

EIGHT

CHRISTIAN LABOR UNIONS

PROVE CHECK TO SPREAD OF SOCIALISM

(Vienna Correspondent N. C. W. G. News Service)

Vienna, March 25.—Only a short time ago the Socialist Labor movement confronted Europe like an enormous, threatening cloud. Socialism set up the claim that it was the representative of all working classes, and when Bolshevism appeared and revolution followed in Central Europe, it seemed as if Socialism sought to dictate the laws of the political and social evolution, perhaps even to inaugurate a new age for humanity.

Swelling with belief in its own omnipotence, Socialism declared war on the Christian community and the Church. But the dream of its might was brief. At the International Socialist Conference in Vienna, last February, symptoms of disunion within the Socialist movement were obvious. There is now a second Socialist International, a third in Vienna and still another in Moscow—the latter fighting the others with fire and sword. The multiplication of sects in the Socialist movement is in full progress. Every country in Europe has two or three Socialist parties at war with one another. Wherever Socialism gained power, as in Hungary, Austria, and Bavaria, it is wholly compromised.

CHRISTIAN UNIONS ORGANIZE

While grave internal strife and downright defeat mark the way of atheistic Socialism, the Christian working classes of Europe, with the Catholics at their head, are moving to form the first international association to concentrate their forces. An international congress of Christian textile workers has been held in Dusseldorf and has founded an international association of the unions of textile craftsmen of the countries represented—Germany, France, Holland, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. A congress of Christian agricultural employees is to follow within the next few weeks. Coblenz, and in June there will take place the organization of an international association of the Christian workers in the garment trade. Similar associations are to be created among the metal workers, the railway men, the employees of the leather industry, etc. International associations of the Christian unions of printers, of workers in tobacco factories, of those engaged in the manufacture of food, and of those in the building trades already exist.

SECRETARIAT GENERAL AT UTRECHT

The International League of the Christian Trades Unions constitutes an alliance of all these several associations, whose secretariat general is in Utrecht. This was settled last June at the International Congress of Christian Workmen at the Hague. This splendid meeting, at which for the first time since the War the representatives of the nations of Europe joined under the sign of the cross, has been the point of departure for the Internationals of the Christian workers. The object of the League, as provided in the constitution, is to represent the interests of the workers in all economic matters, especially with respect to the international organization of labor, wages and conditions of employment, and the rights of employees. An international Trades Union was deemed necessary to the formulation of international principles.

Reports of gratifying progress were made at the recent meeting of the board of directors of the International League, in Cologne. Joseph Scherrer, of Switzerland, presided at this meeting. Jago Slavia is a fertile field for this Christian workers' movement and the results in Czechoslovakia are especially satisfactory. In the latter country, despite the tidal wave of Socialism which submerged the state, the Christian workers have fourteen large associations with a powerful organ, The Trade Union. Since last summer the number of organized workmen in the Christian Trades Unions has grown from three to four millions and is steadily increasing.

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS INCLUDED

Great benefits are expected from the organization of the agricultural workers in Austria. The peasant landowners have been afraid that the good understanding between themselves and their employees might be disturbed by the formation of unions among them. The Catholic peasants were effectively organized but the agricultural laborers had scarcely any organization. Now, that the siren song of Socialism is reaching the ears of these laborers, and serious conflicts have arisen between proprietors and their employees, the peasants perceive the need for a Christian organization among the laborers. It will help to keep its members free from the destructive demagoguery of Socialism, and while it will contend most energetically for their rights, it will not overlook the material and spiritual solidarity of all classes of Christian society.

Chaplain Stempter was the first to organize the Catholic agricultural laborers in Upper Austria. That was two years ago. Today this little province can boast of having 83,000 members in the organization. At the last elections for the National Assembly, the agricultural workers

succeeded in electing two of their leaders. One of them was Chaplain Stempter. It is confidently expected that similar progress will be made in other Austrian provinces.

FIGHTING SOCIALIST TERRORISM

The development of the Christian labor movement comes at a time when the Christian workers of Central Europe are exposed to a persecution quite without parallel. Socialism, which feels the ground shaking under its feet, is attempting by main force to hold its sway in the factories. There have been numerous strikes in Austria and in Czechoslovakia during the last few months because of the refusal of the Socialists to work in the same shop with fellow employees who belong to the Christian organizations. It required all the energy of the Austrian Government to precipitate the strike which was precipitated for the same reason among the workers in the mint in Vienna.

There is inherent antagonism and the certainty of a clash between the doctrines of Socialism and Christian teaching. It is fortunate that the ranks of the Christian workers are filled, thus making it possible for the international movement to succeed. Perhaps the trials and sufferings of Central Europe during the last two years were necessary to arouse the spirit of the people. There never was a Christian labor movement worth mentioning in Hungary until after the devastation of Bolshevism. Now there is a strong organization there.

Thus, after the storm which has shaken it most violently and has carried off many withered branches, the old tree of the Catholic people in Central Europe puts forth new shoots, which are fresh and green and promise young, vigorous life once more.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY OF CANADA

IN MISSIONARY CANADA

WE NEED DIRECT SUPPORT FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

The Catholic Church Extension Society is an organization badly needed in Canada. This need is recognized by everyone. Not everyone, however, realizes the necessity of giving such a society encouragement and financial assistance.

The summary of the Annual Report of the Extension Society appeared last week and caused very favorable comment. Some of our friends were urged by it to write complimentary and encouraging letters to the Society. We are most thankful, it goes without saying, for those expressions of Catholic approval.

The Report shows that the sum of nearly \$160,000.00 was donated for missionary purposes by Catholics scattered throughout Newfoundland and British Columbia. A very remarkable feature of our donations is that the total was made up almost entirely of very small sums. The donors, as a rule, were not endowed exceptionally with the wealth of this world. This, no doubt accounts for the fact that over 3,000,000 of Catholics have to their credit an average of about 5c. per head donated for the propagation of the Faith in Canada and for Canada. Yet this sum, small as it is, is a marked increase in giving. The reason we advance the poverty of our missionary activities is that we who have given may continue to give with renewed zeal; that the wealthy, the stewards of God, may realize their duty, and that the forgetful and careless may put into practice the great law of Christian charity and save their souls.

The following item may prove of interest: "The Western Section of the Presbyterian Church in Canada spent for missionary work this year \$1,659,973. Of this amount was expended on the Home Missions (Canada) \$724,604.00."

This is almost five times what the Catholic spent last year and yet we see no cause for discouragement. No, rather let us take example from such endeavors to strengthen our own and our neighbor's zeal. What then is most necessary? You will expect the immediate reply—funds; and you are right.

OFFER MASS INTENTIONS

But let us see on what we should first concentrate. Some of the Bishops have advised us that their great need just at present is support for missionaries for the neglected spots or places difficult to reach. What can you do to help? Send us first of all Mass Intentions, they will be a spiritual link between you and the missionary who each morning prays for you and offers up in far off parts the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. We know of no more holy work than this for we literally carry to the scattered souls the most sacred of all God's present gifts ever which we have any control. By that holy sacrifice are men led to God and healed and strengthened against sin. They are also fed with the divine manna bringing everlasting life. This aid makes it possible for the missionary to travel to his flock.

DONATE \$25.00 TO SUPPORT A MISSIONARY

Another manner of aiding is by allotting a certain sum to be spent for that very purpose. Send us \$25, \$50 or \$100 and mark it as a gift for missions needing the service of a priest. The Bishops requesting this assistance will give

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your gift to the man whom he has asked to carry on the work of the Gospel under these conditions. Archbishop Sinnott recently wrote us for \$1,000.00 for this purpose. Can you not answer the appeal of the valiant missionaries in the field?

Perhaps you were thinking of some good work that you intended to do. Let us recommend these as the most pressing of our present needs and who can for a moment doubt their merit.

Donations may be addressed to: Rev. T. O'Donnell, President, Catholic Church Extension Society, 67 Bond St., Toronto.

Contributions through this office should be addressed to: EXTENSION, CATHOLIC RECORD OFFICE, London, Ont.

PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED: Lumberjack, Plaster Rock, N. B. 5 00

MASS INTENTIONS: C. M. A., Glace Bay, N. S. 25 00

AN APPEAL TO PARISH PRIESTS

ON AN IMPORTANT MATTER AFFECTING IMMIGRANTS

Editor CATHOLIC RECORD: Sir, May I appeal to parish priests with regard to a matter of considerable importance to Catholic immigrants.

I refer to enquiries I occasionally address to them on behalf of immigrants and which for their sake should be answered with as little delay possible. For instance, men domiciled in their parishes sometimes come to Quebec or St. John to meet the ships bringing out their fiancées whom they desire to marry on arrival. These men unfortunately seldom bring any papers to show that they are free to marry and I therefore must refer by telegraph to their parish priests for information as to their "status libertatis" before I can perform the marriage and it is highly important to avoid matrimonial periculum matrimonii civilis that I should receive a prompt answer.

Again, in many cases, an immigrant may state that he or she is going to join a brother or sister living in a certain parish and there may be some doubt as to the truth of the immigrant's statement. A reference to the parish priest can effectually settle the matter, but a failure on his part to reply may entail very serious consequences to the immigrant.

I would therefore strongly urge parish priests to reply as promptly as possible to enquiries addressed them by

Your obedient servant, L'ABBÉ PHILIPPE CASGRAIN, Director Catholic Immigration Association of Canada. Bishop's Palace, St. John, N. B., March 22, 1921.

OBITUARY

THE LATE REV. HENRY T. JOYNER

Sorrow and mourning have come and that quite unexpectedly to the parishioners of Grand Falls, New Brunswick. Little did they anticipate only one short week ago, one who had been their most faithful pastor and friend would so soon pass from their midst, and they would be called upon to mourn his death. A few short weeks ago all was joy and gladness, now all is sorrow and gloom and mourning.

The late Reverend Henry T. Joyner was born in England, studied at Oxford, and after having finished his Theological course in Spain, was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Chatham, was Parish Priest of Chatham for many years. He came into our midst over sixteen years ago to minister to our spiritual and temporal welfare. For the past few months the Reverend Father's health had been failing, until up to one week ago, he decided to leave for one month's rest, but pneumonia developed and he was taken to the Hotel Dieu of St. Joseph, St. Basil, N. B., where everything possible was done for him. He was stricken with heart trouble and breathed his last heart trouble and breathed his last on the morning of the sixth, fortified by the Sacraments and all the reassuring comforts which Holy Church could bestow. His remains were taken to Grand Falls on the 7th where they lay in state in the Church of the Assumption until Friday morning. Impenitence, strength and an underlying tenderness were in Father Joyner's face in repose. People of all denominations, young and old, and little children, thronged to the Church to take their

GOODNESS OF SOUL

To keep the soul in goodness takes time and try. It is not an easy indolence, a way of polite acquiescence, a thoughtless and spiritless obedience to convention. These things hold not the secret of either safety or peace; the key hangs at another girl, even at the girls of him who knows the greatness of his treasure, and who sets his whole heart to guard it with a fidelity that nothing can shake, and a passion that nothing can weaken.

SACRED HEART ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

The Old Pupils of the Sacred Heart Convent of Montreal and Saul on Recollet are forming an Alumnae Association and would be pleased to have the names and addresses of all Old Pupils sent to (Miss) Sara Tansy, Secretary of the Old Pupils' Association, 14 Drummond Street, Montreal.

IN MEMORIAM

WHELAN, Patrick J., 60th Canadian Battalion, killed in action April 25th, 1917. Formerly of Pleasantville, N.J.

In memory of a sergeant brave, Who fills, in France, a soldier's grave.

DIED

REID—At his late residence, Bay View, Hops River, P. E. I., on March 31st, 1921, Mr. James Reid. May his soul rest in peace.

McASKIN—At Prescott, Ont., on April 3, 1921, W. E. McAskin, proprietor of The Daniels Hotel, aged forty one years. May his soul rest in peace.

SPAFFORD—In Detroit, Mich., on Friday, April 9th, Harold H. Spafford, aged thirty nine years, fourth son of A. M. Spafford of Hamilton, Ont. May his soul rest in peace.

TEACHERS WANTED

WANTED second class professional teacher for Catholic school, Kearney, Ontario. Salary \$800 to \$900. State experience to J. W. Brown, Sec. Treas., Kearney, Ont. 2219-4.

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