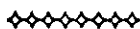


Catholic World

CARDINAL SCHULTE IN ENGLAND.

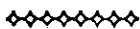
His Eminence Cardinal Schulte, Archbishop of Cologne, has been visiting England at the invitation of Cardinal Bourne, to preside at the Jubilee celebrations and consecration of the church of St. Boniface, the London church for German-speaking Catholics. The roof of the church was injured during the war by a bomb dropped on London from a Zeppelin. Cardinal Schulte, as Bishop of Paderborn, was unremitting in his care of prisoners of war, irrespective of nationality, and received the thanks of the French Government for his work. His Eminence was raised to the Sacred College in 1921. He is only 54 years of age.



PASTORAL LETTER OF BELGIAN HIERARCHY.

The Belgian Hierarchy, with Cardinal Mercier, the Archbishop of Malines, at its head, has just published a Pastoral Letter which, after criticising the formulae of Socialism and Liberalism, declares that it is not wise to condemn the *Catholic-Socialist compromise* on which the present Belgium Government is based.

Let us not condemn this compromise (the letter says). The two parties who have officially consented to share in the government have declared that they intend to maintain integrally their respective programmes, and so the doctrines which inspire these. There is no question of a conflict of doctrine in a Cabinet. As far as the executive power is concerned, it is a question of the conciliation of interests in a field which is limited, and for a period which is usually short. The elections of April 5 made it necessary to form a Government to correspond with the results. No party having a majority, it was necessary either to renounce government altogether, and so lapse into anarchy, or to attempt to govern by means of a coalition of hostile parties. Was it possible to have produced a better coalition than was actually formed? We therefore consider it wise in the interests of public order not to refuse a prudent confidence in the men who have consented to try to govern us, persuaded as we are that no Catholic will confound the personal sacrifice of views which a limited and temporary coalition involves with the actual doctrines and programmes which the individual members support or symbolise.



PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

For the fourth time a Catholic statesman has been elected President of the Assembly of the League of Nations. This is the Right Hon. R. Dandurand, leader of the Canadian Senate. The Assembly Mass, on one of the opening days, at which the Bishop of the diocese pontificated, and which is attended by all the Catholic delegates, has become an important international event, and the *Univers* correspondent describes the impressive scene:—

"The bowed heads of so many statesmen, themselves representatives of peoples so widely different, the venerable Count Apponyi symbolising the splendid past and troubled present of Hungary, for instance, and near him the swarthy delegates of the little negro Republics, Haiti, San Domingo, Liberia; M. Motta, former President of that Swiss Confederation in which—a model to Europe—three national cultures are reconciled, and Count Skrzynski kneeling in the name of Poland. The Secretary-General, Sir Eric Drummond, and his family knelt in the first row of prie-dieux on the left, Senator Dandurand, President of the Assembly, and others of the Canadian delegation, on the right."

This year on the evening of the formal opening of the Assembly, many of the delegates attended a public meeting held in Geneva to hear Father Yves de la Brière, S.J., deliver a lecture on "Catholics and the League." A few days later there was a reception of all the Catholics present in the Delegations to meet the Bishop of the diocese and to discuss subjects of Catholic interest.

NOTES FROM PARIS

ABROGATION OF SECULAR LAWS DEMANDED.

From ten to twelve thousand Catholics at Paray-le-Monial the demand was made that the so-called lay laws should be removed from the statute book of France. The meeting at which this demand was made was called by the Catholic Union of Autun, and to enable the crowd, which was estimated to exceed 12,000, five loud speakers were installed which carried the speeches to every corner of the great park where the meeting was held. President de Maistre of the Catholic Union explained that the assembly had been called to protest against the laicity laws, and to demand formally their abrogation. Mr. Marcel Bucard said that the glorious achievements of the Catholics during the war entitled them to demand that justice should be done to them. The Catholics of Brittany and the Vendée were represented by M. de Grandmaison, deputy for the Lower Loire, who declared that France must either remain Christian or must go down. Mgr. Chassagnon, the Bishop of Autun, made the closing speech, when he put the resolution, passed by an overwhelming vote, that the Catholics will not cease from effective organisation until their demands for religious liberty are met and that all menaces are done away with.

CONSECRATION OF WAR WIDOWS.

A very interesting religious ceremony took place at Cormeilles-en-Parisis, when the first French Oblates of St. Frances of Rome were consecrated. These war widows have grouped themselves under the name of the Spiritual Union of the Widows of France, in the same manner as the spiritual daughters of St. Frances of Rome. The act of oblation was

made in the presence of the president of the Monastery of Tor de Specchi, with whom were the Abbot-General of the Olivetans and Abbot Maréchaux, who is the commissary in France for the monks of the Olivetan Congregation. The Pope expressed his approval of this movement by sending his special blessing to the war widows, and empowering Abbot Parodi to impart the Pontifical Benediction.

The association of war widows binds its members together to live an almost conventional life in the world, and although not technically religious they live under a defined rule of life.

THE BISHOPS AND THE LOAN.

In spite of M. Herriot's sneer about "bankers' Christianity," the Government is very concerned that the bishops should do all in their power to make the National Loan a success. There are not a few Catholics who are in doubt whether they ought to lend their money to any Government, so long as the anti-Catholic laicity laws remain in force. One such Catholic wrote to Cardinal Dubois, Archbishop of Paris, to ask what he ought to do. Cardinal Dubois' answer was to the point. "It is regrettable that these laws continue in force," said the Cardinal, "but it is France that calls for your help, it is to France that we give it, and it is for France that we are asked to lend our money." The Cardinal adds that Catholics should subscribe to the loan, which is to help the country and not any particular Government; for should the loan fail, there is more than a possibility that the present Government might be followed by one very much more hostile to the Church. Mgr. Gaillard, the Bishop of Meaux, is in favor of the loan, and has written to all his clergy to that effect. His Lordship points out to his Catholic diocesans that they are acting as good Frenchmen in subscribing to the loan, which, if it be successful, would be the best thing for the national credit.

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