask.

In these strenuous times we see advertised all sorts of sales—Monthly Sales, Reducing Sales, Removal Sales, Closing-Out Sales, and who knows what Sales.

### Our Policy

has always been and will be, to have only one kind of Sales. Our Sales always commence on the 1st of January and continue without interruption or change until the 31st of December, and we have a standing guarantee, that our prices are as low as anywhere else, QUALITY CONSIDERED. We fear NO COMPETITION.

### Our Buyer

is an expert in his line of business.

## Do you need any Willow Fence Posts?

We have a limited quantity of them and can save you money on them.

# A. J. RIES & SON.

We never conduct FAKE SALES. Your money cheerfully refunded if your purchase is not satisfactory and YOU ARE THE JUDGE.

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