OBITUARY

SISTER MARY OF ST. FELIX

Sorrow and gloom have cast their shadows over the Convent of The Good Shepherd, Carthage, Ohio, for death has claimed one of the members of its community in the person of Sister Mary of St. Felix.

Surrounded by the loving care of devoted Sisters and supported by the last rites of the Church of which she was ever an exemplary Religious, her death occurred on February 8th at the Mother House.

Sister Mary of St. Felix, who was formerly Miss Catharine Dewan, was born in Biddulph township, Middlesex county, Ontario. During her life in her home parish she won for herself many friends who will forever cherish lasting memories of kindness and sincerity.

A victim of appendicitis, Sister St. Felix displayed the fortitude and resignation of the truly Religious in her prolonged illness.

Solemn Mass of Requiem was celebrated in the convent chapel, on February 10th for the repose of her soul.

Surviving her are three Sisters and four brothers as follows: Sister Mary St. John, of St. Joseph's Community, London, Ont., Mrs. Thomas Jordan, London, Ont., Mrs. Mary A. Heenan, Wm. Dewan, James and Patrick of Biddulph township and John Dewan of Detroit, Mich.; to all of whom is extended the sincerest sympathy of the community in their bereavement. R. I. P.

JOHN A. MCGREGOR

Following a very brief illness John A. McGregor of Detroit, died on the 16th of February at the home of his cousin, John A. Coutts at Traceytown, Wash., where he was visiting. Though in his eighty-fourth year Mr. McGregor left his late home a few days before in apparently good health and his unexpected death came as a great shock to his many relatives and friends.

Deceased was born in Tilbury East where he spent many years in the timber business and also dealt extensively in cattle. He took an active interest in public affairs and was for many years a member of the Township and County Councils and was Warden of the county of Kent. He was possessed of a ready wit and pleasing personality and no public gathering was complete without his presence, also many charitable acts were so quietly done that they will not be recorded in this world.

The funeral took place from his late residence 1481 Garland Ave., Detroit, on Tuesday morning, Feb. 24, via M. C. R. Requiem Mass was sung by Rev. Monsignor Parent in St. Francis Church, Tilbury, and was attended by a great number of old friends. Interment was made in St. Francis Cemetery.

The pallbearers were six nephews, Louis McGregor of Duluth, Jas. E. McGregor of Tilbury; Martin, Alex and Leo McGregor of Chatham and John C. McGregor of Cornwall.

Deceased is survived by his widow (nee Mary Hurley) and one sister, Mother M. Theresa of the Ursuline Convent, Chatham. R. I. P.

HOLLAND INTERESTED

Tilburg, Holland.—Holland is interestedly watching the growth of the mission spirit in the United States. Though a small country Holland itself is very well represented in the mission field, and has experienced the beneficent reaction on Church activities at home, which mission interest is sure to produce.

There are today in Holland some 39 mission publications; of these, 32—most of which appear monthly—represent various mission societies. Seven other magazines are of a more general character and solicit alms for special missions, or special mission work.

All Dutch Catholics are urged to contribute to the Propagation of the Faith as general aid, and to special appeals in favor of missions and mission training-houses.

The officials of the Propagation of the Faith are helped in various dioceses by returned missioners and representatives of mission training houses, all of whom work together for what is looked upon in Holland as the most important movement in the Church today.

NOVENA IN HONOR OF ST. JOSEPH

A Solemn Novena of Prayer commencing March 10, and closing March 19, will be made again this year by the Sisters of St. Joseph, Toronto, in all their convents and institutions throughout Canada, in honor of their glorious Patron, St. Joseph. Special solemnity will be attached to the making of the Novena at the Motherhouse, St. Alban St., Toronto, where Holy Mass will be offered each morning for the intention of the Novena; and each evening at 5 o'clock, during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a Holy Hour of Adoration will be made, with a short instruction, followed by Benediction.

This Novena, which has the express approval and blessing of His Grace, the Archbishop, is being offered to God, that He may see fit, through the intercession of St. Joseph, to increase the number of vocations to the Religious Life, in this age of worldliness and self-seeking. Year after year appeals are made to the active religious communities to take new schools, establish hospitals and orphanages, and open new convents. But always the same difficulty arises, "the fewness of the labourers." It is, therefore, this inability to meet the demands of bishops and parish priests, far and near, and an ardent desire that the work of God in Canada may not suffer therefrom, that have induced the Sisters of St. Joseph to institute these nine days of prayer and supplication, in which the Catholic laity is urgently requested to join, either in private or in public.

The Sisters of St. Joseph, wish also to make thanksgiving to God, Who, through the intercession of St. Joseph, has answered the prayers of last year's Novena in such an extraordinary way. They wish to take this opportunity, too, of expressing their gratitude to all who joined them in asking from God this increase of religious vocations.

CANADIAN PILGRIMAGE TO ROME

The Reverend E. J. Devine, S. J., Editor of the Canadian Messenger and a well known writer and author of many widely read books on travel and religious subjects, has been selected as the Spiritual Director for the Canadian Pilgrimage to Rome which will leave Montreal by the White Star-Dominion Line Steamship "Megantic" on May 30th, 1925. The party will be in Rome for the ceremonies in connection with the Beatification of the eight Jesuit Martyrs of Canada. The official program for the Pilgrimage has now been issued and may be obtained on application to Thos Cook & Son, 526 St. Catherines St. West, Montreal, who have been favored with the business management of the tour.

UNHAPPY ALBANIA

MOSLEM USURPER JAILS 8 PRIESTS AND BURNS SCHOOL

[By Dr. Frederic Funder (Vienna Correspondent, N. C. W. C.)]

New afflictions are being visited upon the Catholics of Albania following the triumph of the Mohammedan usurper Achemed Zogu, who invaded the country and, with the help of Russian mercenaries, overthrew the government of the Orthodox Bishop Fan Noli.

The Reign of Terror instituted by Achmed—particularly in his treatment of the Franciscans—exceeds in atrocity the persecutions which have hitherto dotted the stormy history of Albania. Day by day fresh victims are taken from the Catholic clergy. The usurper has gone so far as to threaten personal violence to Archbishop Mjedja of Scutari and has arrested the Archbishop's brother, Father Mjedja, who is seventy years old. The Archbishop's secretary, Father Lazarus Shantoja, and the Franciscan Fathers Benardini, Anthony Harapi and Cyril Zanni, have also been arrested.

However the climax which has stirred the Albania Catholics more profoundly than any other incident in the persecution was Achmed Zogu's order for the arrest and imprisonment of the Very Rev. Paul Doday, Provincial of the Albanian Province of the Franciscans. To grasp the full horror of this outrage a knowledge of Albanian prisons is necessary. Father Doday is a man who is highly revered throughout Albania for his great scientific learning as well as for his devotion to the welfare of the Albanian people.

Ever since the establishment of the Order of St. Francis, that is, for more than five hundred years, the members of this community have been laboring in Albania as pioneers of civilization. Their work has been so universally meritorious that the Ottoman rulers respected the convents of their order—particularly the convent at Scutari and have generally recognized the valuable work of the Franciscans in bringing civilization into this semi-barbarous land. Even during the worst disorders in the country's disorderly career the rights and merits of the Franciscans were respected. It remained for the twentieth century with its lofty phrases about the freedom of nations and the end of violence, to allow the perpetration of outrages which would disgrace darkest Africa.

The Catholic grammar school at Scutari, maintained by the Franciscans, has been burned by Achmed's mercenaries and the most valuable library in Albania was destroyed in this fire. Many Catholic priests have been compelled to seek safety in the mountains. The Catholic paper Ora e Maleve of Scutari, has been suppressed and twenty prominent Catholics of that city have been imprisoned. These and other atrocities are confirmed by reports coming from high ecclesiastical authorities whose knowledge of the situation is beyond question.

Achmed's persecution is not animated entirely by religious motives. He is also persecuting many of his own co-religionists who opposed his usurpation of power and accused him of acting with Serbian assistance and with the object of ultimately surrendering Albania to Serbia. His hatred of the Catholics is based upon the vigorous opposition which the Catholic mountain tribes interposed to his invasion. They refused to recognize his so-called government and in retaliation he has attacked the Catholic clergy, holding them responsible for the attitude of the Catholic tribes.

Albania has been shaken with hostilities of one kind or another ever since the end of the World War. It has been the scene of the passionate political plots of neighboring countries. Apparently the League of Nations is powerless to restore and maintain order and since the protection extended to the Albanian Catholics by Austria under the Hapsburgs has ceased to exist, the situation there is far from pleasing.

DIED

BENNING.—At Lawn, Nfld., on December 7, 1924, Mrs. Joseph Benning, aged seventy-nine years and five months. May her soul rest in peace.

MCNAB.—At Dundas, Ont., on March 6, 1925, Miss Eliza McNab. Funeral from St. Patrick's Church, on Monday, March 9. Interment in Southampton. May her soul rest in peace.

IN MEMORIAM

LEE.—In sad and loving memory of Edward J. Lee, Moor Lake, who died March 13th, 1923. May his soul rest in peace.

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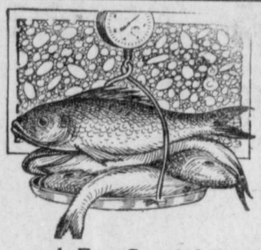

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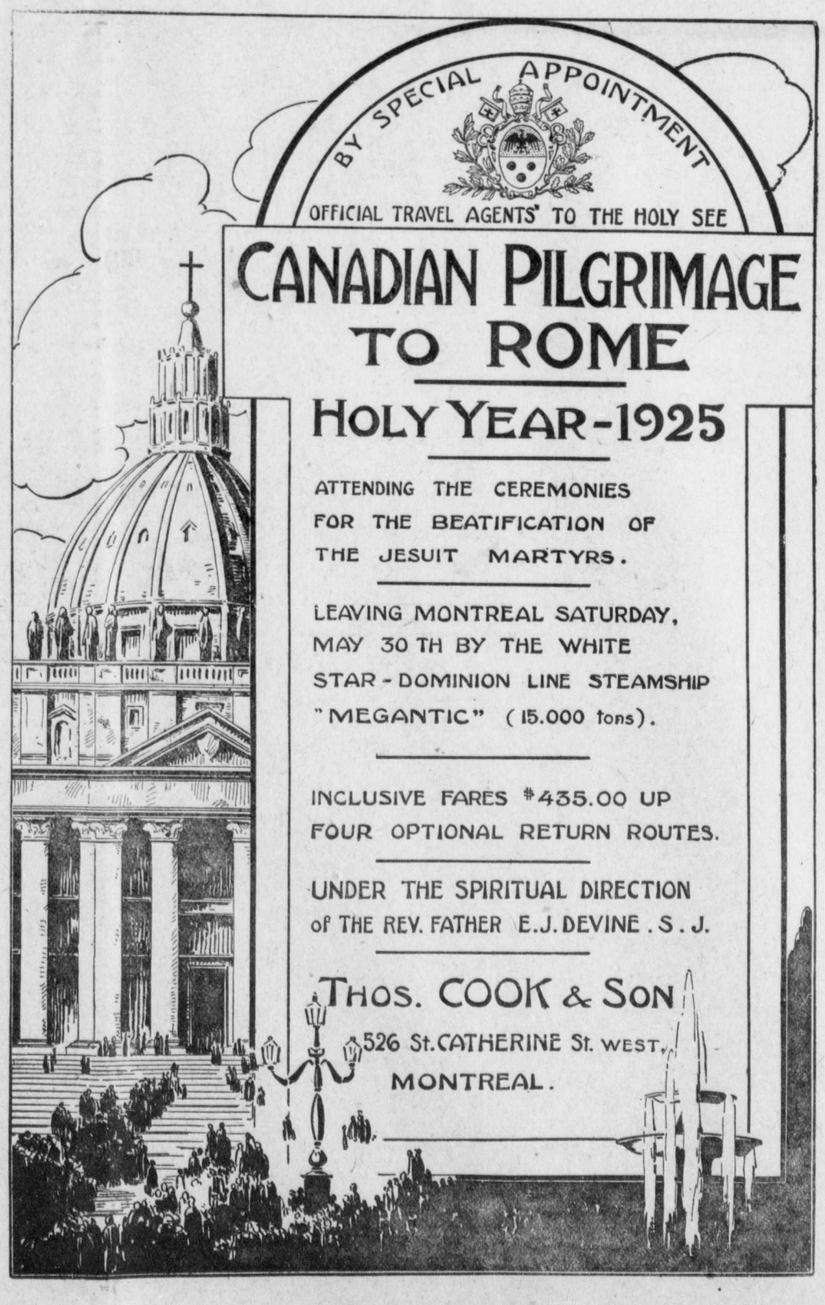

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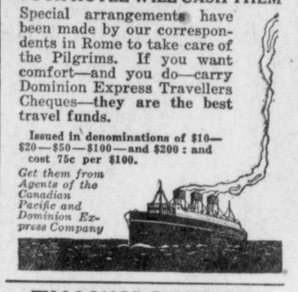

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