

PRIEST DECORATED FOR BRAVERY

MASSACHUSETTS CHAPLAIN TELLS OF FORTITUDE SHOWN BY TROOPS

By Bert Ford, Staff Correspondent of the International News Service

With the American army in France... The Rev. John B. DeValle, curator of St. John's Catholic church at New Bedford, Mass., assigned by the Knights of Columbus as chaplain to the American infantry regiment whose colors were decorated by a French general in an impressive ceremony marked by a regimental review, told the International News Service correspondent his experiences in the two-day battle in the Apremont woods in the sector northwest of Toul, when Americans and French routed 800 German storm troops a fortnight ago.

Chaplain DeValle was among those of the regiment who were awarded the French war cross for conspicuous bravery under fire. He was my baptism of fire, and it was hell incarnate while it lasted. There was a time when I was afraid to stay alone in the room during a thunderstorm and if anybody had told me I could ever go through such a thing I would not have believed it.

Striplings of eighteen showed the fortitude of veterans. It was my baptism of fire, and it was hell incarnate while it lasted. There was a time when I was afraid to stay alone in the room during a thunderstorm and if anybody had told me I could ever go through such a thing I would not have believed it.

"You recoil for a minute; then you forget all about yourself. Shells were falling every five seconds. Men were dropping to earth, stones were flying and shells bursting all around. Our dugout received one direct hit, but no one was injured.

SEES OFFICER KILLED

Lieutenant John G. Galvin of Greenfield (state not given) came to the dressing station after fighting gallantly all of the first delivery. He told the doctor there was something the matter with his ear drums. He said he could not hear and it interfered with his work.

The doctor told him to bathe his ears in hot water. Galvin laughingly replied: "How am I going to get hot water when I can't even get cold, doc?"

"I followed him to the door of the dugout and shook hands with him. A shell just then burst near where the doctor stood. I warned Galvin he had better not stand near the door. He was just about to go when another shell burst in front of us. It mangled the post fellow. He was mourned by the whole regiment. He was a born soldier. He loved the military game and was idolized by his men.

"I had to do a little first aid work of my own in addition to giving the last rites to the dying. As for the latter, it mattered not what faith they belonged to. If the man was a non-Catholic I would say: "A prayer won't hurt you anyway, even if I'm not a minister of your faith. And in every case they begged me to pray and bless them. The spiritual feeling is strong in such trying hours when death lurks everywhere. There were no denominational lines out there.

SEARCHES FOR WOUNDED

"Just after the battle work reached me from some of our men that Private Charlie Pike of Massachusetts lay wounded somewhere out in No Man's Land. They told me he was a Protestant boy, but Protestant or Catholic chaplains draw no boundaries. I crept around the dead, but could not find Pike. I came back and got new directions and then tried another place, but again failed to find him. I came across Pike at a dressing station later, however. The little patriot smiled when I reached him. He had been wounded by shrapnel and was unable to move. So I carried him back further behind the lines, dodging the shells. Pike was getting along finely.

"The first thing I do is to give the wounded a drink of something hot. I carry a thermos bottle. Then I stick a lighted cigarette between their lips and that always brings a smile, no matter how badly wounded they are — it gives them new pep. They are strong enough to fire him with almost supernatural energy and to stand by him to the last. We relate the story as it is told in The Tablet: "A young priest, serving as a private, was in a dugout at the front, with a band of soldiers. A bomb, falling near the entrance, exploded, sending its fragments inside and mortally wounding every one of them. The priest, with both legs shattered, made his way about the smoke filled cave, and administered the last rites of the Church to every man in there before he himself died — just as the stretcherbearer came to drag the victims out."

IT TAKES COURAGE

If any one is tempted to underrate the courage of the young clergymen who are volunteering for service in the army and navy, he ought to do them the honor of imagining them at the post of danger. No cannon, however deadly, can set bounds to the zeal of the priest who sees the chance to serve a soul at the threshold of eternity. Time and again, during the present War, have young clerics disregarded the expostulations of officers and rushed into the jaws of death to administer the last rites to the dying.

In the current issue of the London Tablet a particularly touching incident is related. There was indeed no "going over the top," but the zeal of the priest who was serving, as chaplain, but as a private in the French forces, was strong enough to fire him with almost supernatural energy and to stand by him to the last. We relate the story as it is told in The Tablet: "A young priest, serving as a private, was in a dugout at the front, with a band of soldiers. A bomb, falling near the entrance, exploded, sending its fragments inside and mortally wounding every one of them. The priest, with both legs shattered, made his way about the smoke filled cave, and administered the last rites of the Church to every man in there before he himself died — just as the stretcherbearer came to drag the victims out."

HISTORIC "CHAPEL ROYAL" THROWN OPEN TO PUBLIC

A beautiful picture is given of our pre-Reformation lavishness where the service of God was concerned by the newly opened Chapel Royal at Hampton Court Palace. This edifice, which with its royal oratory or praying closet, has been thrown open for the first time to the public this week, dates back to the times when the Knights Hospitallers of St. John had a foundation at Hampton before

Cardinal Wolsey feared his magnificent palace there. It is deeply interesting to Catholics, for here Mary Tudor, with Philip of Spain, came to hear Mass celebrated by Cardinal Pole, Archbishop of Canterbury, in the presence of the Papal Nuncio, on the restoration of the faith to England, and here, also Elizabeth received on the same occasion Holy Communion from the hands of Bishop Gardiner. Here King Henry VIII was married to Catherine Howard and here he was praying when she escaped from her guards on the morning of her execution and beat in vain on the panels of the door behind him, imploring mercy. Here later came the Protestants in varying degrees, Laud and the Anglicans with Charles I., Presbyterians with James I. and lastly the Puritans with Cromwell. These creatures destroyed the "superstitious and Popish pictures and statues" in the chapel, took down the altar, leveled the steps of the sanctuary, tore down the altar rails and finally smashed every bit of glass that contained a saint's head or a sacred emblem. But the lovely mullioned windows remain and the wonderful roof with its ribs and bosses still retains the painting and gilding which has, in so few other instances escaped, while in the chapel itself is some fine carving by Gibbons and Verrio.

MGR. MAHONY DIES AFTER OPERATION

RECTOR OF ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL HAMILTON, FOR THE PAST FIFTEEN YEARS

Hamilton, May 9.—After a short illness, following a second operation, Mgr. Mahony, rector of St. Mary's Cathedral in Hamilton, died at 10:15 a.m. today at his home, 150 St. George Street. He was born in Saltfleet, and was educated in the township and Hamilton schools, and St. Jerome's College, Berlin. Before studying for the priesthood he attended the Ottawa Normal School, and taught school in Hastings county. Later he completed his studies at the Grand Seminary and Laval University, Montreal. On August 5, 1894, he was ordained a priest by Bishop Dowling and had home rector of St. Mary's Cathedral here for 15 years. In 1909 he was made Vicar-General of the Diocese, and in 1912 was appointed a Domestic Prelate of the Pope. He represented the Bishop several times at Rome, and was the Bishop's representative at the Bishops' Council held in Montreal. Mgr. Mahony took a leading part in charitable and patriotic work. As a member of the Hamilton Recruiting League he was one of the first advocates of conscription.

Dean Mahoney is survived by three brothers, Rev. P. L. Mahoney, of Memphis, Tenn.; Edward, at home, and T. J. Mahoney, warden of Wexford County, Ont. Mrs. James O'Brien, Saltfleet, is a sister.

for the men to whom he is supposed to give heart and courage for the life and death struggle in which they may be called at any moment to participate.—Catholic Transcript

OBITUARY

MICHAEL MURPHY

At his late residence Washington St. Forest, on Monday April 22nd, Michael Murphy, one of Lambton's pioneers, aged eighty two years. He was a native of Kilkenny Ireland and had the distinction of taking the Total Abstinence Pledge from the late Rev. Theobald Mathew when twelve years old, which he faithfully kept throughout his long life.

While adhering to our rule to give subscribers the short obituary notices free of charge, but to limit the longer notices to the families of priests or religious, (and soldiers), we think the item about the Father Mathew Pledge of unusual interest. While sympathizing in the loss we congratulate the family of the late Mr. Murphy on being able to insert that item in his obituary notice. It is not the mere absence from intoxicating drinks, even when social customs were other than they are now, but the fidelity during a long life to the pledged word of his boyhood that makes the brief obituary notice an eloquent tribute to the character of the man. It must have been and must ever remain an object-lesson of incalculable importance to his family.—E. C. R.

ONE OF THE KELLY AND BURKE AND SHEA KIND

Captain O'Kelly, decorated for bravery in battle, who is twenty two years of age, we read in the London Tablet, was born at Winnipeg, where he enlisted as a student in 1916. For most conspicuous bravery in an action in which he led his company with extraordinary skill and determination. After the original attack had failed and two companies of his unit had launched a new attack, Captain O'Kelly advanced his command over 1,000 yards under heavy fire without any artillery barrage, took the enemy positions on the crest of the hill by storm, and then personally organized and led a series of attacks against "pill-boxes," his company alone capturing six of them, with 100 prisoners and ten machine-guns. Later on in the afternoon, under the leadership of this gallant officer, his company repelled a strong counter-attack, taking more prisoners, and subsequently during the night captured a hostile raiding party, consisting of one officer, ten men, and a machine-gun. The whole of these achievements were chiefly due to the magnificent courage, daring and ability of Captain O'Kelly."

Action does not always bring happiness, but there is no happiness without it.—Disraeli. Those who never retract their opinions love themselves more than they love truth.—Joubert.

DIED

HOGAN.—On April 19, 1918, suddenly, at her home, 43 Gilmour St., Ottawa, Christina MacMaster, wife of the late Jas. M. Hogan, in her forty-fifth year. May her soul rest in peace.

EGAN.—At Ottawa, on April 29, 1918, Michael D. Egan, aged 81 years. May his soul rest in peace.

MCCURDY.—At Grandora, Sask., on Friday, March 29, Mrs. Annie McCurdy, (nee Annie Foley). May her soul rest in peace.

MEDICAL OPPORTUNITY FOR CATHOLICS

May his soul and the souls of all his gallant comrades, who like him gave their lives in the heroic performances of duty, through the mercy of God rest in peace.

THE POPE AND WAR VICTIMS

The growth of the war, undertaken originally by Pope Benedict XV, with the purpose of effecting the exchange of prisoners of War, has assumed such large proportions that the Holy See is finding it necessary to issue a set of regulations for those who invoke the aid of the "Vatican." All letters to be addressed directly to the Provisional Office for the Prisoners of War, Secretariate of State, the Vatican, Rome. On the envelope it to be inscribed clearly the object desired, whether it be the return of the prisoners to their native lands, or their internment in Switzerland, or information concerning the missing. The Holy Father begs that requests for assistance contain the following points:

- They should indicate very precisely: (a) The reasons that may be urged in support of the request; (b) the surnames and proper names, age, address, street and number, if there is question of return to their native land, camp and number, if there is question of a prisoner; and also the surname, proper name and address of those in behalf of whom the request is made and also of those who actually write to the Holy See. Frequently one or other of these details is wanting, an omission which entails useless correspondence and occasions long delays."

The instructions of the Vatican insist that care should be taken to make the writing legible, that a change of address should be forwarded to Rome, and that the Provisional Office should be notified as a prisoner has been transferred to Switzerland, or his repatriation effected. It is also noted that it hinders rather than helps the success

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of the request to send a number of letters on the same subject through different channels, and that a separate sheet should be used in the case of each separate person in whom the Holy See is asked to interest itself. It is needless to recall that the Holy Father, in issuing these regulations, has nothing else at heart than to render to the prisoners themselves and to their families every assistance and to their power, and that his instructions have as their object to facilitate his efforts in their behalf.—America.

GENERAL STORE AND CONFECTIONERY with dwelling at Dorset, Muskoka, head of Lake of Bays, also there is pool room and barbers shop in connection. Good summer tourist trade. For sale as owner is taking another position more suitable. Also 200 acres of good land for sale at Matheson, New Ont., close to railway. Other good lots for sale in Bayville, Ont., and a good cottage for tourists on Lake of Bays, at Bayville. For further information apply to Box 469, Dorset, Ont. 2065-4.

ONE OF THE KELLY AND BURKE AND SHEA KIND. Captain O'Kelly, decorated for bravery in battle, who is twenty two years of age, we read in the London Tablet, was born at Winnipeg, where he enlisted as a student in 1916.

CATHOLIC BURGESS. INFORMATION CONCERNING AN EXCEPTIONAL CASE. For further particulars apply to the Rev. Brother Provincial, Presentation Brothers Novitiate, Longueuil, P. Q. 2065-9.

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REFUGING FIRE. By Agnes M. Stewart. Alice Deane, favorably known through her stories of Irish life, has ventured on a new field, and in "Refuging Fire," her latest and undoubtedly her best book, sets before us the life and loves of the Fenian families, the MacFarrall and the Barry. The plot is very well thought out, the story is remarkably well told, and is sure to hold the attention of the reader from the beginning to the last.

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