N PRIEST IMPRISONED POLES MASS ARMY SR HAVING CARDINAL'S PHOTO ON RUSSIAN B

etter to Baron Von Der Lancken, Chief of Political Department, Pro ests Arrest and Denies the Rector of St. Michael's College

Attacked the Occupying Power

## **Explanatory** Comment

VROYE, whose cause among that of other priests is so sturdily championed by the Cardinal in correspondence, was rector of the College of St. Michael, Brussels. This institution was man police, who made every effort to pretend that they were exposing a center of dangerous t the occupying government. ore incriminating was actually found, however, than some copies of the inextinguishable kerbed newspaper, Libre Belgique (Free Belgium). Its delicious humor, its bitting and

cribed newspaper, Libre Belgique (Free Belgium). Its delicious humor, its biting and undaunted frankness, continually irritated German readers.

ent instance the authorities were, as usual, conventional in their retaliation. They arrested But that act did not efface the memory of the exceedingly pointed regular features of

price of this number," declared a line at the top of page one, "is elastic, from zero to infinity. requested not to surpass the limit."

'masthead" bore this quotation from Burgonaster Max, of Brussels, "We accept provisionally the which are imposed upon us and await patiently the hour of reparation," and this announcement and Mercier, "Toward the persons who dominate our country by military force, let us bear the regard ed by the general interest. Let us observe the regulations which they impose upon us so long as ither outrage the liberty of our Christian consciences nor our patriotic dignity

# ardinal Mercier's Story

ding his correspondence with the German rities in Belgium during the war, 1914 to edited by Professor Fernand Mayence of Monks of St. Augustine's, Ramsgate,

> Archbishop's House, Malines, June 24, 1916.

'VON DER LANCKEN, Chief of the Department, Government General,

Baron-The letter I 5035, which you did honor to write on May 31, answers very ly the considerations contained in my letter lative to the severe treatment meted out, late, to the clergy.

er once entered my head to beg privileges rgy, nor the systematic exercise, on your prerogative of pardon. When a punish ustified and deserved priests courageously it without murmuring. If, indeed, the ibunals confine themselves to enforcing, as clergy, the provisions of the Belgian your esteemed letter alludes, we should

omplaining. r of May 23 has in view a complex sitmany surprising incidents synchronize. in epochs, following upon events that ection with anything criminal, justice ubles alike its zeal in seeking for real infringements of regulations and its repressing them. We find ourselves ast months in the presence of an acute icial activity. Perquisitions, preventive victions have kept increasing, while the nade no change in its previous attitude.

#### ests Against Unjust Arrests

e are certain proceedings of which I cimens to your consideration. A semiter Monday was going on his holiday. v station of Enghien his luggage was was then taken to Braine-le-Comte and Mons, where he was condemned and several days, merely for taking with tographs of his Cardinal-archbishop.

Hendt, curate at Tervueren, had already year's imprisonment at St. Gilles on of having furnished a young man, who join our army, with information about His detention having come to an end, the t had just peacefully resumed his minthe German authorities, recollecting that merly in January, 1915, refused to give aking not to read from the pulpit the titled "Patriotism and Endurance," did not make him face a second time the alternaying a fine of 100 marks or undergoing a prisonment. At the present moment the

te of Tervueren is in prison. you, Baron, for having been so good to me by your esteemed letter of June ), the duty of looking into the case of is. As I was present at Frere Pauwels's n a position to speak to you of it with wledge of the subject. Frere did not attack the occupying contrary, he expressly declared that in from uttering one single offensive e it his duty, if overcome by emotion, ardor of his patriotism. ken for the subject of his discourse an the encyclical "Rerum novarum" of he condition of the working classes. indeed, had been called to celebrate h anniversary of the promulgation of encyclical. cher had chosen for his text these words on the Mount; "Blessed are those who hirst after justice." That was his exorat once, directing his thoughts toward , he affirmed and established the natof social inequality, and with some ided that it should be respected by all, sion of the order established by Proviced out for masters and workmen their in the interest of social peace. difficult to understand that chance rant of the purpose of the meeting and consequence of the social aims which audience, might have misunderstood and he international struggles what the a. of the struggles of classes; but the fully following the speaker could not at mistake. nevertheless, fear the confusion of thought, rding to the report with which you were did actually arise. I therefore requested wels to come and see me, and I recomim for the future to give his thoughts and age greater precision, for the subjective ns and susceptibilities of the present hour facts which a prudent preacher should conPolitical Department of the Government General of Belgium. Brussels, June 16, 1916. To His Eminence Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of

Malines. I have the honor in answer to your Eminence's two esteemed letters, dated the 8th inst., to make the following communication.

The Governor General gives you the permission which you ask for, to visit the prison of St. Gilles, where the private Devenye, Cocheteux and Wittemberg are detained. As Freis Devroye has been sumnoned to appear before the tribunal of Charleroi for a suit fixed for June 19, it will depend on the length of the pleadings whether or not be will be back by the 21st, I cannot be quite sure that the Curate Wittemberg will be in prison on that day. The Curate Van Houdt has been at liberty since June 6. He had been accested to undergo punishment to which he

was sentenced in Annuary, 1915. I ask your Eminence to note that only privoners who have already been convicted can receive visits. This permission is not granted to those who are awaiting trial.

Your Eminence speaks of a seminarist of Malines. According to precise information, I can extify that you have been totally mininformed. How could difficulties be created for a seminarist on the plen of his carrying on his person the photograph of his Cardinal at a time when this portrait is exposed for sale at all the bookstalls without the slightest apposition from the Governor General?

If the geminariat was accepted, it was not on account of portraits which he had, but because his identity papers were not in order. When the competent authorities had accertained his identity he was set at liberty. He was not compelled to appear before any tribunal.

I ask myself if, in certain reports furnished to your Eminence regarding various incidents, it is not needful to take account of "subjective dispositions" or personal ties of which your Eminence speaks in regard of Frere Pauwels. At any rate, it appears that the objective reasons of the occupying power's proendure are seldom regarded from a wholly impartial standpoint.

Concerning the aermon complained of, which was reached by Frere Pauwels, the Governor General, to whom I have made a report, has learned with satisfaction of your Eminence's speedy intervention. He hopes the results of this intervention will continue to make themselves felt.

I present to your Eminence the expression of my sincere esteem. Yours devotedly, LANCKEN. (Signed)

Archbishop's House, Malines,

June 25, 1916. To Baron von der Lancken, Chief of the Political De-

partment, Government General, Brussels. My dear Baron-I am very grateful for the permission you obtained for me to visit MM. Cocheteux and Wittemberg detained at the prison of St. Gilles, It was a consolation to see them again. As you had conjectured. Frere Devroye was still at Charleroi. me that the nermission already granted me is available for the next occasion I may have to see him

insideration Anti-Bolshevik Forces Too Weak to Withstand Pressure, War-

saw Archbishop Says

By the Associated Press
Rome, Doc. 3b, -Pohand hus here
entities arroy marshaled holing the Rus
sian frontier to torin a barrier against
the western spread of bolshevism, are
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convert to twenty five years.
The default stars, he defaures. "Scientists, he defaures. The maximulus to the science of the product and, "Science and the science and the s

aphenyal in Russia may last from twenty to twenty five years longer. I know Russia, having been for evental cents director of the Catholic academy

General Denikine's forces, on whom the Allies based their hopes of crushing. If the Bolshevists in Russia, seen to have been hopelessly crushed. The Rei arm-bas driven deep salients into Denikine's front from the Polish frontier to the River Don. with different of the Catholic academy t Petrograd. The bruts element there is stronger than generally believed. "At the very gates of Petrograd there ce Finnish villages stillt in primitive multiton, while along the Peelong ver, on the western slopes of the rais, there is territory which, us-raling in corners returns, belong it is

River Don.

A conference of Baltic states has been called to uncet at Helsingfors next week to discuss the general Baltic armistic with the Bolsheviki. The states to be represented include Lithuania, Lettland and Finland, with Esthonia reporting the results of the Dorpat conference, which failed last week. Tails, there is terring, belongs to the "bristian religion but which in calus" is pagan, the people worshiping kinds and undring sacrifices like tribes in the enter of Asia or Africa."

come forward with a similar gift.

PAYNE DENIES HE RESIGNED British scientists are landing the Rockefeller gift of \$100,000,000 to sel-ence and education, and raising a high chorus for some British billionnire to John Barton Parne, chairman of the United States Shinping Board, today denied the reports that he had resigned. 'I have no thought of resigning," he said, in a telegram sent here.

IL FUTURO DI FIUME Un Nuovo Plebiscito Sarebbe Stato Ordinato da Gabriele

D'Annunzio

PER DETERMINARE

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11 Generale Rubilant fir al comundo della Quarta Armata durante la guerra e della Quarta Armata durante la guerra e pai rappresentante dell'Italia nella Commissione Militare Interallenta a Versailles e fu membro della commis-tione d'inchiesta pei fatti di Finme. Il Generale Rubilant termino' il suo dis-corso dicendo: "Lo scontento va dila-gando nel l'Escreito per le inginstizie che sono state commesse, ma io ho fed-che l'Italia trionfera' sopra tutte le difficolta' presenti."

aver occupato immediatamente Flume, dopo l'armistizio con l'Austria, quando Innabruck fu presa dalle truppe italiane. L'ex-Ministro Mazziotti ha protesta-to contro il recente discorso del Primo Ministro di Francia. Clemenceau, a l'elogio illecito fatto innanzi alla Camera dei Deputati francesi, secondo il quale i serbi ed i Jugoslavi avrebbero com-battuto valorosamente per la causa degli Allenti. NEW PLEBISCITE AT FIUME

D'Annunzio Not Satisfied With Resuits of Previous Balloting

Rome, Dec. 30 .- (By A. P.)-Cap tain Gabriele d'Annunzio has ordered a new plebiscite at Finme to determine the future of the city, according to

battinto valorosamente per la causa degli Allegiti. "I serbi lo fecero, ma i jugoslavi banno combattuto contro di noi e contro gli Allegit per un cattivo fine-ha dichiarato il Senatore Mazzlotti, E' peneso paragonare questo popolo agli Italiani che entrarono in guerra e combatterono per il trionfo di un grande principio." Two plebiscites have already been held, and resulted in big majorities against the plan for D'Annunzio's ir-regulars to hold Finne until annexation is definitely promised.

principio." L'On Mazziotti si dichiaro' dispia-cente delle parole di Climerecen, parcho' la maggiorenza degli italiani dezidera vi vivere in pace ed in armonia con gli ideali di Francia. "AS good as Fiume, 29 dicembre .-- Una resistenza

Houghton's, arranta fino "all'ultimo boccone di pare e l'ultima goccia di sangue" e' l'ultima decisione presa da Gabriele D'Amunžio nel domandare altre garanzie al Gov-erno Italiano, allo scopo di assicurare l'annessione di Fiume all'Italia. is a by-word used by salesmen of com-

American Line Gets Liner petitive products.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The shipping bonrd vesterday allocated the George Washington, the vessel which twice carried President Wilson to France, to the American Line for service between New York, Brest, Cherbourg and



Charge Accounts Solicited Mail Orders Accepted







small diamonds-\$1150.

gagement rings. A large diamond in a platinum setting paved with thirty

London reports that a suggestion that he Frince of Wales be made vicetory f Ireland under the proposed new sys-m of government, is being given Britain has the greatest increase in debt due to the war of any of the nations involved. Her increase per capita is \$678; Germany is second, with \$512; France third, with \$466; Austria-Hungary next, with \$366; Bel-gium, \$296; Italy, \$292; while America is near the bottom of the list with \$220.

Cable Briefs

received, my dear Baron, the letter you from the Governor General.\* I shall do well, in deferring my answer to his Excellency, to ill then the examination of the questions ar correspondence only touches incidentally. eive, dear sir, the assurance of my sincere

D. J. CARDINAL MERCIER, Archbishop of Malines. te-This letter is reproduced later on.

ees Stolen in Palmyra J., Dec. 30.-Amateur of Palmyra are making a Cabin and Several Staterooms of ce inspection in the hope \$50 reward by discovering hat disappeared Christmas

Would you be kind enough to say to the Governor General for me that I am pleased he did not pursue Frere Pauwels's case any further.

Let me assure you, Baron, that you have received a misleading report of the incident mentioned in my letter of the 8th, regarding the seminarist, Emile Mertens. It may be that the ultimate finding of the court in the case of this seminarist does not mention the circumstances that he carried portraits of this archbishop; but the examination at Englien and Braine-le-Comte dwelt long and pointedly on this fact. The student was arrested April 24 at Enghien, detained at Braine-le-Comte the 25th, taken to prison at Mons the 26th and before being set at liberty, which was on the 28th, he had to undergo a fresh examination, which had nothing whatever to do with the previous examination. It is very likely that you have received only information regarding this last.

You are quite right in pointing out that my portrait is on sale in the shops, but you seem to be inaware that this sale was more than once forbidden, especially during a definite period at Namur and Dinant. But this is very unimportant and I have never complained of it to any one, my sole object being to call your attention to certain vexations and petty doings of underlings.

Receive, Baron, the assurance of my sincere esteem.

D. J. CARDINAL MERCIER, (Signed) Archbishop of Malines.

#### Preludes to the Widening Debate

While this correspondence was taking place between the Cardinal and Baron von der Lancken relative to the attitude of the occupying power toward priests, the Governor General, on his part, began a correspondence on the same subject. If any of the clergy are prosecuted and convicted, it is due, he maintains, to their transgressing the German decrees and taking advantage of their priestly ministry to trespass on the domain of politics. To this charge the Cardinal replies by proving that the clergy does not step outside its province while maintaining the patriotism of the people and preaching love of country and Belgian liberty.

As it progressed, the debate widened and extended to the rights of the occupying power. This question later will be the subject of a long controversy between the Cardinal and Baron von der Lancken.

(CONTINUED TOMORROW) Converght, 1319, hu Public Ledger Co. Copyright, Canada, 1919, by Public Ledger Co. International Copyright, 1919, by Public Ledger Co.

Music Covers Burglars' Work FIRE ON STEAMSHIP Burlington, N. J., Doc. 30 .- Noise

of their movements submerged in the loud harmony of a talking machine and The resea were rare speci-ic had been growing them
 Callispell Damaged
 Fire on the steamship Callispell
 Gallispell Damaged
 Fire on the steamship Callispell
 Callispell Damaged
 Fire on the steamship Callispell
 a player-plane at work in the parlor, hurglars entered the home of John Keans, 518 South High street, carly in the vessel is at the Race street pler.
 It is owned by the United States ship-plag board and operated by the Charles, Kurz Co., of Philadelphia.

There will arrive in the local markets shortly a supply of Government Flour made of soft winter wheat.

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