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HARMONY LACKING. All is not harmony between the various self-governing parts of the British Empire, at least the great colonies are pleased to think they have been treated shabbily by the "mother" country. The dissatisfaction of the colonies has been voiced by Premier Hughes, of Australia, who complains that England threw Australia into the war without consulting her, and is now preparing for peace without consulting her. Premier Hughes insists that Australia is entitled to her own representative at the peace table, and will resent bitterly her exclusion if exclusion is decided on. It is probable that the Premier was speaking Canada's thought also in this matter. The Australians and Canadians have borne the brunt of the fighting on the British side; indeed were it not for the showing made by those colonies Great Britain would have cut a sorry figure in the war. Canada and Australia know this and their respect for Great Britain's vaunted power has visibly diminished. They realize that as far as they are concerned they must look to themselves for the protection of their interests; hence instead of being drawn more closely to Great Britain by the war it would appear as if they really had come to the parting of the ways. At all events it is certain that in future they will pay less attention to the wishes of Great Britain whenever their own interests are to be served, nor would it surprise us if they insisted on being represented at foreign courts by their own plenipotentiaries.

CRITICAL PERIOD. The signing of the armistice brings the United States to what is probably for us the critical period of our connection with the European imbroglio. It is the time when our best thought should be put into the matter of peace, with an eye single to the best interests of our country. The United States went into the war with clean hands and against its will, and it must come out with clean hands. At the same time it should sacrifice no part just interest to the necessities of peace, rather it should insist that those principles for which it had drawn the sword be realized. The United States has won foremost place, financially and commercially, among the nations, and it should not permit itself to be robbed of a single iota of this pre-eminence. It has fought for the freedom of the seas and it should see to it that this means something more than freedom with the permission of

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some other nation. It has fought to make the world safe for democracy and should insist that the world become democratic. It has fought for "the rights of all peoples, great and small; the right of self-government and to a participation in the economic opportunities of the world," and should make it its business to see that those rights are accorded to all peoples without exception. When these things are done for which the United States has fought so successfully then, and only then, will the pre-eminence of the United States be assured. This is the really critical time, for it is the time of test between the openness and sense of fair play of American statesmanship and the dark lantern methods of European diplomacy, and unless the United States insists that the principles for which it fought—principles based on equal justice to all peoples—be the animating principles of international relations in the future we shall have had our labor for our pains.

FATHER HOWARD'S REPORT. Many papers and addresses of interest and value to the student of education are found in Father Howard's annual report of the San Francisco convention of the Catholic Educational Association, just issued. Judging by the volume of some 650 pages, last summer's convention must have been one of the most successful in the history of the association. It demonstrated, as we learn from the introduction, "that the principles on which Catholic education is based are identical with the universal principles of natural right which America has espoused in undertaking this war, and that the triumphant vindication of these principles is necessary for the preservation of civilization, and is worth the sacrifice it costs." The association is just closing its fifteenth year and maintains its position as a strong factor in the growth of Catholic education. The parish schools throughout the land are crowded; in fact many can not accommodate all who wish to attend, and this condition is in large part due to the work of the Catholic Educational Association. All thoughtful educators have come to recognize the value of religious education as exemplified in the Catholic system, and look to the Catholic Educational Association for a clear enunciation of the principles upon which it is founded. The volume is well indexed, is printed in clear and attractive type, and by reason of its contents makes a valuable addition to the Catholic library.



KAISER BILL REACHED AT LAST THROUGH GERMAN PEOPLE.

APPRECIATED

Gen. Austin Writes Letters to Bishop O'Donoghue and Grand Knight Clines.

Expresses Gratitude of Soldier Boys to Catholic Sisters and K. of C.

Speaks For Officers and Men and Gives Assurance of Deep Gratitude.

THE SERVICES INDISPENSABLE.

Speaking for the officers and enlisted men at Camp Taylor as well as for the families and friends of soldiers, Brig. Gen. Fred T. Austin, until recently in command at Camp Taylor, addressed a letter to the Right Rev. Dennis O'Donoghue, Bishop of Louisville, and Grand Knight Thomas D. Clines expressing thanks for the service rendered by more than 100 Sisters and the Knights of Columbus during the influenza epidemic. Gen. Austin, in his letter, says that the services rendered by these Sisters was so timely and so thoroughly satisfactory that he desired to express his thanks and request Bishop O'Donoghue to convey to them assurance of the deep gratitude of the officers and men. His letter follows:

"War Department Headquarters, Camp Zachary Taylor, Louisville, Ky., November 15, 1918—My Dear Sir: During the influenza epidemic, while all the country has been fighting a foe almost as deadly as the enemy overseas, the military authorities are aware of the great and indispensable aid furnished from sources outside their organization. Those responsible for the care and treatment of the unfortunate sufferers can not avoid an acknowledgement of this generous assistance which has made possible the protective and remedial measures that were taken. "While the epidemic was sweeping over Camp Zachary Taylor a number of Sisters of seven orders of your church took a large share of the burden of nursing and caring for the sick soldiers who crowded our hospital. I am advised that the Sisters were sent here at the request of Chaplain Barrett, through the kindness of the following Mother Superiors: Mother Genevieve, five Mercys Sisters; Mother Superior, Franciscan Sisters, three Sisters; Mother Superior, Mercy Convent, five Sisters; Mother Angela, twenty Ursuline Sisters; Mother Praxedes, Superior General, eleven Loretto Sisters; Mother Rose, thirty-two Charly Sisters; Mother Francisca, O. S. D., twelve Dominican Sisters. "The services rendered by these Sisters was so timely and so thoroughly satisfactory that I wish to express my thanks to you as head of the church in this diocese. The consciousness that, for such workers, their deeds of mercy are in themselves reward enough, does not, I trust, make inappropriate this expression of thankfulness to them. "Speaking not only for the officers and men of Camp Zachary Taylor, but also for the friends and families of all our soldiers, I ask that you convey to those Sisters who have helped us here the assurances of our deep gratitude. Sincerely yours, "Fred T. Austin."

Gen. Austin's letter to Grand Knight Thomas D. Clines, recognizing the services of the Knights of Columbus and their Secretaries, has this high praise for their work: "Headquarters Commanding General, Camp Zachary Taylor, November 18, 1918—T. D. Clines, Secretary Knights of Columbus: The services rendered by the members of your organization in assisting in the nursing of the afflicted soldiers of this command during the recent epidemic of influenza are deserving of the highest praise, and I am taking this opportunity to express such compliments through you to the members of your organization. "The appreciation of the untiring efforts and gratifying results have resulted in favorable comment by the families and relatives of the afflicted soldiers, as well as all members of this command. "Frederick T. Austin, "Brigadier General, U. S. A."

CERETTI'S MISSION.

Sunday papers carried the news that Magr. Ceretti, Papal Secretary of State, was on his way to the United States for the announcement of the Pope's new mission in a far more important one than the one announced. Local members of the Catholic hierarchy deny any knowledge either of the visit or of its purpose, and some even doubt the accuracy of the report that he is coming at all. There are important vacancies in the American hierarchy to be filled. Successors to the late Archbishops Ireland and Farley are to be appointed, and it is known that the Pope will exercise extreme care in naming men to fill the places made vacant by the deaths of those two distinguished men. Still it is not thought he would regard it necessary to send his Under Secretary for State Affairs all the way here, especially at this time, with the whole world in turmoil. The most likely surmise, according to a well informed prelate, is that Magr. Ceretti's real mission, if he really comes, is a diplomatic one and has to do with the necessity of reconstructing practically the entire world as a result of the cataclysm. The status of the Monsignor is likened to that of Col. E. M. House as the personal representative of the President to various States where there is already diplomatic representatives. The reconstruction of Russia is a matter of vital importance to the Vatican, for the church there under the Czar received scant courtesy, the Pope being denied the right to communicate with the Bishop of Moscow without the communications passing through a Government censorship.

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State, was on his way to the United States for the announcement of the Pope's new mission in a far more important one than the one announced. Local members of the Catholic hierarchy deny any knowledge either of the visit or of its purpose, and some even doubt the accuracy of the report that he is coming at all. There are important vacancies in the American hierarchy to be filled. Successors to the late Archbishops Ireland and Farley are to be appointed, and it is known that the Pope will exercise extreme care in naming men to fill the places made vacant by the deaths of those two distinguished men. Still it is not thought he would regard it necessary to send his Under Secretary for State Affairs all the way here, especially at this time, with the whole world in turmoil. The most likely surmise, according to a well informed prelate, is that Magr. Ceretti's real mission, if he really comes, is a diplomatic one and has to do with the necessity of reconstructing practically the entire world as a result of the cataclysm. The status of the Monsignor is likened to that of Col. E. M. House as the personal representative of the President to various States where there is already diplomatic representatives. The reconstruction of Russia is a matter of vital importance to the Vatican, for the church there under the Czar received scant courtesy, the Pope being denied the right to communicate with the Bishop of Moscow without the communications passing through a Government censorship.

PAID AWFUL TOLL.

Mrs. Margaret Kleinjohn and daughter, Miss Marguerite Kleinjohn, whose home is at Jackson and Chestnut street, have paid heavy toll for the war. A few hours after Miss Marguerite Kleinjohn on Thursday of last week mailed a Christmas box to her brother, Herbert A. Kleinjohn, of Field Hospital Unit 12, a cable message brought the sad news that he had died in England on October 22 of pneumonia, with which he was stricken while en route overseas with the American forces. He enlisted in the First Kentucky seventeen months ago and left Camp Shelby with the Kentucky boys of the Thirty-eighth Division. His brother, Karl A. Kleinjohn, who was in the Government aeroplane service at Buffalo, was also a victim of pneumonia, of which he died on October 15. For the bereaved mother and sister there is deep and widespread sympathy.

PRESENT FROM BELGIUM.

Last week the Rev. G. A. Vanroostenbergh, chaplain at the Good Shepherd Convent, received a package from Belgium, his native country, marked "souvenir of Belgium from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, which proved to be a large Belgian flag about six feet long, which now hangs in front of his residence at Eighth and Walnut. That same day Father Van had letters from relatives in Belgium, the first he has had in four years. Hon. Michael Herrmann, the French Consul here, also received one of the flags from the Belgian Minister.

BEST HELP

Cardinal Gibbons Says This Is a Glorious Country and Worth Dying For. Woodrow Wilson and His Associates Are But the Instruments of God.

America Triumphed Because Her Cause Was Honorable and Righteous.

GOD EVER HOLDS THE REINS.

America and her Allies triumphed in this world war because theirs was a cause that was just and honorable and righteous; because theirs was a fight not prompted by selfish aims and by lustful ambitions of world conquest, but one that is to make the world free of despotism; a battle for freedom from the yoke of oppression that a militaristic Germany would have fastened upon us.

All can not be soldiers on the battlefields. But those of us who are left at home can serve the noble cause by supporting our Government to the limit of our powers; to the limit of our resources. We must help our army; we must make every sacrifice gladly and uncomplainingly. It is a solemn, sacred duty. We must be loyal and courageous; we must be unwavering in our allegiance to our nation. We must do what is asked of us by our superiors; doing it without questioning and without criticism. Those who live in America should thank God that they have been blessed with a home and a country where liberty is granted without license; where there is authority without despotism; where the Government holds over us a mantle of protection without interfering with a God-given right of conscience. It is a wonderful country, this America; a glorious country; one worth sacrificing for; one worth dying for. At a time like this we must not let ourselves be misled by unhelpful, unwise, unchristian, un-American, un-American, un-American. We must go to the limit of our powers in supporting the President and our Government. We must be whole-souled in our submission to their rulings. It is not our right now to question the laws that the war has imposed upon us. We must obey as all good soldiers have obeyed since the world began.

To those who sometimes have found fault with Governmental rulings; to those whose own opinions have differed from the opinions of our great leaders in this world, I say this: Remember that you are looking at things from only a single viewpoint, while those in authority view them from many different angles; yours is the conclusion of but a single brain; theirs is the concentrated thought of many master brains. It is not within your province to protest because you alone have ideas that conflict with those conceived by the men who are guiding the destiny of this nation—and guiding it with remarkable skill and judgment. The responsibilities that rest today upon the shoulders of our President, upon those of his Cabinet and upon the legislative bodies of the United States are tremendous responsibilities—greater than that which can come when one never had been burdened with since time began. But those men are doing their work in a way that is wonderful; they are doing all that is humanly possible to do to crush speedily a nation that aspired for the enslavement of the world. And remember—always—that Mr. Woodrow Wilson and his associates

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in authority in this country are instruments of God; that God has placed them in the high offices they hold so that they should serve his purpose of leading us out of the chaos of war in the haven of peace. Some there are who have felt that the world has gone mad; that we are adrift, rudderless and helpless on a sea of murderous emotions. But that is wrong. Since the time of the creation nothing has happened in this world by chance. An ever-ruling God has been constantly at the helm of the world, guiding it safely through every storm, plotting it always past the rocks that threaten absolute disaster into the calm harbor of peace and prosperity.

At times like this we must have faith—and a faith that is whole-souled and sublime. We must believe in God—in his wisdom, his justice and his kindness. We must put our trust in the Almighty and calmly feel that at a time when God wills it the war will come to an end. And that the world will be better for the strife that now casts a pall over it. Through the years corruption has increased in the world; greed, lust and avarice came to dominate. The world has come to need a cleansing, and God in his all-wise Providence has been sweeping his hand over it, cleansing and purifying it with the blood of martyrs who died so that those who survive—and those who will be born in the generations to come—will live in a world that is cleaner and better and purer. History shows to us that the world can go on only for a certain time before it degenerates and degenerates. Helpless in itself to bring about a purification, it looks to our Heavenly Father to help it; to wash away the corruption. And this is an era, like those that history records, when God has come to the help of the world and in a way that He deems best is purifying it.

Those who have lost loved ones on the battlefields of France must suffer in anguish and in grief. But to them must come a solace in knowing that their loved ones have not died in vain; that they gave up their lives for a cause that nothing has eclipsed in worthiness. All of us who are born into this world must die. Is there any nobler death than that which can come when one sacrifices his life for righteousness; when one dies acting as the instrument of his Creator in carrying on the work of cleansing the world? The war already has brought about a spiritual revolution—in every religion. There has been developed since the fighting began a tremendous impetus to trust in God—and to keep his commandments. Men and women pray today—hold daily commune with their God—who hadn't prayed for many years. The world has ceased to think only of earthly things; its thoughts have turned to the spiritual. It turns for solace to the church and lifts its voice in prayer, asking the Heavenly Father to protect the loved ones; to bring a speedy end to the frightful slaughter in France. And God

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is hearing them. Their prayers will not go unanswered. From the battlefields of France comes even greater evidence that the war is converting the world; that it is bringing man closer to his God. Men think of God today—and pray to Him—who have had no religious thoughts for years. A religious fervor is sweeping the world. And in the inferno of combat in France men are responding to the cry of their souls; they are lifting their voices in prayer and finding in that action the sweetest joy that life has ever brought to them.

When peace and nationality reign once again, the world will not go back to its old ways; it will not sever the bond of prayer that now unites it with its God. It will not forget what a comfort prayer has brought to them in these war-torn days. The world will raise its voice to its Creator in prayer of thanksgiving then as it raises it in supplication now. And the world will continue to commune with its God and find in that communion a joy that surpasses understanding. Let us put out fullest faith and trust in God—and in our President! Let us pledge day by day our loyalty to our country—and then let us show it. Let us be patient and long-suffering, remembering always that out of this war shall come a new world—a better world—a purer, cleaner world than any of us have known.

WAR SAVINGS TO CONTINUE.

The State Director of war savings has been advised that the Secretary of the Treasury has determined upon the issuance of a new series of war savings certificates and stamps, to be placed on sale early in 1919 and to be known as the series of 1919. The new series will have a maturity date of January 1, 1924, and in practically all respects will be issued on the same terms and in the same manner as the present series of 1918. A new \$5 war savings stamp, blue in color, bearing the head of Benjamin Franklin, the apostle of saving, and a former Postmaster General, is in preparation. The new stamps will be placed on sale early in 1919. The same thrifty stamps and thrifty cards now in use will be continued in 1919 and will be exchangeable into new series of 1919 war savings stamps, payable January 1, 1924, in the same way as the exchange has been made during this year into the series of 1918 war savings stamps. Because of chaotic conditions in Europe the armies must be maintained at full strength for many months and, in addition, enormous expenditures will be necessary for years in connection with readjustment and reconstruction work.

BROKE HIS HEART.

Civilian—How did you get that wound stripe? Private—Me heart broke when we didn't march to Berlin.