

The Catholic World

ENGLAND—To aid the Schools

His Grace the Archbishop of Westminster has received £2000 from the Duke of Norfolk and £1000 each from the Marquis of Ripon and Lord Llandaff towards the fund of £100,000 which is being raised in order to meet the requirements of the local education authorities respecting the Catholic schools of the Westminster diocese.

The Catholic Association

Archbishop Bourne on January 25, in the Cathedral Hall, Westminster, inaugurated a Council in connection with the Catholic Association Federation. The Council is chiefly to consist of Catholic representatives from the boroughs of the Metropolis. While absolutely non-political, the Council is to have committed to its care the duty of safeguarding Catholic schools at the coming elections for the County Council. Dr. Bourne said that so far no one had been authorised by him to approach either of the Parties in the County Council elections, but authoritative questions in due course would be put equally to both.

The Remains of Cardinals Wiseman and Manning

The remains of Cardinals Wiseman and Manning have been removed from the cemetery at Kensal Green and re-interred in the crypt of Westminster Cathedral.

Result of United Action

Mr. Long, M.P., in the course of a speech at Bamberbury, said: I believe the Church of England has a great lesson to learn from the educational controversy in which we have been engaged. It is a most remarkable thing that out of this controversy the Roman Catholic Church alone has emerged with distinct advantages, and that for two reasons—one political, the other belonging to the Church itself. The political reason has been denied by the Government, and I am bound to accept that denial. Nevertheless, I firmly believe that if the House of Commons did not contain some 85 members whose support is desired upon a number of other questions, I do not think that Clause 4 would ever have found its way into the Bill. There is another reason, and that is—the Roman Catholic Church put their claims forward with an absolutely united front. There was no question as to whether this section or that section of the Roman Catholics held this view or that view. Roman Catholics from every quarter spoke as representing the Church to which they belong. This cannot be said with equal truth of those who represent the great Anglican Church to which many of us belong.

FRANCE—Fire in a College

A fire broke out on the night of January 24, at the Jesuit College, Calais Road, Boulogne-sur-mer, an hour after the pupils retired to rest. The entire four-storey building covering a large area, was destroyed, and reduced to a heap of smouldering ruins. The loss is estimated at £40,000. The 150 boys who were sleeping in the building were aroused, and, dressing hurriedly, made good their escape.

An Important Proposal

An important proposal (says the 'Catholic Times') has been made by the Bishops of France to the Government of that country. They ask that contracts securing the use of the churches and their contents should be drawn up for eighteen years, that they should fully provide for devolution of rights from one rector to another, that they should recognise the authority of the Bishops, and that they should exclude interference by the municipal authorities, except in the rare cases in which public order is menaced. It is stipulated that the contracts shall be universally entered into. If the Government accept the proposal, a 'modus vivendi' will be established, but of course the spoliation and other acts of the persecution will remain as grievances.

The Marist Brothers

The numerous friends of the Marist Brothers in this country (says the Glasgow 'Catholic Herald') will learn with deep regret that the Order in France has suffered very heavy losses through the confiscation policy of the French Government. Of the 600 establishments and 3000 Marist Brothers in France prior to the enforcement of the anti-Catholic policy not a single one remains. Even the very old Brothers, who had practically spent their lives in the service of the

State, were turned adrift from the house in which they lived, and for all the Government cared, might have been left to starve in the streets. The headquarters of the Order have been transferred to Turin, Italy, but most of the Brothers expelled from France have gone on missionary work to China, South Africa, Australia, and elsewhere. A good few have come to the South of England—to Grove Ferry, Kent—but most of them merely for the purpose of learning English prior to following in the foreign mission footsteps of their colleagues. The various houses which have been confiscated were all built entirely by the Marists out of their own funds, and to add insult to injury the Government are utilising the establishments for ignoble purposes—a beautiful chapel attached to one of their schools in Paris having, for instance, been turned into a dancing hall. Other houses will probably be converted into barracks.

Liberty of Public Meeting

It is an almost amusing outcome of the struggle between Church and State in France (says the 'Catholic Times') that henceforth French citizens must thank the Pope for the liberty of public meeting. When the Government pushes through Parliament its Bill abolishing the obligation of preliminary notification, Frenchmen will be able to meet together and discuss affairs with as much freedom as English people enjoy. And they will owe that freedom to the Pope, to conciliate whom the Government will make meetings free, in the hope that the priests may henceforth use the churches for service, and are not put to all peril of religious and civil commotion. Whether this law will have such a result depends on the decision of Rome, which is likely to take into account the whole situation raised by the Separation Law, before consenting to accept small concessions. Meanwhile it is pleasant to note that in England the meaning of the Pope's resistance is better understood: thus the 'Guardian' now talks of 'the many and unmistakable indications that the dominant party in France is not so much opposed to the Vatican as inimical to religion altogether.' If only the English people could be made to understand that fact, it would soon produce a revulsion of feeling and make the position of the French infidels far less pleasant and popular than it is at this moment.

GERMANY—A Popular Prelate

Cardinal Kopp, Prince-Bishop of Breslau, who has just been celebrating his episcopal silver jubilee, is a very popular prelate. One of the events of the celebration was a torchlight procession in which 2000 persons took part. Congratulations were tendered on behalf of the people by Dr. Porsch. At a service in the Cathedral the Minister of Worship, Dr. von Stadt, was present as the Kaiser's representative, and the Austrian Government and the Province of Silesia also sent representatives. Cardinal Fischer, of Cologne, occupied a special throne. Cardinal Kopp at the close of the service spoke a few words expressive of his thanks.

ROME—Misleading Reports

A Rome correspondent calls attention to the misleading reports that large offerings from all parts of the world are pouring into the Holy See. The opinion is held in Rome that the real object of these reports is to stop, or at least diminish, the offerings of the faithful at a period in which the needs of the Pope have increased.

SCOTLAND—Death of a Religious

At St. Catherine's Convent, Lauriston, Edinburgh, on January 21, there passed to its eternal reward the soul of Sister M. Benedict. Deceased had spent twenty-six years of her life in the Order of Mercy, a useful and exemplary religious whose sweetness of character appealed to all with whom she came in contact. For the past four years Sister M. Benedict had been a sufferer from heart disease, which malady cut short her precious life after ten days' illness. In the world she was known as Miss Frances McDonnell, and was a native of Limerick. A brother is a Redemptorist Father at present stationed at Ballarat, Australia; and a sister is a nun in St. Catherine's Convent, Edinburgh.

United States—Dishonest Politics

In a letter to the 'Baltimore Sun,' which editorially commended Cardinal Gibbons' condemnation of dishonest politics, the Rev. John Edwards, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Mt. Savage, Md. praises the Cardinal for his stand on the political situation. The credit you unstintingly gave to Card-