



On the 27th of June, Fathers Boumans and Vanoverbergh left for the United States, the first to open a mission among the Negroes at Philadelphia, Mississipi, the second to remain for a time at the procure of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Father Vanoverbergh was formerly a missionary at Bauco, where he acquired great fame for his discoveries of several flowers unknown yet in the botanic world. So several of these new flowers were named after him.

On the 25th of July Father Aldenhuisen, former parish priest of Pasig, returned after two years' vacation spent in Holland. While at home he gave the last Sacraments to his old father, who was dying.

Father Desamber, after a vacation in Belgium and the United States, will arrive here at the beginning of next month. He too attended his dying father, while in Belgium.

News arrived of the appointment of four new Missionaries for the Mountain Province. They will arrive probably next October.

Father Wins of Cervantes had the pleasure of receiving a visit from his brother, a missionary in China, formerly a missionary at Bauco, Mt. Pr. After an absence of 10 years, Father Wins, of China found the Faith progressing in the missions of the Mountain Province.

While on his way from Quiangan to

Tubao, Father Lindemans had to remain for two weeks at Bontoc on account of serious illness. Thanks be to God he reached his new destination in perfect health. Father Lindemans has a sister, a Missionary among the Belgian Sisters who are working in the P. I. He expects another of his sisters, belonging to the same order, to arrive within the next six months.

Fathers Deldaele from Trinidad and Claerhoudt from Bokod acknowledge the receipt of many dresses made in Manila by the good Catholic families of Ocampo, Silva and Viaplana. They send their most sincere thanks to these benefactors who help to clothe the naked. May God bless them abundantly.

The King and Queen of Italy, accompanied by the Prince of Piedmont and Princess Mafalda, attended Mass at St. Peter's (Italian) Church, Hatton Garden, London, on Ascension day. Even kings must go to mass and even kings and queens fulfill their catholic duties. Why not?

The Italian Government has decided to restore to the Holy see the Franciscan monuments at Assisi, including the convent and the two churches containing the famous paintings by Giotto. It is never too late to restore stolen things: they never bring luck.

The Vatican Missionary Exhibition will be officially opened on December 26. The more one knows about the

good to be done in the missions, the more one is inclined to help them. The "Little Apostle" will take part in the exhibition.

Thirty-six Christian schools in Constantinople have been closed on the ground that they have disobeyed the rule to remove all religious emblems from classrooms. What a terrible crime to have religious emblems in a school!

Mrs. Raymond Asquith, daughter-in-law of ex-prime Minister of England, has been received into the Catholic Church. She is the widow of Mr. H. H. Asquith's son, who was killed during the war. If some Catholics lose their faith, others join the Catholic Church, but never was it heard that a single one in foreign countries joined the aglipayan Church.

Next year is the Holy Year. The Holy Year was instituted in 1300. In 1475 it was arranged that it should be celebrated every 25 years. In Rome a committee is busy studying the question of lodging and boarding the crowds of pilgrims who are expected. On Ascension day the Papal Bull proclaimed the Holy Year.

Two months ago a negro priest gave Benediction at St. Louis, Mo., U. S. assisted by a Chinese priest and an American priest. The Church knows no color of persons.

The twenty-seventh International Eucharistic Congress was opened on July 22 in Amsterdam, Holland. It lasted five days. As all other Eucharistic Congresses it has been attended by thousands and thousands from all over the world.

The Ecumenical Council of the Vatican, interrupted in 1870, will be reopened in 1928, according to present plans discussed by officials of the Vatican.

Belgian Statesman Writes Gov. Smith About Tolerance

BRUSSELS, May 27. — (N. C. W.) — Belgium cannot understand why a section of the American people should oppose the nomination of Governor Smith for the presidency, simply on account of his religion.

The Belgian Minister of State, Count Carton de Wiart, has written a letter to Governor Smith in which he points out that when the Belgian people selected their first chief executive they chose a Lutheran, although the people were 95 per cent Catholic.

In his letter Count Carton de Wiart says:

"Such are the bonds of friendship between Belgium and our American friends that we are naturally following with a keen interest the preliminaries of the presidential contest in the United States.

"Some of us have been particularly struck by one feature, for us quite unexpected, of the electoral campaign.

"The United States has always been presented to us as a perfect example of a country free from religious prejudice — indeed the very land of tolerance and broadmindedness.

"How can this be reconciled with the fact that the religious affiliation with Catholicism of Governor Alfred E. Smith, whose personal qualities seem universally recognized, are considered as an objection to his nomination?

"May I be allowed to recall that when, in 1831, the Belgian people, having won their complete independence, had to select their first chief executive, the Congress did not hesitate to choose Prince Leopold of Saxe Coburg, a Lutheran prince, very much attached to his creed, notwithstanding the fact that the country, as well as the Congress itself, were at least 95 per cent Catholic.

“The reign of Leopold I, which lasted for 34 years, was most felicitous for Belgium, and the religious difference

between the king and his people never had the slightest influence on their happy relations.”



“Pass It to Your Neighbor”

Duke Charles William, of Brunswick, was a pious sovereign, and attached much importance to the strict observance of Sundays and festivals.

He once learned that in a certain town a number of workmen were accustomed to meet in a tavern at the hour of divine service and there pass the time in carousing which they should have devoted to the worship of God. In vain had the priests and the civil authorities protested against this abuse; the drinkers continued their wicked course in spite of all admonitions and threats of punishment. The pious noble-man was greatly displeased to hear of such scandalous conduct, and resolved to reprove it without delay.

Putting on an old overcoat, the Duke took his way one morning to the tavern. The bells in the church-tower were calling the faithful together, when the band of tipplers, preceded by a large, fat man, with a rubicund nose and shining face, presented themselves at the accustomed place.

Taking his seat at the head of the table, the leader made a sign to the Duke to sit at his right hand, at the same time scrutinizing him closely, as if he felt some suspicions, never having met the stranger at a tavern before. Meanwhile the proprietor brought in a demijohn of brandy, which he set before the head of the table. The latter took it up in both hands, drank freely, and then handed it to the Duke, saying, “Pass it to your neighbor.”

The demijohn thus made the round

of the table, and returned to the one presiding, who, after kissing it lovingly, and taking another long draught, handed it again to the Duke; and thus it went from tippler to tippler, each one saying as he gave it to the next in turn, “Pass it to your neighbor.”

When the pitcher came to him the third time, the Duke arose indignantly, threw open his long coat, so that all could see his well-known uniform and his insignia of sovereignty, and with his full force gave the leader a blow in the face, repeating his words: “Pass it to your neighbor.” And as the man hesitated somewhat, the Duke exclaimed, threateningly: “If any one of you strikes too gently, let him fear for himself, because I will know how to do him full justice.”

The threat had its effect: hands were raised, and blows and screams followed with the noise of thunder, until the Prince, satisfied with the singular punishment he had inflicted, gave a sign to disperse in silence. The tipplers, for once, were glad to take their departure from the tavern, and not one of them felt tempted to revisit the place on the following Sunday. They probably did not soon forget, “Pass it to your neighbor.”

If in the Philippines there were a “pass it to your neighbor” of the Duke Charles William’s kind, number two, for all those who do not go to mass on Sundays . . . but the devil some day may give those negligent catholics worse than a “pass it to your neighbor.”

You can assure your salvation by saving others.