

THE CHURCH IN THIS AND OTHER LANDS

NEW WORLD ITEMS

Jury Helps Knights.—The third panel sheriff's jury of New York has contributed the sum of \$500 to the Knights of Columbus to assist that organization in carrying on its war work.

Catholic Schools.—The Catholic school system is a monument to the power of voluntary service in a great and noble cause.

450 Orphans Saved.—Four hundred and fifty children were removed from the German Catholic Orphanage at Buffalo, N. Y., by Sisters of St. Francis during a fire one night of last week which destroyed the greater part of the institution.

Missionary Is Dead.—Early on Ash Wednesday morning the Rev. Francis Blaszczak, a missionary from the Philippine Islands, died at the Alexian Brothers' Hospital, Chicago, Ill., after a long and severe illness.

Negro's Friend Ill.—Right Rev. Mr. John E. Burke, who has been seriously ill for the past three weeks, is showing improvement.

College Glee Club.—Dean John J. Becker of the College of Music at Notre Dame University has reorganized the Glee Club and the organization has already received invitations to appear in several large Eastern cities.

Foreign Mission Day.—The Federation of College Catholic Clubs has pledged its support to the various missionary enterprises of America.

Knights' New Home.—At the meeting of the Knights of Columbus of Des Moines, Iowa, March 11, the building committee recommended the purchase of the downtown piece of property, the location of which will not be made public until the deal is closed.

New Academy.—Plans are well under way for the starting of construction work on the new academy at Salina, Kan., for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia, Kan.

Chinese Missions.—Apostolic work in China is not of recent origin. Four missions have been in existence for over two hundred years.

Cardinal Logue Denounces Socialism.—Cardinal Logue has issued a Lenten pastoral wherein he denounces Socialism, which he describes as "a species of Bolshevism, the blood-stained career of which has shocked the sensibilities of Christendom."

Redemptorist Is Dead.—The Very Rev. Thomas P. Brown, C. S. S. R., Rector of St. Alphonsus' Rock Church, St. Louis, former provincial of the Western Province, Redemptorist Fathers, died suddenly February 28, after a stroke of apoplexy.

acquainted with many persons in different sections. Father Brown had made several trips to Rome.

A New Chapel.—The new chapel which is being erected at Broadmoor, Colorado Springs, is nearing completion and the dedication is to take place April 23, the dedication services to be conducted by the Rt. Rev. John Henry Thien, Bishop of Denver.

Cathedral of Quebec.—One of the most famous Catholic edifices in North America is the Cathedral at Quebec, where Mass was first celebrated 268 years ago, on Christmas Eve, 1650.

Vatican Council.—It is announced that very shortly a meeting will be held of the Diocesan Committee of Catholic Action of Rome and the Catholic Associations to draw up a program for the celebration of the centenary of the Vatican Council.

King Albert Honors Cardinal.—Now that so many of the Belgian refugees are being repatriated it is gratifying to learn that the King of the Belgians, as a mark of his gratitude for what Cardinal Bourne has done for Belgium, has conferred on the Cardinal the Grand Cordon of the Order "de la Couronne," which is the second highest decoration in the gift of the Belgian sovereign.

Prominent Belgians Die.—The Belgian refugees in England have suffered greatly during the past few weeks from the recrudescence of the influenza epidemic.

To Honor Cardinal Mercier.—There is a movement in Belgium to render homage to Cardinal Mercier by offering him a medal.

Catholic Statistics.—The Anuario Ecclesiastico, the official year book of the Holy See, will be found of unusual interest this year.

Anglicans and All Souls.—By a very large majority, but with one or two prominent dignitaries opposing, the meeting of Convocation in London has decided to add the festival of All Souls to the calendar of the Church of England.

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for the events which have taken place since November 9. This is regarded by some as a declaration of loyalty to the kaiser; and already the Socialists are representing the Catholics as enemies of the state.

Deserted Seminaries.—The income for the foreign missions has dwindled away under the war strain till only a pittance is sent to the missionaries each month.

Bishop For Congo.—Last year the Holy Father erected the Prefecture of Kasia, Belgian Congo, into an Apostolic Vicariate, with episcopal residence at Lusambo.

Those Terrible Jesuits.—The capture of Beirut, the "Catholic Herald of India" tells us, has released one of the foremost centers of oriental learning in the East.

Religious Freedom in Portugal.—The situation in Portugal is obscure, and such reports of revolutionary activities as are allowed to percolate abroad must be received with caution.

A Solemn Funeral.—The body of Pierce McCann, Sinn Fein member of parliament for East Tipperary, who died of influenza in the prison at Gloucester, England, reached Dublin on March 8.

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divides up into its component states: Prussia, Bavaria, Baden, etc. Poland has given to it both Warsaw on the Russian and Gnesen and Posen on the German side.

Sacrilegious Vandal.—Everyone who has heard of the miraculous statue of Our Lady and the Divine Infant, honored at Albert. It is very ancient, of stone, and somewhat defaced.

THE TRUE BLUE STAR She purchased the flag, returning from the station that sunny June evening, when she and the sky were of the same hue.

Somehow the consolers and the sighers and the busy mongers ceased to trouble Mrs. Howard.

Then, through the letterless days, she knitted sleeveless jerseys that would only fit a certain broad chest, and while her fingers toiled tirelessly, her thoughts would stay out on the long blue curve that led to France.

Well she remembered how her mother had smiled through the tense fortnight after Gettysburg, when her father's name was on no list, and how her mother's face suddenly aged when the news came that he was unwounded and promoted.

Then, one rainy morning, when she was unable to go the three squares to 6:30 Mass at the Sacred Heart Church, came a brief, censor-stamped card from nowhere, saying, "I have arrived safely over seas."

Later in the day, as Mary was leaving for the Red Cross, she stopped before the hallway mirror to adjust her hat, and through the half-open curtains caught her mother standing before the framed photograph that held the place of honor in the tiny parlor.

Then within the month, like a burst of shrapnel, came the telegram. Mary had answered the ring, certain it was a message announcing the time of Aunt Mamie's train.

"Stop your everlasting knitting, old lady, and hear the news. It's from Auntie. You open it."

And her mother had pulled down her spectacles and cut the yellow edge with her scissors.

"I suppose it's the 10:02. You will have to go, as that's my Red Cross hour."

Then her mother was smiling heavily and she got up and said: "Daughter,"

his mere presence was strength. But next day when The Sun blazed out the town's first hero, privacy departed. School children lingered in the street, and strangely silent for them, were held fascinated by the blue star in the parlor window, which had taken on a new dignity.

There was one young reporter who came with a request, and because he looked somewhat like Sam—the same clear blue eyes, and deep bronze cheek, the deep dimple in his chin—succeeded in persuading the mother to let her picture be taken.

Yet to Mary, her mother seemed at times to act as though she were puzzled, even hurt. It was not the crushing silence of grief, the shock of sudden overwhelming disaster, but rather the startled stillness of a child whose dearest trust has been betrayed.

One afternoon Reverend Mother came over from the convent with an enormous spiritual bouquet. Masses, communions, beads, and a regiment of acts of mortification, that the parochial school children had promised to offer for Sam.

"I said to Sammie, the night war came, 'Son, are you going to wait to be drafted?' And he said to me, stooping over, 'Mother, how can I? I enlisted this afternoon.' And I said, 'Sam, you only did your duty, and no harm will befall you, because I'm placing you under a real Magic Coat.'"

When they were alone, Mary offered to exchange the stars, but her mother stopped her, saying: "No, daughter; that's my work, if it's to be done."

Mrs. Howard got her basket—the old brown shellac work-box, out of (Continued on page 2.)



SAVING DAY Pay day ought to be SAVING DAY. The first place to go when you get your pay is, not to the store, but to the BANK.

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