

OUR NEED OF A CATHOLIC CHURCH

to accept deliberately some task less than the greatest ; to aim at the highest is always an adventure and a risk. Recognizing the risk of falling into mere worldliness, the Church will welcome the protest of those who are called to testify exclusively to the universality of the Church and the supremacy of spiritual forces, and are thereby debarred from taking part in any national hostilities. For such there will be, perhaps, an Order of St. George Fox, held in universal honour for its testimony to a vital aspect of truth which might otherwise be forgotten ; but this Order will not be needed for long ; nations which feel themselves, as nations, to be provinces in a Catholic Church will not wish to wage war on one another. Similarly the Catholic Church, being a vast organization, will inevitably tend to neglect the individual in its concern for world movements, unless it has an Order of St. John Wesley (as it would be in England) dedicated to the task of individual conversion and keeping alive the remembrance of its absolute necessity. Not every one will be called to belong to any such Order, just as not every one was called to be a Franciscan or a Dominican. But the testimony of each will be preserved within the visible unity of the Church, maintaining its spiritual balance ; thus we may secure unity without sacrifice of freedom. The Catholic Church itself, because it must be a society of nations, will be organized in national provinces, and in each such province will try to act like leaven in the lump, confessing its failure in so far as the nation remains unchristian and calling on its members, who are also the nation's citizens, to use their national allegiance so as to make their nation Christian, both within itself and in its dealings with other nations.

Nothing but such a spiritual society can secure fellowship among nations. Schemes of arbitration, conciliation, international police, and the like presuppose, if they are to be effective, an admitted community of interest between the nations. But this must be not only admitted but believed in sufficiently to prompt a nation which has no interest in a particular dispute to make sacrifices for