

ity service by publishing without comment the letters of both sides of the controversy, so long as they were confined to a discussion of issues rather than indulgence in personalities, it can hardly overlook the reference made in Mr. Elliott's contribution to Monday evening's issue to the "Fourth Degree Oath of the Knights of Columbus," which was introduced into the closing letter of the series.

The "oath" referred to, a curious jumble of vile and vulgar pledges, has so many times been circulated over the United States in an effort to discredit members of the order referred to, and has so many times been proven false, that it carries no weight with the Protestant of open mind. Yet in order that those who now have seen the "oath" without seeing its refutation, may do so, The Republican-Herald has taken the trouble to consult and quote from the congressional Record containing the proceedings of the House of Representatives of the United States for January 29, 1915.

On that day Hon. William Kettner of California, styling himself a "thirty-third degree Mason and a working member of the Masonic order," asked leave to present a report on "a subject which has been grossly misrepresented and which has caused religious bitterness and strife," referring to "an alleged oath or obligation of the Knights of Columbus." Included in his address was the reading of the letter which is published below:

October 9, 1914.

We hereby certify that by authority of the highest officer of the Knights of Columbus in the State of California, who acted under instructions from the supreme officer of the order in the United States, we were furnished a complete copy of all the work, ceremonies, and pledges used by the order, and that we carefully read, discussed and examined the same. We found that while the order is in a sense a secret association, it is not an oath-bound organization, and that its ceremonies are comprised in four degrees, which are intended to teach and inculcate the principles that lie at the foundation of every great religion and every free State. Our examination of these ceremonies and obligations was made primarily for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not a certain alleged oath of the Knights of Columbus which has been printed and widely circulated, was in fact used by the order, and whether if it was not used, any oath, obligation, or pledge, was used which was or would be offensive to Protestants or Masons, or those who are engaged in circulating a document of peculiar viciousness and wickedness. We find that neither the alleged oath nor any oath or pledge bearing the remotest resemblance thereto in matter, manner, spirit or purpose is used or forms a part of the ceremonies of any degree of the Knights of Columbus. The alleged oath is scurrilous, wicked and libelous and must be the invention of an impious and venomous mind. We find that the order of Knights of Columbus, as shown by its rituals, is dedicated to the Catholic religion, charity and patriotism. There is no propaganda proposed or taught against Protestants or Masons or persons not of Catholic faith. Indeed, Protestants and Masons are not referred to directly or indirectly in the ceremonies and pledges. The ceremonies of the order teaches a high and noble patriotism, instills a love of country, inculcates a reverence for law and order, urges the conscientious and unselfish performance of civic duty, and holds up the Constitution of our country as the richest and most precious possession of the knight of the order. We can find nothing in the entire ceremonial of the order that to our minds could be objected to by any person.

Motley Hewes Flint, thirty-third Degree Past Grand Master of Masons of California.
Dana Reid Weller, thirty-second Degree Past Grand Master of Masons of California.
Wm. Rhodes Hervey, thirty-third Degree Past Master and Master of Scottish Rite Lodge.
Samuel E. Burke, thirty-second Degree Past Master and Inspector of Masonic District.

ABBE BETHLEEM WINS FIGHT WITH PUBLISHER

Paris, France.—Abbe Bethlehem, director of the Revue des Lectures, has had the last word in the controversy which arose between him and a publishing house whose publications he had criticized.

For the use of families Abbe Bethlehem publishes regularly a critical study of novels, plays and reviews in order to warn them against those which are immoral or to advise them that they cannot be placed in all hands. Some time ago he denounced as frankly immoral several magazines for the young published by a firm established in Paris by a foreigner. The article was copied in many Catholic papers in the provinces. The head of the publishing house immediately brought suit against Abbe Bethlehem and the editors of every paper that had printed his criticisms, asking large sum for damages from each one.

Several courts in the provinces acquitted the editors of the Catholic papers and declared that the

articles quoted did not exceed the limits of a just and even necessary criticism.

In Paris the case of Abbe Bethlehem, in which his publication, the Revue des Lectures was defended by the head of the Bar Association, had not yet come up for trial. However, seeing the defeat of his various suits in the provinces, the head of the publishing house has now announced that he withdraws all further suits now pending.

The rights of critics with regard to immoral and dangerous publications are therefore recognized by this series of court decisions and by the capitulation of the publisher to the priest who so courageously denounced him.

THE HOLY NAME CONVENTION

CARDINAL O'CONNELL TO ACT AS HONORARY CHAIRMAN

Washington, D. C., Sept. 8.—Announcement that His Eminence Cardinal O'Connell, Archbishop of Boston, will act as honorary chairman of the Holy Name Convention here September 18 to 21, and that His Eminence Cardinal Boggiani, Protector of the Society, had sent his warm approval of the convention, has been made at the convention headquarters here.

I accept with great pleasure the very kind invitation to act as honorary chairman of the Holy Name Convention," Cardinal O'Connell wrote in reply to the invitation extended by Archbishop Curley of Baltimore, "and I shall be glad also to deliver an address on that occasion as you have requested."

"My attachment to this great and salutary devotion is, I think, well known, and year by year I see the proofs of its holy influence growing among our good men."

"God bless your good work—may it spread to every parish in America."

Cardinal Boggiani, writing from Rome to the Very Rev. Michael J. Rippe, O. P. P. G., National Director of the Holy Name Society in America, said in part:

I convey to you my warmest approval of this Congress. I rejoice on this great occasion, with my very best wishes for it. I assert in the highest terms that the thought of celebrating this first National Congress of the Society of the Holy Name could not be more fitting and opportune.

"It could not be more fitting, because at no time and in no part of the world has the devotion to the Holy Name ever been more intelligently and so strongly organized, never did it develop, flourish and produce such salutary and wonderful fruits, as in the fifty years of its existence in the United States."

"In fact, it is a spectacle worthy of the greatest admiration to see thousands of Confraternities of the Holy Name spread in so many parishes as to count hundreds of thousands of men—only men—members of this Confraternity who wisely united and organized, constituting one immense Society of the Holy Name which, like a net of divine formation and of wonderful beauty, covers and protects the whole extent of the Starry Republic."

"Full of confidence in the happy success of the Congress, I assist at it in spirit; I respectfully offer my salutation to those gathered in it; and I fervently pray Almighty God to cause to descend abundantly His heavenly blessings on the Society of the Holy Name, on its first National Congress, and on all those who take part in it."

RESTORATION WORK FAILS

By Rev. Dr. Wilhelm Baron von Capitaine (Cologne Correspondent, N. C. W. C.)

Desperate measures to continue the restoration work necessary to save the great Cologne Cathedral have failed, and the work rooms have been closed and the workers dismissed. As a last resort three lotteries were held to collect money, but all three failed because of depreciation.

At present, only eight stone cutters are still at work on the parts of the vast building most urgently needing repairs, but the task is so gigantic that it would take these eight men fifteen years to care for the damage already done, if there were no decay in the meantime.

Some private and some Government contributions were made to the work, but the sums were so small they were like a drop of water on a glowing stone. Recently, the Central Union of the Cologne Cathedral met here and a pitiful picture of the condition of this greatest of Germany's minsters, which has become a national monument, was painted. It is agreed Germany must do something to save this priceless treasure of art, but what it shall be is yet unanswered. It seems everything has been tried.

Cologne's venerable town hall is another medieval monument that is crumbling. It was built in 1407-1417, after the victory of the people over the old patricians and nobles, from fines levied on those defeated. There is a famous monument, cut in relief on its front, that particularly is in danger of destruction by time. It represents the ancient Cologne mayor, Gryn, in his legendary encounter with a lion. The legend was that Gryn was invited to the home of a noble,

seized upon his arrival and thrown to a lion. He thrust his left arm, covered with his cloak, in the lion's mouth and with his right ran the beast through with his sword.

These ancient monuments are treasures of the city. Cologne would not be Cologne without them. The Provincial Committee for the Saving of Historical Monuments in the Rhineland also met recently to find means to prevent the decay of architectural treasures of olden days in the Rhineland. Representatives of the Bishop of Munster and the president of the Munster Government were present.

The greatest problem before this conference was the salvation of the cathedral in Xanten. This venerable city was the capital of Franco-German tribes for centuries after the great migration of the German nations in the Fourth Century, and has been made famous by its connection with Siegfried, the hero of the Nibelungen. It was found at the conference that 5,800 cubic meters of the roof of the Xanten cathedral urgently needed restoration, and that 45,000 gold marks were needed.

Other buildings in the Rhineland threatened by the inroads of time are the cathedrals of Aix-la-Chapelle, Mainz, Paderborn and Trier; the abbey churches at Brauweiler, Knechtsteden and Steinfeld; the Carmelite church in Dusseldorf and the former Carthusian church in Cologne. The Protestant structure most in danger is the church at Rees, on the Niederrhein. In addition, there are many municipal and private buildings in smaller places that are gems of ancient architecture and that are threatened with destruction by time.

TROUBLOUS TIMES IN ENGLAND

By Right Rev. Mgr. John F. Noll, L.L.D.

VIII.

These are troublous times in England. Probably never before did Great Britain have to settle such difficult problems, both national and international.

A year ago the Liberal Party lost the election to the Labor Party because of the widespread unemployment at that time. Thousands of people were out of work while the cost of living remained high, and wages were comparatively low. Taxes were exorbitant and everyone with an income of 160 pounds was a tax-payer to the extent of 25% of his income. This state of affairs created a sort of general unrest, and when the Labor Party promised to ameliorate the condition it was quite natural that its candidates should have carried the election.

However, after being on trial one year, under Prime Minister MacDonald, whose administration has been very satisfactory in other respects, the Party has not been able to redeem its pledge to put people back to work at better pay. The number of the unemployed is larger than ever, wages are not improved, and there is a terrible drain on the treasury, because of a law, which allows a weekly dole to all who cannot find employment, and to all who refuse employment under trade-union rules.

HOUSING PROBLEM UNSOLVED

Then the Housing problem is worrying the government very much. It has been characterized as "one of the gravest social questions that have to be faced today." It is generally admitted that the building of houses since the War by an individual is not an investment. A bill was seriously considered by Parliament, which provided that the Government expend about \$8,000,000,000 for the erection of houses during the next forty years.

In addition to these perplexities the farmers are demanding government assistance the same as they are doing in this country; the Irish boundary question is not settled, a Home Rule movement in Scotland and even in Wales, is more dominant than ever. During May of this year the people of Wales voted for a Capital, and the place decided on was Cardiff.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS DISTURBED

Internationally England has her troubles with France, with Germany, with India, with Egypt, with Palestine, and other countries. She would have more trouble with her far-away colonies, if her trade relations with them were not so excellent. When we hear in this country that people even on the same continent cannot be bound together unless they be one in race, religion and language, it is seldom adverted to that the subjects of Great Britain live in every continent and clime and that not one out of ten is Anglo-Saxon by birth, or is united to the rest by language or religion. But they have been bound together by business ties. England is practically on a free trade basis. She receives free of duty all the raw materials which her colonies produce, and then manufactures these materials into finished products, which are returned to the colonies at a fair price, and admitted free of duty. It, therefore, has been profitable to the people under the British flag, no matter where they live, to remain contented.

Just now, however, we have this strange anomaly in the world—of people who have been forced to

form independent governments being dissatisfied under them, and people who have not been offered independence, demanding it. The writer witnessed demonstrations against England during his short stay in Cairo, Egypt; he heard British policies severely criticized in Palestine; and, of course, the reader is conversant with the separatist rumblings in India.

SCHOOLS WELL SUPPORTED

Despite the heavy drain on her National Treasury, England continues to support denominational schools. Education is very far advanced, while it is not quite as much a fetish as it is in this country. During the last year a strenuous campaign was waged to enforce attendance at school up to the age of sixteen, but it was defeated, and the age of fifteen was accepted as a compromise. We see no such school buildings there as we have here in our country, equipped with every imaginable device for physical, technical and cultural training. We see no big playgrounds around the school building. Strangely there are fewer children in school now than there have been for several years. In the first quarter of 1923-24 the figure was 5,137,228. In 1920-21 it was 5,206,095; and in 1913-14 it was 5,381,497.

The great Imperial Exhibition is now on at Wembley, near London, where Canada has the best display of any of the English colonies. The writer witnessed there what English papers declared to be the greatest civic and religious celebration ever held. It took place in the largest stadium in the world with 130,000 people seated therein. The whole Royal family was present, music was furnished by a band formed from every department of the army and navy in England and her colonies, and totaling 800 members; a surpliced choir of 8,000 people sang; the archbishop of Canterbury not only preached to that immense congregation, but his very word was heard most distinctly by the 130,000.

CATHOLIC CHURCH PROSPEROUS

While our country is torn by religious fanaticism, directed primarily against the Catholic Church, England was never so free from it. There are thousands here who believe that Great Britain is backing anti-Catholic organizations here, but if it be true, she is doing so only because, in her envy she would gladly see our internal unity broken. The Catholic Church prospers in England, though it has only one member among twenty people. She had 12,000 converts to her creed last year. Vocations to the priesthood are not as numerous as they should be, but the condition is 500% better than it is in the Protestant churches, where ordinations to the ministry are only about four as numerous as deaths in the ranks of the clergy. The Canon of St. Peter's Cathedral (Anglican) stated a few months ago, that the Church of England had lost 8,000,000 communicants in ten years, of whom 300,000 belonged to the diocese of London, and that the Sunday schools had lost 900,000. Mr. Augustine Birrell has written a new book, in which he says: "It is the external church, the bricks and mortar, the ivy mantled tower, nestling in the valley hard by the 'Blue Boar,' the chiming of the bells on a Sunday morning as they fall on the ears of men walking in an opposite direction, that appeal to these stalwart sons of the Establishment."

Of course, the reader knows that there is union of Church with the Protestant State in England, and such union as the following are frequently seen in English papers: "The King has been pleased to approve the appointment of the Rev. Samuel Kirschbaum Knight, rector of Houghton-le Spring, to the suffragan bishopric of Jarrow, vacant by the death of Right Rev. and Ven. John Nathaniel Quirk."

In visiting the University of Oxford the Catholic student is impressed deeply by the educational zeal of the Church in pre-Reformation times, and wonders how the pride of England will permit travelers to go home censuring her for confiscation and persecution in the past. The same holds good of Westminster Abbey, the glory of London, where the guides do not hesitate to tell the visitor that it was taken away from the Catholic Church.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, September 21.—St. Matthew, Apostle, was a publican whose duty it was to collect taxes from the people for the Roman government. He remained in Judea for several years after the Ascension and there wrote His Gospel.

Monday, September 22.—The Theban Legion, when encamped near Lake Geneva were ordered by the Emperor Maximian to turn their swords against the Christian population. They refused to obey this order and were massacred. Though they were fully armed and capable of offering determined resistance they did not do so.

Tuesday, September 23.—St. Thecla, virgin and martyr, was one of the most illustrious as well as one of the earliest Saints on the Calendar of the Church. Inspired by the preaching of St. Paul at Iconium she refused a most advantageous offer of marriage and was forced to flee from her home. She was captured and subjected to torture and was exposed to death on

several occasions. Each time, however, she was miraculously saved. Finally her Divine Spouse spoke the word and called her to Himself with the double crown of virginity and martyrdom on her head.

Wednesday, September 24.—The Blessed Virgin Mary of Mercy, St. Peter of the noble family of Nolasc, a native of Languedoc, early in life made a vow of chastity and gave all his vast possessions to the Church. Prompted by a vision he and his confessor with the co-operation of the King of Arragon established the order of Our Lady of Mercy for the redemption of captives. Pope Innocent XII. established the feast day in gratitude.

Thursday, September 25.—St. Firmin, Bishop and Martyr, was a native of Pampelona in Navarre. He was instructed in the Christian Faith by Honestus, a disciple of St. Saturninus. He set up his residence in Amiens and preached in the remote parts of Gaul, in Agen, Anjou, and Beauvais. Finally in Amiens, he received the crown of martyrdom.

Friday, September 26.—Sts. Cyprian and Justina, martyrs. In early life Cyprian was devoted to the black arts of magic and to idolatry and astrology. Being impressed by the strength of character of a Christian lady, Justina, he embraced the Faith and when the persecution under Diocletian broke out, both he and Justina were martyred.

Saturday, September 27.—Sts. Cosmas and Damian, martyrs, were born in Arabia and educated in Syria. They became noted for their skill in medicine and practised their profession. They refused to take fees for their services. They were apprehended during the persecution under Diocletian and, after many tortures, bound and cast into the sea.

RAISED TO DIGNITY OF MISSIONARY ORDER

Winnipeg, September 6.—The canonical decree announcing that the community of the Sisters of Service has been raised to the dignity of a new missionary Order has been received and read at the Institute of the Order here. The Archbishop of Toronto read the decree and received the vows of the first six members of the new Order.

Three of the Sisters have been assigned to Morton, Man., on the shores of Lake Winnipeg, where two of them will teach in the schools and the third, who is a qualified nurse, will devote her time to the care of the sick. The population of this settlement is composed largely of Poles, Germans, Ruthenians, and Icelanders, and is practically all Catholic.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY OF CANADA

CULTIVATE A MISSIONARY SPIRIT

By the President of the Society

There are many obstacles in the way of missionary progress. One of them is that Catholics, as a general rule, know little, and care less, about the condition of the Church, outside their own parishes or dioceses. Local conditions existing over a long period, and demanding all attention, may have destroyed in a great measure their Catholic outlook. This is to be regretted in every case, and, in the best interests of the Church, ways and means ought to be devised to restore such Catholics to the proper way of thinking. It may be, on the other hand, that in some sections the lack of interest in the Universal Church and the consequent inactivity is the fault of individuals. For this state, too, there is surely a remedy. Our Holy Father the Pope urges upon the whole Church interest in missions as a remedy for many evils affecting the Church at present. He appeals for a Catholic outlook and for an interest that will be productive of good works salutary for the sanctification of souls and the glory of the whole Church.

The Extension Society is ever trying to develop a broader outlook and a more constant charity in favor of Catholic endeavors outside the parish and the diocese. Because of this, there is no danger that the parishes and dioceses shall be neglected by those who have the supreme interests of Christ and the Church at heart. It is our experience, and we think the experience of those interested, for example, in mission work, that the best supporters of local charities are those among the parishioners or diocesan members who have the Catholic spirit and a Christ-like mentality.

We attempt week after week to give a view of some part of missionary Canada to our readers. We tell of the difficulties to be encountered and overcome. We point out the needs of the disorganized sections of our country so that sowing the good seed of charity now the Church may reap a goodly harvest in the future generations.

One of the means we have employed to bring home to our readers the necessity of a broader and more charitable outlook, is the publication from time to time of letters from the missionary bishops and priests of Canada. These letters not only tell us about the scattered members of the fold, but

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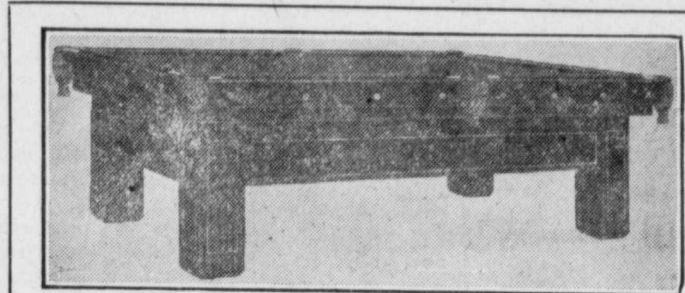
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FATHER ALENCASTRE NAMED AS CO-ADJUTOR BISHOP OF ZEUGMA

The appointment of Father Stephen J. Alencastre, pastor of the church of the Sacred Heart at Punahou, as Bishop-Coadjutor, with the right of succession, to Bishop Boyennens of Zeugma, head of the Catholic Church in Hawaii, has been received with enthusiasm. The Papal bull making the appointment arrived in Honolulu recently.

"Honolulu and Hawaii are to be congratulated," says the Honolulu Star-Bulletin, prominent Hawaiian paper.

"Father Stephen is a son of Hawaii in residence, experience, sympathies and ideals," says this journal. "Though not a 'native son' he is thoroughly imbued with the spirit of tolerance, breadth of charity, kindness and Christian ideals which mark Hawaii. A life-long student, he is a man of culture, and one who feels the responsibility of American citizenship and who, both as a churchman and as a citizen, is progressive in ideals and active in affairs."

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