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A FALSE IMPRESSION

In the statement issued after Justice Greenbaum's decision exonerating Father Farrell and himself from Mayor Mitchell's accusations Monsignor Dunn disposes of the impression prevalent in some quarters that the Catholic charities of New York ever opposed complete investigation. That impression was left in many minds at the time of the hearings by the Strong commission. Even Catholic editors labored under it for a time. It was the purpose of Mitchell and his henchmen to leave that impression; and to a certain extent they succeeded with those who were not familiar with the various angles of the controversy. Says Monsignor Dunn:

"There was never a time when those in control of our Catholic institutions refused to allow a thorough investigation of the homes. They welcomed the visits of the members of the local board of charity answered every inquiry willingly and fully and followed all the suggestions made, though many of them were futile and foolish. Yet the professional uplifters, when it served their purpose, presented reports of conditions which had no foundation in fact.

"It was only when the plan of calumny had reached a point that the entire community was shocked at the designedly false statements in the newspapers, supplied by these Christian gentlemen, that an effort was made to answer the slanders and inform our Catholic people on the true facts. It is undisputed that the press articles and headlines in the Moreau pamphlet, which was financed by Commissioner Kingsbury, falsely stated the testimony taken before Commissioner Strong, and yet Mr. Mitchell in various form repeated them over and over again, for a purpose which it is not hard to suspect.

"For our effort, we were brought before grand juries, the Strong commission, the Thompson committee and finally in the open court forced to show that we had the rights of citizens and were privileged to use them, even in so good a cause as the defense of our noble Sisterhoods, who had been held up to ridicule and contempt before the community."

The efforts of Mitchell and his professional uplifters to crush Catholic charities in New York, which were now under indictment for their criminal methods. The mayor escaped by one vote. His public disgrace is perhaps a sufficient punishment for him.—True Voice.

POPE BENEDICT XV. AND THE GREAT WAR

CARDINAL SECRETARY OF STATE LOOKS FOR RESUMPTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH FRANCE

All the contending nations of Europe are anxious to get some expression from the Pope respecting the European war. In the current issue of the London Tablet appears the interview which follows:

M. Edouard Heisey, a representative of the Journal, has been accorded an interview with the Cardinal Secretary of State, for the exactitude of the report of which the Paris paper is able to give the assurance that it has been "formally approved and confined itself to giving without discussion or comment the views of the Pope in presence of the conscience of France." The following is a full translation of the report given by the Journal:

INTERVIEW WITH CARDINAL GASPARRI

Cardinal Gasparri, on seeing me, welcomed me with a smile and began:

"You know that the Holy Father, after certain interviews of unhappy memory, resolved to receive no more journalists during the war. I also took the same resolution, but reassured by the loyalty of the Journal, I feel sure that it will faithfully report my words."

"Your Eminence, I understand, lived in France for a long time, and so could know and form a judgment of her"

IN PRAISE OF THE FRENCH CLERGY

"I was thirty years of age when the Bishops who founded the Catholic Institute of Paris, offered me the chair of Canon Law and the Public Law of the Church. I left Paris at the age of forty eight years, when Leo XIII. sent me as Delegate Apostolic to Peru, Bolivia, and at the Equator. This means that I gave to France the best years of my life. During that long period which, alas! passed so quickly, I learned to know and to love France. Especially did I learn to know and esteem the French clergy, from Cardinal Richard

who honored me with his fatherly benevolence, to the country curies who join the most solid priestly virtues with so much practical good sense. In this horrible war you have not, I think, had any cause to complain of your clergy.

"Their conduct has been the death of many prejudices. The old religious war-cry, 'Clericalism is the enemy,' which is plain to everybody. Certainly, Gambetta would not repeat it. The patriotism of the French priests has once again received its baptism of fire, and henceforth no one can have any doubts of its reality. That cannot but have important consequences for the future of your country."

"May I ask Your Eminence if, among those consequences, you regard it as possible that there may be a resumption of relations between France and the Holy See?"

THE QUESTIONS OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

"There you touch on a delicate question. I may say in all simplicity that for me who love France so well, the day of the rupture of those relations was one of the most painful of my life. You ask if I think a resumption of them possible? Most certainly I do. We should on our side be delighted; but everything will depend on the French government. Whether it will desire it I do not know. When peace is made all the belligerent peoples will have a pressing need of repose and tranquility which will silence at least for some years many domestic quarrels, and France particularly, after having admired the splendid conduct of her clergy, secular and regular, will not, I think, have any desire for religious persecution. Will there, for example, be any new eviction from French territory of the religious who returned to France in response to the call that the country was in danger? I do not think so. No French Government will do it, and France, as I know her, in her chivalrous spirit, would not allow it. Now religious peace will never be complete without a resumption of diplomatic relations with the Holy See. After the war, moreover, the points of contact between the civil power in France and the ecclesiastical authorities, far from disappearing, will multiply more and more, and a government which has really at heart the interests of the republic will have no wish to sacrifice them to an anti-clericalism which has had its day. Here, I think, you have some reasons which should allow Catholics to hope."

THE IMPARTIALITY OF THE HOLY SEE

"I thank Your Eminence for what you have just said. Could you add a few words on the views of the Holy Father in regard to the war. You know that—"

"I know that on this subject our enemies are circulating a number of foolish notions in France. Yet the views of the Pope are very simple and clear. First of all, he desires and calls for many prayers for the reestablishment of peace, a just and lasting peace, and so one which is oppressive to no nation and which takes account of such of their aspirations as are recognized as just and realizable. Otherwise we should not have peace, or at any rate not a peace which would be lasting. Whilst waiting for this peace, and in spite of what may be said, the Holy See preserves absolute impartiality between the belligerents—could it do otherwise?—and with a special benevolence for the Catholic nations, precisely because they are Catholic, which have suffered most; France, Poland and that Belgium, which is all the closer to the Holy Father's heart because it has been tried the most. This impartiality is absolute, but not inactive, for the Holy Father, without thought of trouble or expense, and without any distinction of religion or race, has done all that he could to alleviate the suffering caused by this horrible struggle. Thanks be to God, the result is satisfactory. I hope, your, sir, will believe that the Secretariate of State, under the vigorous impulse of the Holy Father, is just at present no sinecure. Even for the immense correspondence entailed by the searching out of prisoners and missing men, and the informing of their families, we have had to mobilize the services of monks and the good nuns. You are certainly aware that our chief initiatives of a general sort have been crowned with success, as well as those which have for their object the wounded, the hospitalization in Switzerland of the sick and less severely wounded, and now the hospitalization of civilian fathers of families who are interned, etc. I do not speak of other measures, either of a general or a particular sort, which still await solution, but which we hope to carry out successfully. There, in a few words, you have the views and work of the Pope in these tragic times through

which we are passing. The facts are well known, and the Holy Father has explained himself in the most solemn documents. I do not think I am mistaken in saying that all reasonable men approve of our conduct. And when warlike passions are once appeased, we shall calmly await the judgment of history."

"Would Your Eminence be good enough to allow me one word? It is true that the Holy See, as a power international by its very nature, could not throw itself into the struggle. No one thinks that. But from the highest moral authority in the world one expected to have a word in condemnation of certain procedure employed in this war."

above the battle

"This is the complaint that has been made to us and that has been repeated with amazing levity by some of the great journals. The Holy See has condemned violations of justice; it has also, in the Consistorial Allocution of January 22, 1916, and other solemn occasions, recalled the belligerents to the observance of the laws of warfare. Ought it, could it go further and condemn by name in particular cases? It will be no surprise to you to learn that the accusations, coming from all quarters, are recriminatory. The Holy See being impartial, must, if it wishes to stand forth as the judge of such acts, follow the same rule for all. A judge, even if somewhat careless, must before pronouncing sentence make an inquiry and ought at least to hear the accused in accordance with the elementary principle of right: 'Audiatur et altera pars.' And this would be all the more necessary in contentious questions like these, on account of the high authority of the judge, the gravity of the case, the inflamed state of people's passions and the complexity of the circumstances. But is this practically possible? Even if we, as investigators, could reach the accused party, he would probably, with more or less politeness, show us the door, deny the charge, or furnish us with explanations which we could not verify. This, of course, is speaking generally. It would be very easy for me to confirm this reasoning by examples and to apply it to particular cases. But is not the course we follow the better one, that of keeping ourselves outside and above the battle, which allows us to do good services to all and even slowly and quietly to bring the belligerents to give up such and such a procedure either altogether or in part? We do not always succeed, but we are successful in some cases, and the little we gain means so much the less evil on earth. I can see that you are at this moment thinking of the deportations in Northern France. Yes, we have taken up that matter also, but I hope you will not press me about it, for I cannot give you an answer. All I can say is that we are still busy with it."

In signifying to me that the interview was at an end the Cardinal added:

"You can say this to French Catholics: that the Holy Father does not forget them in his prayers, that he keeps his love for them, and that he is ever mindful that France in her long and glorious history won the beautiful title of oldest Daughter of the Church. And, in spite of certain appearances, I am sure that she herself remembers it also."

LETTER OF CONDOLENCE

REV. T. MCCARTHY, C. F., TO MRS. CYR, WESTVILLE, N. S.
Flanders, Aug. 7, 1916
To Mrs. Mary Cyr, Westville:

Dear Mrs. Cyr.—It is with deep regret that I write you a few lines to let you know something of the death of your dear husband, which sad event occurred last evening. I buried him this evening in the military burying ground beside many of his brother heroes.

Your husband was in the front line of trench when he was hit by a German shell, rifle or grenade in the back of the head and he died a few moments afterwards. His death was instant and his sufferings short. I know full well what a shock it is to all those near and dear to our gallant boys, but after all is said, what greater tribute can be paid to any husband or son in this world, than the motto placed over the grave of a valiant patriot: "He died for his king and country." While you suffer grief of heart at the loss of one whom you will see no more and whom you had chosen for your companion through life, there is great consolation in knowing that no man died for a juster cause. Never was there a nation that rallied to arms like an army under a more holy and sacred cause, because we are fighting for Christian civilization and all that it stands for.

Rest assured, then, that while you mourn the loss of a beloved and devoted husband each of us mourn with you in the loss of a devoted friend, a pleasant companion and a gallant soldier. He was at Mass and the Holy Sacraments only two weeks ago, and there is every reason to hope and feel that he has his celestial reward with his heavenly Master in the kingdom of His glory. Expressing to you my profound sympathy in your hour of grief and praying God to have mercy on his soul, I will conclude, hoping these few lines from the chaplain who laid to rest your dear husband may be a source of consolation in your hour of bereavement.

Believe me, dear Mrs. Cyr, to be Yours sympathetically
(REV.) T. MCCARTHY, C. F., Capt.
P. P. C. F. I. B. E. F., France

MARRIAGE

McGOEY HANLON.—The marriage took place very quietly on Tuesday morning, Sept. 26th, in the Church of Our Lady, Guelph, of Mr. John Edgar McGoe, formerly of Linwood, Ont., now of Grand Coulee, Sask., to Miss Katherine Hanlon, of Guelph.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. F. Hanlon, S. P. M., of Brooklyn, N. Y., brother of the bride, while Rev. J. S. McGoe, of St. Patrick's Church, Hamilton, brother of the groom celebrated Nuptial Mass.

DIED

GILMARTIN.—In Minto, on Sept. 10, 1916, Mr. John Gilmartin, aged eighty years. May his soul rest in peace.

McCAUL.—On September 18th, at the residence of her sisters, Misses Pender, 108 Augusta Street, Ottawa, Elizabeth Mary Pender, beloved wife of M. J. McCaul of the Dominion Railway Commission, Calgary, Alta. The funeral took place on September 23rd to St. Bridget's Church, thence to Notre Dame Cemetery.

NOT OPPOSED TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

It is wrong to say that Catholics are opposed to the Public schools. They are not. They think the Public schools excellent in many ways but they hold that the Public schools do not go far enough. Secular education is a very desirable thing, but Catholics want religious teaching as well, for religion is to Catholics infinitely more important than anything else on earth.—Southern Messenger.

It is said that the first ten Bishops of beleaguered Verdun, in France, were Irishmen.

The aim of everything here is the making of men, the training of soul, mind and body for the life to come. The discipline is severe, the suffering is sharp; but the pains are only "growing pains," as we grow "unto the fullness of the stature of the perfect man." Instead of denying pain, or unduly shunning it, or bearing it with grim determination, Jesus would have us consecrate it, transmute it into a blessing, so that we can say, "It is good for me to have been in trouble, that I might learn Thy commandments."

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