

leaders, such men as T. P. Daly and T. Foran, the president of the Transport Workers' Union, are among the rejected. In Cork the Nationalists were so successful that they now hold a majority in the Cork City Council over the O'Brienites and Unionists combined. This, no doubt, is the cause of Mr. O'Brien's hasty resignation. In Enniskillen the Nationalists for the first time have secured a majority on the local Council. Enniskillen is the principal town in North Fermanagh, a constituency which the Tories have been able to win and to hold by narrow majorities. In Wexford as well as in Dublin the Larkinites sustained decisive defeat. Wexford was formerly the scene of Mr. Larkin's activities, and it is evident that his action there has left bitter memories.

PROTESTANTS ON CATHOLIC TOLERATION.

The 'six Protestant Home Rulers,' whose defeat at the Cork Municipal elections, it might be inferred from Mr. William O'Brien's manifesto, was attributable to religious prejudice, have been interviewed by a representative of the *Cork Examiner*, and they all repudiated the idea that their religion had anything to do with their rejection. Five of them went forward as O'Brienites, and Mr. O'Brien's policy—if his tactics are entitled to be so called—was responsible for their defeat. One of them, Miss Day, sought election as a woman suffragist, and adopted a non-party attitude. During the elections in the Catholic counties, Protestant candidates themselves protested against the base calumny that Irish Catholics are influenced at elections, Parliamentary or municipal, by religious bias. In Tralee three successful Protestant candidates were high on the poll, and one of them, Mr. Julian, a barrister, speaking after the declaration of the results, said: 'It was stated in the North and believed in England that bigotry and religious intolerance were rampant in the South of Ireland. By the votes they had cast that day, and by the high position in which they had placed him on the poll, as well as the two other Protestant gentlemen whom they had elected, they had flung the lie back in the teeth of the slanderers. He had fought six elections in Kerry, and had never heard the question of religion raised.' Nowhere in Ireland, except amongst the Unionists of the North, is religion a bar to success in civic work.

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People We Hear About

It is said that on the passing of the Home Rule Bill, Mr. T. P. O'Connor will receive a substantial appointment in London in connection with the administration of the measure.

Mr. Hilaire Belloc, following the example of his friend, Mr. Chesterton, has become a dramatist. He has written a three-act play, dealing, in lighter vein, with the peculiarities of the party system in politics.

Among the New Year's Honors issued on New Year's Day there appears in the Indian List the name of the Rev. Mother Mechtilda, Mother Superior of the Loreto Convent, Shillong, Assam, India. She receives the Kaiser-i-Hind medal.

Prince Lichnowsky, the German Ambassador to Great Britain, who, by the way, is a very staunch Catholic, in a speech at Newcastle-on-Tyne recently, said that in common with his predecessors his desire had always been to cultivate a friendly spirit with Great Britain, feeling sure that fuller mutual understanding would ensure the permanent maintenance of good relations between Great Britain and Germany.

Mrs J. R. Green, the famous historian, lecturing to the 'Irish Parliament' branch of the United League in London lately, dwelt on the important part played by the Celtic race in the history and development of Great Britain during the past thirty years. Since the 'Celtic fringe' came into play in British public life an enormous change has been witnessed, a wholly new situation arose. The despised race emerged into power to reinforce British democracy and became a vital factor in British developments.

At a recent Literary Society meeting in London, Mr. W. B. Yeats, the Irish poet, was asked to recite one of his best known poems. The author exhibited considerable embarrassment, and eventually confessed that he could not remember a line of the poem in question, adding, 'I never remember anything I have written more than a week.' With many modern 'poets' such forgetfulness would be a merciful dispensation, but, in the case of Yeats, much of his poetry is splendid stuff which posterity will not lightly consign to oblivion.

Sir Thomas Grattan Esmonde, M.P., who has lately returned from Canada, said, in an address to his constituents at Enniscorthy, that, after all the importation of rifles to Ulster, the Unionists would be disgraced now if they did not fight. However, it took two to make a fight, and nobody thought of attacking Ulster. He ridiculed the talk of taxing 'rich Ulster,' saying that the emigration returns proved that Ulster was one of the poorest parts of Ireland. What industries it had were kept going by the trade of the other provinces.

Writing of the recent celebration of the golden jubilee of the priesthood of Archbishop Spalding, Titular Archbishop of Scitopolis, and, before his retirement, Bishop of Peoria, Ill., the *Catholic Advance* says: 'Archbishop Spalding has been called the "noblest Roman of them all," a title that those who know him best say is well deserved. He has been a priest for fifty years, during which time few men have made a deeper impression upon their generation than the cultured scholar, who as its first Bishop, made the see of Peoria famous. His priests were wont to say that whoever made an appeal to his honor was sure of a compassionate hearing, and he was always ready to trust a man too much, rather than not enough. After thirty-one years as a Bishop, when he handed the reins of power to younger hands, he possessed the love of his clergy and the admiration of his diocesans.'

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