

**MISSING PAGE**

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## Friends at Court

### CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- May 9, Sunday.—Fifth Sunday after Easter.  
 „ 10, Monday.—St. Antoninus, Bishop and Confessor. Rogation Day.  
 „ 11, Tuesday.—Of the Feria. Rogation Day.  
 „ 12, Wednesday.—SS. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs. Rogation Day.  
 „ 13, Thursday.—Feast of the Ascension of our Lord. Holy Day of Obligation.  
 „ 14, Friday.—Of the Octave.  
 „ 15, Saturday.—St. John Baptist de la Salle, Confessor.

#### SS. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs.

These holy martyrs were attached to the service of St. Flavia Domitilla, and were banished with her to the island of Pontia by the Emperor Domitian. They were beheaded at Terracina in the reign of Trajan.

#### Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord.

Christ risen from the dead remained forty days on earth, instructing His Apostles, and proving beyond all doubt the truth of His Resurrection. At the end of that time He ascended into Heaven from Mount Olivet, in full view of His Apostles. Thus He secured for His sacred humanity the happiness and glory which He had merited by His sufferings, and at the same time opened to us the gates of Heaven. From the time of the Apostles this event has been commemorated in the Church by a special feast.

### GRAINS OF GOLD.

#### THE ELEVATION.

At the peal of silvery bells,  
 Hushed is the music—and every sound,  
 Earth recedes—and Heaven dwells  
 For a heartbeat, on all around.

Awake, O Soul, and supplicate,  
 Jesus of Nazareth passes by.  
 Repent—implore—ere 'tis too late:  
 Lift up thy heart from earth to sky.

Lift up thy heart with all its woes,  
 Its dearest hopes, and every fear.  
 Lay all at the feet of Him Who knows  
 Each hidden trouble and contrite tear.

In solemn silence—prostrate—adore  
 The mystery of Faith, the Incarnate Word,  
 Pray love and peace for evermore  
 May bless us still, thro' Christ our Lord.

*The Missionary.*

Few of us find opportunity to do great things or to attain great perfection. We are so cumbered with cares; we are sure the world will go smash if we let go for a minute, that we forget to strive after little things.

The eye that is quick to see a fault, and the ear that loves to listen to criticism, and the tongue that brags—these will be the signs of a praying soul—when the rainbow comes to be the emblem of despair, and not before.—Father Faber.

Cheerfulness is absolutely essential to the mind's healthy action or the performance of its proper duties. It is an excellent working quality, imparting strength and elasticity to the character. It not only lightens labor, but the brightness it bestows on the disposition is reflected on all round.

Kind words are the music of the world. They have a power which seems to be beyond natural causes, as if they were some angel's song, which had lost its way, and come on earth, and sang on undyingly, smiting the hearts of men with sweetest wounds, and putting for the while an angel's nature into it.—Father Faber.

## The Storyteller

### A MAN OF STONE

#### I.

From a leaden sky the snow was falling fast. It had fallen for twenty-four hours. Here and there the wind swept the sidewalks clean, and nearby heaped the snow drifts which barricaded gate and doorway and crossing. A strong wind it was, pitilessly cold, that lashed the garments and purpled the faces of the few who struggled against it in the almost deserted streets; a cruel wind, that stole through every crack, and stung the shivering children of the poor until they wailed in pain; that made the old, hardened in suffering, bow their bent heads still lower. The naked trees moaned dismally over the suffering all about them, and the wind moaned with it; and still it snowed as if it would never stop, while the day grew old and the early winter twilight came and deepened.

In the middle of the afternoon a woman, thin, frail, ill-clad, hurried into the street from one of the poorest of the tenement houses, and, turning her face westward, walked, as swiftly as she could against the wind, through the business section of the city, between mile after mile of happy homes and cheap boarding-houses,—on, on, to wider streets, tree-flanked, where stone mansions stood in spacious grounds. Clapsed in her hand she held a slip of paper containing an address which she had but a vague idea how to reach. Several times she asked directions of those who brushed against her, but, weary and half frozen, hardly understood what they told her; and more than once wandered out of her way and had to retrace her steps. It was almost 6 o'clock, and dark, when at last she found 17 Courtland place.

Very timidly she rang the door bell; more timidly she asked to see Mrs. Blair. The maid led her into a small room, simply but elegantly furnished, and left her there alone for what, to the shrinking, frightened woman, seemed an interminable length of time. She was hardly conscious of the grateful summer heat of the house, or of the fine furniture, the spaciousness, the silence. Two details only did she notice: the fresh flowers upon the table (and of these she thought but for an instant), and a magnificent ivory crucifix; on it her gaze lingered pleadingly.

She heard the rustle of silken skirts, and trembled. But when Mrs. Blair entered the room, she gave a little gasp of relief. She was no longer afraid. Here was no grand lady, such as she had pictured to herself—tall, severe, dignified, awe-inspiring—but a young woman, a little thing, whose pale gold hair was rather dishevelled, and whose smiling face was rather insipid. With a simplicity born of her great need, the woman instantly began to speak, going straight to the heart of her errand.

'I am Mrs. Busch,' she said, taking the nearest chair in obedience to a word from Mrs. Blair. 'I live in the Century Building. It's only the agent I ever see, but I know your husband owns it, and—and I'm in great trouble. I haven't been able to pay the rent for five months. I hope you haven't minded much. You see, I used to make shirts at home,—that was the way I made my living. But my eyes went bad on me last summer, what with sewing so much, and the light being none of the best. I sewed long after they hurt me. I had to. I went until I couldn't see no more. Then I had to stop, and I haven't had no work since, except when I could get a day's washing. And—and—'

She had spoken calmly so far. Now her lips trembled and her swollen eyes filled. Brushing away the tears with the back of her hard, gloveless hand, she looked down at the floor as she continued, talking fast and faster, and ending with a heartbroken sob:

'I have a little girl five years old. She is always sick,—she has been ever since she was born. But she's so sweet and cute, you can't think! And now the

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agent—he says—he says he'll turn us out of doors to-morrow unless I pay the rent, and I haven't any money—and it's cold—and it's snowing dreadfully. Oh, what can I do,—what can I do?

Mrs. Blair patted her gently on the knee.

'Don't cry! You must not cry like that. Of course you can not pay. I am sure my husband wouldn't think of taking money from any one who isn't well off,' she said kindly. She had but vague impractical ideas of business matters.

'I wouldn't mind much for myself,' Mrs. Busch went on, cheered, though she was not convinced that Mr. Blair would view the case in exactly the same light as did his wife. 'I wouldn't mind for myself, but it would kill Alice to be turned out into this weather. It's very cold,—you've no idea! If it was only me I'd manage somehow—*anyhow*. Maybe you've got a little girl or boy of your own; then you know just how it is.'

Rather sadly Mrs. Blair shook her head.

'But I'll tell my husband all about it. It's an outrage! Such an agent! So cruel and unreasonable!' Then her eyes, wandering about the room, rested on the flowers, and an idea occurred to her. 'I am going to send these roses to your little Alice,—that's her name, is it not?'

'Yes—Alice. And you're—you're very kind, ma'am; but they'd freeze before I'd get them home. I have about six miles to walk, and I—'

'Oh, yes, they would freeze. I had not thought of that,' Mrs. Blair agreed. She felt sympathetic and longed to help, but had no idea what to do. 'I—that is, you can live in the Century Building just as long as you like without paying any rent. I am sure it won't matter at all. We couldn't think of taking your little bit of money,' she said, after a pause.

Mrs. Busch's pride was almost dead: years of poverty and struggle had done their worst by it; but a faint spark of it flared up at this.

'I'm not asking any charity. I've always paid my way, as my father and mother did before me, and I intend to keep on. I'm only asking *time*. I'll pay all I owe when I can work regular again. It's only on account of Alice that I—I—oh, if you could only understand how it is. She's so cold these days, and I can't help it, and I can't get half enough for her to eat. We try to pretend we're not hungry, but it's hard, and she's so little and sickly.'

Mrs. Blair stared at her, amazed.

'You're not hungry' she gasped. '*Hungry!* I've heard Father Daly say that many people are, but I didn't know he really meant it, or else I didn't quite understand. You must not be hungry.' Then, as Mrs. Busch suddenly remembered the lateness of the hour and rose to go, she added: 'No, no! You must not leave just yet!'

She rang the bell, and told the maid who came to get whatever food she could find in the pantry and ice chest and give it to Mrs. Busch; then, practical for once, she corrected herself.

'But no; it would be better to order one of the machines and load the things into it.'

While they waited Mrs. Blair plied Mrs. Busch with questions, kindly meant; and, although their blunt tactlessness sometimes made the poor woman wince, she was too grateful not to answer them all, readily and fully.

'It's very strange the way you live. I have heard of such things but had never believed they really existed,' Mrs. Blair slowly said at last, and would have added more in the same strain if the automobile had not been announced at that moment.

When, with some difficulty, Mrs. Busch had been crowded into it, among packages of such food as she had never tasted, Mrs. Blair gave her the tips of her jewelled fingers, saying:

'Now, don't worry about the rent. I will tell Mr. Blair all about it when he reaches home. I'll tell him everything you said. He will be so interested!'

Only a few minutes later, Mrs. Blair, wandering aimlessly through the rooms, in a fever of impatience for her husband's coming, heard his low voice in the

reception hall, and, running to him, kissed him far more effusively than usual.

'Oh, I have something to tell you!' she began eagerly. 'A poor woman was here,—so poor! You have no idea how poor people can be! She has two rooms in the Century Building and she can't pay her rent, but I told her you wouldn't mind. I knew you wouldn't. Mr. Coale, that agent of yours, has been horrid, and he—'

'My! my! Julia! Can't you let a man get rid of his coat before you pounce upon him?' her husband interrupted somewhat irritably. 'I haven't the faintest idea what you are talking about.'

He gave his hat and coat to the man and went slowly toward the library. Mrs. Blair followed, explaining further:

'The woman was here only a little while ago. Such a sad-looking woman, and very thin and white! If you had come a few minutes earlier, you could have seen her. But I promised her that I would tell you all about it as soon as you reached home. It's to-morrow she is to be turned out, if she does not pay; and she can't, you know; she has no money. For months she has had nothing to do, except some laundry work. Did you know that there actually are people here in this city as poor as that?'

Mr. Blair had dropped into a big chair and was leaning back, with his eyes closed. He looked weary and harassed, but his wife was thinking only of Mrs. Busch.

'You're listening, aren't you, John?' she asked, checking her torrent of incoherent explanation. 'You understand, don't you? You will tell Mr. Coale the first thing in the morning, won't you?'

Mr. Blair made no reply; and his wife, looking at him for the first time, asked after a puzzled silence:

'You are not tired, are you, John?'

'Yes, very tired, mind and body. I have had a long, hard, anxious day.' He opened his eyes, and, leaning forward, began to explain a little, forgetting for the moment how useless he had long ago learned it to be. 'These are anxious times in the business world. The whole country is in the grip of a money panic. You see, Julia, it—'

Mrs. Blair playfully put her finger to her ears.

'No, no John! I won't listen! I wouldn't understand. I don't care about money. What's the use of bothering about it?'

'No use at all!' her husband snapped; and, opening the evening paper without another word, he hid himself behind it.

Mrs. Blair knew well that he did not like to be disturbed when he was reading. He was apt to be 'cross' if she talked to him then; but this was an exceptional and urgent case, she argued, and he would be interested, if only he could be made to listen. He could not help it. Besides, he must act early the following morning, or it would be too late.

'It was nice of Mrs. Busch—that is the poor woman's name,—it was nice of her to come to us for help, wasn't it? She doesn't blame the agent, and she doesn't want charity. She said so. She seemed almost angry for a minute, because she thought I imagined that she did. You will speak to Mr. Coale about her to-morrow morning, won't you?'

No answer from Mr. Blair,—no evidence that he heard.

'It will be too late to-morrow afternoon,' she tried again, after what she deemed a long silence. 'She has a little girl who is always ill. It must be awful to be ill all the time, don't you think so? Do you remember how miserable you were when you had influenza, and how anxious to get well in a hurry? Suppose you were ill all the time! And Alice Busch is only a little mite, five years old. I think her mother said she is five, but perhaps it was six she said.'

There was another silence, broken only by the ticking of the clock and the rustle of Mr. Blair's paper, before his wife ventured again:

'I told her you do not want rent from people unless it is easy for them to pay.'

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Mr. Blair lowered his paper sufficiently to glare at her over the top of it.

'I am trying to read,' he said; and hid himself once more.

A few seconds later dinner was announced, or it is probable that Mrs. Blair would have renewed the attack. No one had ever accused her of lacking persistence. Mr. Blair did not obey the summons promptly; but when he rose, dropping his paper, he put his arm about his wife's shoulder as they went to the dining-room. He was sorry he had been so brusque, but all he said by way of apology was:

'You don't know how tired I am this evening. I feel as if I should like to rest forever. I am glad we have no engagement.'

Mrs. Blair, because she saw that his good-humor was restored, and because he had no newspaper at hand to protect him, felt the moment surely auspicious to interest him in Mrs. Busch.

'She has had the same rooms for four or five years, and always paid promptly until lately,' she said.

Mr. Blair frowned.

'Who is this woman you have been talking about for the past three-quarters of an hour? Why am I expected to be interested in her?'

'If you would but listen, John, when I explain, you would know all about her: but you get cross as soon as I say a word.'

If there is one thing an irritable person finds more trying than all others it is to be called 'cross' or 'impatient,' or by any kindred epithet: so it was not in his most amiable manner that Mr. Blair rejoined:

'Well, tell me the whole story, if you must; and after that let's be done with it once for all. You will give me no peace until I have been bored with every word you said and she said, and a hundred more neither of you ever thought of saying.'

Mrs. Blair pouted for an instant before her desire to tell her story proved stronger than her resentment: then she related, in her provokingly desultory manner, the narrative of her afternoon's experience. Mr. Blair sat mute.

'You don't seem to be interested, John. You are hardly listening, and you haven't asked one question.'

'Oh, yes, I am listening and am intensely interested! But *do* come to the point. What was the woman crying about? No doubt that is the kernel of the story.'

'Mrs. Busch cried because she has no money, and she is going to be put out of her rooms to-morrow if she doesn't pay her rent; and her little girl is sick, and may die if she has to go out in the cold and the snow. You would cry, too, if you were in her place,' she retorted, indignantly.

'And her name is Busch, I think you said, and it's the Century Building.'

'Yes; and she wouldn't mind very much if she were alone,—she said so. The little girl has always been ill, and they are often cold in winter, and in summer they have no ice; and sometimes they are hungry—'

'So am I!' Mr. Blair murmured.

'But not in the same way. They have nothing to eat,—nothing at all!'

'Now, Julia, suppose we change the subject. I think, possibly, we could find a more cheerful one. There is no one else on earth about whom I have quite as much information as I have about this Mrs. Busch. I know all about her tears and her long walk, her clothes, her appearance, her child, and her financial status. I can't say that I yearn to learn more.'

Mrs. Blair had succeeded in making him listen to the story from beginning to end. She was delighted with her success, and never easily annoyed; so she paid no heed to this tirade, but smiled absently while it was in progress and at its close; and after a pause Mr. Blair said, almost in his ordinary tone:

'I wonder if you realise what a severe snowstorm we are having,—the worst in many years. I don't remember ever to have seen such drifts. They say that the street car service is very much crippled, and trains are blocked all over the State.'

'Yes?' Mrs. Blair said listlessly, not interested. 'You won't forget about Mrs. Busch?' she reminded him, after scarcely a pause.

'No, no!' he answered shortly, trying to be patient; and began to felicitate himself that at length the subject was considered finished when the meal passed without any further reference to it; and on their returning to the library Mrs. Blair buried herself in a new magazine. He really was inexpressibly weary, and harassed by a score of anxieties, involving millions of dollars of his own and other people's money besides. Leaving untouched his half-read paper, he leaned against the back of his chair and shut his eyes, with a deep sense of thankfulness that he could rest. But the lull was short-lived. His wife was not engrossed in her story. After a few minutes she closed the magazine. Her husband sighed.

'I told her you would not allow her to be turned out of her rooms,' she remarked exultingly.

Mr. Blair made no answer, but he frowned darkly.

'John, wouldn't it be lovely never again to charge her or any other poor people? We don't want poor people's money, do we? Tell Mr. Coale not to, won't you? Or shall I?'

Mr. Blair was angry at last.

'Please do not meddle with my business affairs! I shall tell Mr. Coale nothing of the kind: and if I hear one word more about this matter, I will do nothing. I mean every word I say.'

Naturally he was obstinate, and nature had the upper hand in that hour; but his wife had never learned when to be silent.

'O John, you don't mean that! I know you don't! You will interfere, won't you, John?'

'No!' he answered roughly. 'Once and for all, I wash my hands of the whole affair. It's the agent's business. Why should I meddle?'

Still Mrs. Blair did not understand that he was in earnest. After a scarcely perceptible pause, she said sweetly, her baby smile playing about her lips:

'I told Mrs. Busch that Mr. Coale really has no authority. The building is yours, isn't it, John?'

'Why on earth did you tell her that? He has,—of course he has! I did intend to interfere in this case, though it would have been a trouble, and a thing that, in general, I don't approve of. Now I shall do nothing. Do you understand?'

At last it dawned upon Mrs. Blair that her husband was thoroughly angry, and she had best be silent. That he meant to carry out his threat did not even occur to her; and she went to bed feeling light-hearted, because she had saved their home to a poor woman and her child.

Forty-eight hours later Mr. Blair was ensconced in his library, pouring over the evening paper. He had had a singularly gratifying day. The steps he had taken to safeguard his own and others' interests had proved successful beyond his most sanguine hopes. He had had an excellent dinner, during which he and his wife had chatted happily, without any of the miniature quarrels that ordinarily marred their intercourse. He was feeling supremely content, satisfied with himself and all the world, until in a corner of the first page of his paper he found this short paragraph:

'Yesterday morning Mrs. Busch, a widow, with her five-year-old child, was turned out of her wretched rooms in the Century Building. At one time she was employed by Hart and Co., shirt makers; but for the past six months has been out of work. The child was seriously ill; and, with her in her arms, the mother walked the streets for hours before she found shelter with the Sisters of Mercy on De Sales Avenue. She was exhausted and almost frozen. The child died early this morning as the result of the exposure. The Century Building is owned by J. C. Blair.'

It is hard to imagine the agony that descended upon Mr. Blair as he read. Minute after minute passed, and he sat staring at the article, his face ashy white, his hands trembling so that the paper shook like a leaf in the wind. He felt that he must scream aloud in his anguish; that he could not live and bear, hour after



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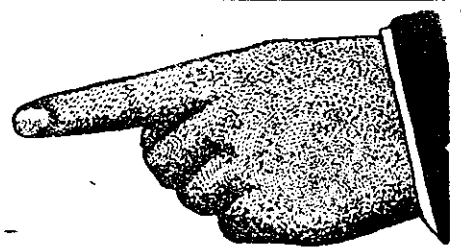
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hour, to have this story haunting him as he knew it must do, however long he might live. How long he had sat there, suffering thus, he never knew—for weeks and months it seemed to him,—before he heard a footstep in the hall, close to the door of the library. Hastily he turned the page and forced himself to read the editorials on which his eye alighted. The first, something about the tariff question, was to him but a jumble of meaningless words; the next was so, too, until a phrase caught his attention, sent a new thrill of horror to his heart and impelled him to re-read it from the beginning. No name was mentioned: it might as well have been, however, so pointed were the references to a prominent citizen, a member of the Catholic Church which claims to follow more closely than any other in the footsteps of the Man Who so tenderly loved the poor; a multi-millionaire, professedly a philanthropist, whose cruelty and insatiate greed were worthy of pagan Rome. 'A man of stone.' Each word burned itself into Mr. Blair's mind and heart. Through all the weary days of all the years that followed he was never able to forget them.

Mrs. Blair flitted into the library, complaining that she had mislaid her gloves, and flitted out again, singing snatches of a popular song. A few seconds later a maid entered the room, and went away, leaving Mr. Blair at the mercy of his own thoughts. In desperation he glanced over the paper in search of something to read,—something that would help him to forget, if only for a minute. The account of a murder served but to remind him that somewhere, not far away, a little rigid form was lying that night. He turned nervously to the report of a Socialistic speech. It, at least, was safe ground. He forced himself to read the trite preamble, the usual tirades against Capital, and was about to pass wearily to something else when, far down in the column, these sentences caught his eye: 'He is one of our most respected citizens. Will this injure his prestige? Not at all, though there is one child less in the world to-day and one more heart-broken mother!'

A quarter of an hour later Mrs. Blair re-entered the library, her arms full of magazines. She thought at first that her husband had fallen asleep: but he stirred slightly as she passed him, and she began to sing again, softly, to herself. She went to the piano and tried two or three new marches which she had bought that morning; then, without turning around, she said happily:

'John, to-morrow evening we are going to the dinner-dance at the University Club. Had you forgotten?'

Mr. Blair made no reply.

'It will be lovely, won't it? I have a new gown for the occasion.'

Still Mr. Blair said nothing. Her words he hardly heard. Other words were ringing in his ears, aching in his heart, agonising in his soul.

At noon, through a crowded business street in one of our great cities, a man walked alone,—a thin, sad-faced man, not old but bent, not feeble but slow of gait, as if he were weary, weary all the time. About some people, even in the midst of a throng, there clings a certain solitariness: they are never one of the crowd but always distinct from it: and so it was with him. He seemed to be hardly conscious of the people about him, uninterested in them,—one who would be lonely always and everywhere, isolated from his fellows by superior talent, or marked peculiarities, or more than ordinary sorrow.

After he had walked for some time he stopped on a corner, there to take a street car. The minutes passed. A number of people gathered, and waited and grew restless, but no car came. Evidently there was trouble somewhere on the line, which causes annoyance at any hour, but is peculiarly aggravating at the busiest time of the day. Two women railed against the company: their companion laughingly insisted that there was no hurry: their luncheon would but taste the better if their appetites were keener. Some young boys joked

boisterously about the delay, claiming to be disturbed lest they should be late for their Latin class; such a calamity would break their hearts, they said. Several business men paced back and forth in a fever of impatience, aggravated by the frequency with which they consulted their watches. Only the thin, sad-looking man appeared unaware of the delay, or at least indifferent to it. Quietly and patiently he waited, listening unsmiling to the sallies of the boys, and mildly observing the others as they waxed loud in the expression of their wrath.

Presently a worn woman, poorly but neatly dressed, came down the street toward the restless group stationed on the corner. She walked very slowly: for beside her limped a little boy whose pallid face told a long story of much suffering crowded into a few years. He was holding fast to his mother's hand, listening to what she said with a smile, boyish, and yet so sad and patient that it was painful to see on the face of a young child. As they drew near all watched them, silent for the moment. The women, ashamed, ceased complaining: the men, irritable over a trifling delay, envied the child his placid slowness: the young boys stopped their joking to look reverently at the little cripple, and were silent long after he had passed. The thin man did not take his eyes off the pair from the moment they came in sight: and when they had gone half a square beyond him, just when at last a car was approaching, he obeyed a sudden impulse and hurried after them. Easily overtaking them, he raised his hat, and said to the mother, not without a trace of embarrassment:

'Pardon me! My name is Blair. I should like to speak to you for a few minutes.'

The woman was surprised,—this was evident: but she said nothing, only waited quietly for him to explain himself. In the instant that he paused Mr. Blair saw that, shabbily as she was dressed, there was an unmistakable air of refinement about her, and later when she spoke it was as one gently born and reared. The child smiled up into his face in the friendliest possible way.

'It is about your little boy,' Mr. Blair began bluntly. 'He does not seem to be strong, and—and I am interested in children, in delicate children especially. I might say that there is nothing else that interests me very much. I wonder if anything could be done for this boy. Perhaps a specialist could do something for him. You must not mind my asking: and you would let me help, wouldn't you?'

'You are very kind,' the woman said a little stiffly, surprised, touched by his interest in her child, and offended by his offer, all at the same time. 'I have never taken assistance from any one, though I've been a widow for five years and poor,—very poor. But somehow I—I don't think I should much mind your helping me in this. It would be for Jimmie, and you are fond of children, I see that. But, Mr. Blair, I fear nothing can be done. The doctors have tried. They say there is only one man in the whole world who could do him the least good and he lives in Germany—in Berlin. Even he might not succeed, and it would cost a fortune to go to him. There would be travelling expenses and board to pay, as well as the doctor's bill! But thank you, Mr. Blair, thank you very much. Jimmie, thank the gentleman for his kindness.'

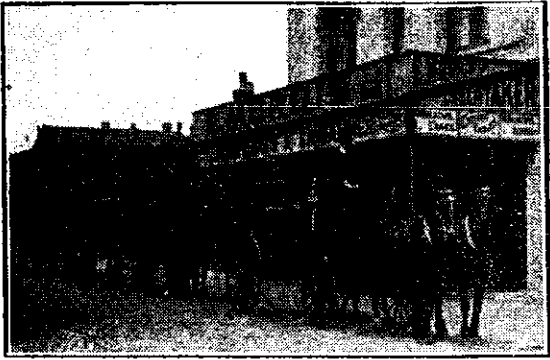
Jimmie did so by slipping his small hand into Mr. Blair's, and saying brightly, though not without a trace of wistfulness:

'You mustn't mind about me. I don't mind much myself, except when mamma feels badly about me and when the other fellows play baseball or skate on the pond near our house. It's a dandy pond; big, with lots of pollywogs in it in summer.'

Mr. Blair was silent for some moments, gazing into the little upturned face for an instant; then he quickly looked away as if the sight pained him.

'If you will permit me,' he said, turning to the mother, 'I should be glad to send you and Jimmie to this German specialist. It doesn't matter what the cost may be: and there is a chance, you say.'

The woman hesitated. Her pride revolted at the idea of accepting help from this stranger, kind as he

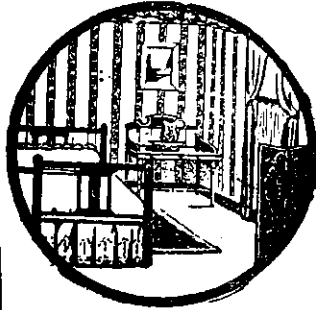


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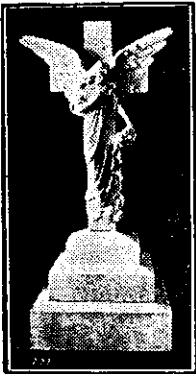
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was; on the other hand her mother love pleaded that the boy be given the opportunity, and mother love is strong indeed.

'And I could play baseball, couldn't I, mamma?' the boy cried, looking from Mr. Blair to his mother and back at him again.

Still the mother did not decide.

'I have never taken charity, but you are very good. You put it so nicely that I don't mind much, though an hour ago I should have resented the offer of help from any one. Dr. Smith is a specialist; he treats only children. He has seen Jimmie several times, and has been kind to him. Would—I know it's asking a great deal,—but would you kindly come with us to his office? We are on our way there. It isn't far: only three or four squares.'

'I know Dr. Smith well. I have known him for years. Yes, I will go with you. I will gladly go with you.'

Half an hour later Mr. Blair, light of pocket and less heavy-hearted, said good-bye to the happiest mother and child in all that great city, and walked slowly back to the corner where he had first seen them. The noon hour was now long past and there were fewer people on the streets, and when he boarded the car he found it almost empty. He was indistinctly conscious that in the seat behind the one he chose there sat a Franciscan nun and a woman whom he had often seen in church. Miss Seymour was her name, he knew. He did not give them a passing thought at first; but soon the car stopped and gave no evidence that it would ever move again. A waggon loaded with coal had broken down on the track, and two men were working in a leisurely fashion to clear the debris out of the way, with every prospect that it would take considerable time. With the car at rest, Mr. Blair could hear every word spoken in the seat behind him.

'I was told that the cars were delayed about noon, and here is more trouble,' Miss Seymour complained.

The nun said nothing to this.

'I understand that there is a great deal of sickness just now. There always is at this time of the year. You must be overcrowded, Sister, overworked, too, no doubt.'

'Oh, no, not overworked! But every bed in the hospital is taken. We have even put extra cots in a few of the wards. We hate to turn any patient away. The children's room is particularly crowded. Yesterday we were obliged to refuse five little ones. I hope they were able to make place for them at St. Luke's.'

'It's too bad, too bad! Oh, if I had a million dollars! But no doubt I'd waste it if I had!' Miss Seymour said, beginning sadly and ending with a little laugh.

'You are too generous now, Miss Seymour; I know that. We are often afraid you rob yourself for us and our poor people.' Then, after a pause, during which conversation was made impossible by an automobile horn, she went on, 'I must tell you about Mother's "daydream,"—that is what she calls it. We all tease her a great deal about it. She wants to build a wing for children. She has had plans drawn up. It is to be very big—some day. If we had it we could fill it in a week and keep it full the whole year round. The only thing lacking is the money, but we tell her that is rather important!'

'It would be lovely! Has she any fund for it?' Miss Seymour inquired.

'Not one cent so far. That is why she calls it her daydream. But she thinks she will get this wing sooner or later. Our Lord will take care of His little ones, she says.'

At this juncture Mr. Blair rose and left the car.

'How impatient men are!' Miss Seymour remarked. 'They seem to be in a hurry all the time.'

She would have been mystified could she have seen that instead of either walking or hailing a taxi-cab to take him to his destination, Mr. Blair got on a car going in an opposite direction; that he rode for quite half an hour and left it at last before the gate of St. Francis' Hospital. At the door he asked to see the Mother Superior, and while he waited for her, paced

back and forth the length of the small room, lost in thought. When she came he had hardly introduced himself before he characteristically plunged abruptly into an explanation of the reason for his visit,—a reason which, long vaguely present in his mind, had in the preceding hour taken definite form. He was so happy that for the first time in years he spoke lightly, almost playfully.

'I hear, Mother, that you have a daydream.' And without pausing to explain where and how he had learned of it, he added, still smiling: 'I, too, have one. I have had it for several years, but it was shapeless until this afternoon.'

The little rosy-faced nun looked up at him in frank perplexity.

'Let me explain. I am talking riddles. On the car, half an hour or more ago, I overheard one of your Sisters tell a friend that you wish to build a wing to serve as a hospital for children. The community call it your "daydream," she said. Now I want to do something of the kind; it has been the desire of my heart for a long time, and—and will you allow me to do this?'

The Mother smiled at him.

'You are very good, very kind,' she said. 'I should be delighted to start a fund with whatever you can give. To do all would be too much, far too much, for one man. Only millionaires could afford it, and, unfortunately, they are rare. It would cost perhaps fifty thousand dollars to build as I wish.'

Mr. Blair frowned.

'You think I am extravagant,' she said, timidly. 'I hope not. St. Francis would not like that. It will all be very plain, very simple.'

'My daydream is on a bigger scale than yours, Mother. It would cost more than a hundred and fifty thousand dollars.'

When at last she understood what it was he offered to do, the Mother's eyes filled with tears. She longed to tell him all that was in her heart: how, for many years she had prayed for this; how discouraged she had sometimes grown, how she had persevered, trying to hope.

'You are too good, too good!' she cried, with a little sob that made the words eloquent. 'Oh, to think that the poor little children are to have a place for themselves at last! But are you certain you can afford all this?'

'Quite certain. I wish it meant a sacrifice. It doesn't. I have no children: my wife is dead, so it is easy for me. Besides, I am but paying a debt. I—I owe more than I can ever hope to pay.'

The nun, young though she was and childlike in her simplicity, was old in her dealings with every phase of human sorrow. She saw deep, and she saw quickly into aching hearts. She looked up at Mr. Blair with tender, pitiful eyes.

'This will pay all your debt, Mr. Blair, however great it may be. God is good and merciful.'

He believed her as implicitly as a child would have done, and went away consoled at last, no longer a man of stone.—*Arc Maria.*

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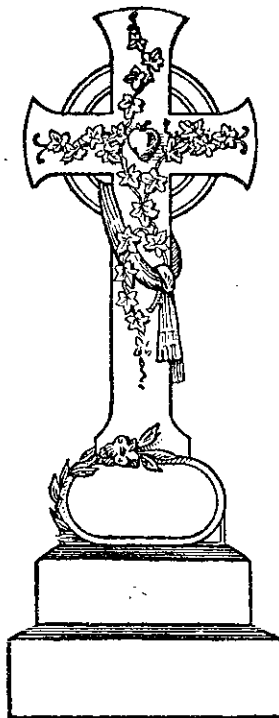
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## 'STAND FAST IN THE FAITH'

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### THE NEUTRALITY OF THE POPE.

A reader of these articles wishes to have the attitude of the Pope in the present war explained. He asks why the Pope continues to preserve a diplomatic silence, and why, especially, when morality and religion are being daily violated in Belgium which has been so faithful to God in the mass of its population, so noble in its King and its Catholic government, the Pope pronounces no judgment?

Before dealing with this very delicate question one point should be set down. The war has drawn out all the latent patriotism of the nation. Strong in the conviction of the justice of their cause, stung to indignation by the tale of bitter wrongs, men look at everything in the light of their passions and their interests. These feelings are sacred, of course, and these interests just; but it is as well to recognise that it is our feelings and interests which are concerned. And it is a happy circumstance for the sake of justice and truth, that there is, outside us and above us, some one who is not swayed by any of these feelings. He is likely to examine facts more cautiously, and to form judgments with greater calmness and independence, than is possible to us.

We say then in the first place that the present attitude of the Holy Father is fully in accordance with the universal character of the Papacy and the new conditions under which its authority has to be exercised. Even careless observers are beginning to see that the Vatican alone has been able to keep its international character, and to exercise it effectively. All other institutions have (very properly, of course) disappeared before the State and sacrificed their individuality to the State's supreme rights. Men, who a year ago were glad to forget the sacred ties of nationality and join hands with their brothers of other countries in various ways for the betterment of mankind, now stand in battle array on opposite sides. The Papacy alone is above these many divisions; it alone can prevent that absolute divorce between nations which our common Christianity forbids. 'Lord,' the Apostle said of old, 'to whom shall we go? Thou (alone) hast the words of eternal life.' And the Christian nations of to-day, in presence of the threatened breakdown of all civilisation may well ask: 'Round whose throne shall we all gather as brothers of Christ unless round the throne of the Fisherman who represents the Divine Master?'

Nor must we forget that though the power of the Papacy still dominates the world, it does not exercise the same authority as once it did. In the Middle Ages it was the uncontested head of the only form of religious life then known in Europe: men, at least tacitly, agreed that it was supreme among Christian peoples. It could speak, 'as one having authority.' At the present time it is in the eyes of Catholics the supreme authority. Its rights have not changed one jot or tittle, but they are not recognised as a plain matter of fact by a large part of Europe. And thus many look up to the Pope as a great moral force in the world, the greatest if you will, but refuse to take his directions as commands.

The Papacy of our days, as of past ages, is, therefore, if not the centre of union at least the meeting point of the different factions of men. But many flock to it not for reasons of faith and obedience, but compelled by the political interests of their respective countries. All roads lead to Rome, we know, but not all the roads are Catholic or even religious. God has interlaced the interests of morality and the interests of politics. This union works out for man's good, for temporal interests are often more attractive than moral ones. The Decalogue and the Church would, indeed, have been quickly forgotten if they had not in some way or other furthered even our earthly welfare. That being so, the head of Catholicism cannot but take account of the political situations affecting his subjects in different parts of the world. And if days come

when faith does not suffice to draw souls to himself, his duty is to go and find them in places where his presence and his services are still accepted.

## WHAT IRELAND HAS DONE

### IMPORTANT SPEECH BY THE IRISH LEADER.

Mr. J. E. Redmond, M.P., delivered an important speech before an immense audience in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on March 14. In the course of his address, Mr. Redmond said:—

I have been supplied by the Irish Government with figures, which they have most laboriously collected in every parish in Ireland, with reference to enlistment. These figures only go up to the 15th February, and therefore when I give them to you you will bear in mind that practically a month's recruiting has to be added to the totals. Up to February 15 there were Irishmen from Ireland with the colors to the number of 99,704. That is to say, in round numbers a month ago there were 100,000 Irishmen with the colors. Recruiting since then has not only gone on steadily, but has been accelerating its pace. According to these figures, which have been supplied to me, it is going on at the present moment at the rate of about 4000 a month. From December 15 to January 15 there were 3858 recruits; from January 15 to February 15 there were 4601 recruits, showing a remarkable increase. And I read with great interest in a Unionist paper in Ireland—what was before the war a Unionist paper in Ireland—a speech made by a gentleman who was in charge of a recruiting office which was opened in Grafton street, Dublin, by Lord Meath. This is what he said the other day:—

'He was connected with the recruiting office for the Irish Brigade in Grafton street, and though they were asked by Lord Kitchener not to give any further returns for publication he might mention that recruits were now coming in so rapidly that they had to increase their clerical staff. In Grafton street they were now getting daily over five times the number of recruits they got in the months of August and September last, and the men were coming in from all parts of the city and county. They were getting Unionists and Nationalists and Sinn Feiners.'

#### Volunteers With the Colors.

There were, Mr. Redmond went on to say, with the colors, according to these figures, on the 15th of last month 20,210 men who had been actually enrolled, disciplined, and drilled members of the National Volunteers, and there were at the same time on that date 22,970 Ulster Volunteers with the colors. Now, as I have mentioned this question of the Volunteers, allow me to dwell on it for a moment. They present one of the most extraordinary spectacles ever seen in the history of these countries. There are to-day in Ireland two large bodies of Volunteers. One body is called the Ulster Volunteers; the other body is called the National Volunteers. They are partially armed; they are partially drilled only, but they are all filled with true military sentiment and spirit. As it appears from the figures I have already given, many thousands of them—up to 50,000 between the two—have joined the army—either the old army as reservists or the new army as recruits: but I want to point out to day that there are many thousands, outside the 50,000 who have joined, many thousands of these Volunteers who are not of military age and are not physically fit, and who are prevented from joining the army by just the same reasons as prevent thousands of people in this country, but these men are quite capable of home defence.

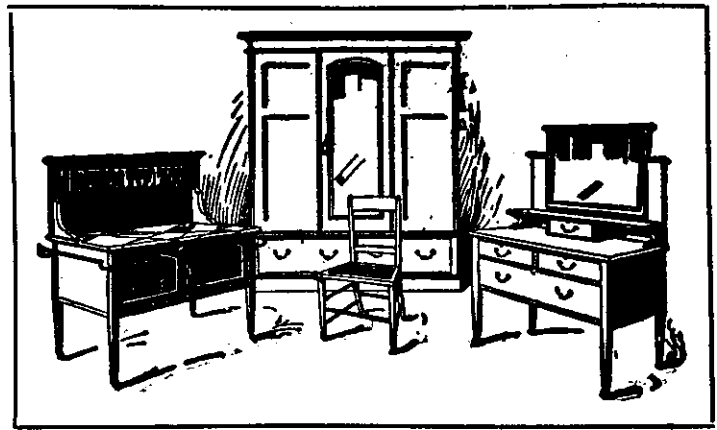
#### The Duty of Home Defence.

May I say also they are eager to be allowed to perform the duty of home defence. You may remember that on August 3 I made an offer in the House of Commons, which was really not so much an offer as an

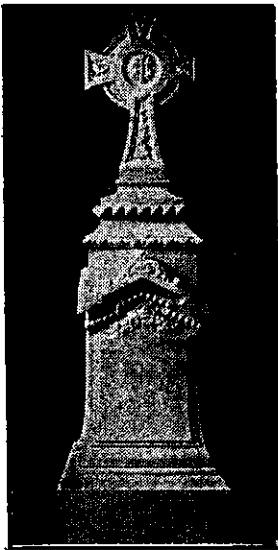
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appeal. I said to the Government that for the first time in the history of the relations between England and Ireland that Ireland could be left safely to the defence of her own sons. I told the Government that they could withdraw every regular soldier from Ireland, and I made an appeal to the Government to allow us to undertake the duty of defending our country, and, in the same breath, I made an appeal to the Ulster Volunteers, and I begged of them—beg was the word I used—I begged to them to allow us to join hands with them and jointly to defend our country. Now I make no complaint, but I think it right to record this fact that I have received no response either to one appeal or the other. The Prime Minister on the 10th of August stated in the House of Commons that the Government were then seriously considering how the Volunteers could be utilised, and he went on to say that, of course, Lord Kitchener's first duty was to raise his new army, which everybody admits. Well, up to this nothing has been done. Early in the business we made an offer whereby 20,000 men could have been made immediately available for home defence, and no single regular soldier of the country would have been withdrawn from his duties in the army for the purpose of home defence. Our offer has not been accepted. Since then, as I have shown you, 50,000 of these Volunteers, North and South, have joined the army, and to-day the remainder of the Volunteer forces—I have no right or title to speak for the Ulster Volunteers, but I will pay them the compliment of saying that I believe in this instance I can speak for them as well as for the National Volunteers—the remainder of the Volunteer forces, North and South, in addition to supplying a constant stream of recruits, as they are doing and as they will continue to do, are quite willing to undertake on their shoulders alone the burden of the entire defence of Ireland. It is interesting to know that I have some reason to think that in military circles in Ireland there is a strong feeling that from a purely military point of view enlistment for home defence should be permitted. I want to point out that thousands of men of the regular army, of Kitchener's Army as it is called, who are supposed to be drilling and training for the front are at this moment absolutely wasted by being engaged in defending various points on the coast, defending railways, defending bridges, defending waterworks and so forth. Instead of being in their drill yards preparing themselves for the front, the whole of these men could be set free from that work at once, and their places taken by Irishmen who are quite capable of the work, and I must say I cannot conceive what the reason can be why this has not been done, and why the promise with reference to the organisation and equipment of the Volunteers has not been carried out.

#### The Irish Race Abroad.

Well, passing from that point let me proceed with the thread of my discourse. I have shown you that Ireland has sent from Ireland, from Irish soil, over 100,000 men to the colors. What about the Irish race throughout the world? What about the Irish race in Great Britain? I saw figures published the other day which went to show that 115,000 recruits of Irish birth or descent had gone from Great Britain since the commencement of the war. I have made some inquiries into these figures. I find that in some places they were most carefully compiled, parish by parish. I find that in other places and in more important ones, for example a place like Manchester, the calculation had to be necessarily, owing to the circumstances, not so detailed but of a more general character, and I am told that the number of Irish recruits from Manchester and Salford put down in that list is short by thousands of the number who have gone. But making all allowance for that—and it is better that we err by being moderate than by exaggeration—making all allowance for that, if you take 115,000 men as the contribution of the Irish race in Great Britain, what a magnificent result it is.

#### The Irish Divisions.

In some places, like on the Tynside, these Irish recruits have been banded together in Irish brigades, and all that they do that is honorable and chivalrous in the future will redound to the credit and the honor of their native Ireland. But so far as the great bulk of these Irish recruits are concerned in Great Britain by being scattered up in English regiments, some here, some there, I am greatly afraid that their gallant achievements cannot in the same sense redound to the credit of their country, and I deeply regret that these Irish recruits from Great Britain have not in all cases enlisted in Irish regiments and Irish brigades. On this point I want to make an appeal—I know it is late in the day, I know that so far as the Irish people of Great Britain are concerned, as recruiting forces they may be said practically to have been exhausted, there are very few left to go, but no matter how few they are, or how late it may be—I want to make this appeal.

We have in Ireland three divisions. A division, as you know, consists of three brigades. We have three Irish divisions. One of them has been called the Ulster Division, and the men wear the red hand of Ulster badge on their caps. I am told, I have no accurate information, that that division, though not full, is very nearly full. Then there is another division called the 10th Division, presided over by a distinguished and gallant Irishman, General Sir Bryan Mahon. This second division was started to be a purely Irish division. When Sir Bryan Mahon had obtained two-thirds of the number of men to complete the division some thousands of English recruits were sent over to Ireland, and put into the division, with the result that, unfortunately, for the moment at any rate, it ceased to be a purely Irish division. Then a third division was started, called the 16th Irish Division, presided over also by a distinguished Irish soldier, General Sir Laurence Parsons, a man it is pleasant to recollect, who has inherited the title and bears the name of that same Laurence Parsons who was Grattan's right hand man in the Irish Parliament, and who opposed to the last the passage of the Act of Union.

Well, now, this 3rd Division, which has its headquarters, half in the County of Cork and the other half in Tipperary, is not quite completed. It is practically complete, you may say, but it still requires a couple of thousand men to complete it. Of course it will be completed in due course and without any trouble, but I make this appeal to any Irishman who wants to enlist in England now.

#### The Road to Tipperary.

If he wants to enlist why not test how long the road to Tipperary is. Let him, when he goes into the recruiting office, and when he is asked what regiment, say to the recruiting officer, 'I am bound for Tipperary.' This Division consists of many of the most famous Irish regiments—the Dublin Fusiliers, the Munster Fusiliers, Inniskilling Fusiliers, the Connaught Rangers, the Royal Irish Regiment, the Leinster Regiment, and the Royal Irish Rifles, and any Irishman in England who wants to enlist—I am not urging anyone, because it would be a poor thing for me to come here after what the Irishmen of Great Britain have done, and attempt to force them in any way—no, but I say to any Irishman who does want to enlist in the future in Great Britain, I beg of him to pick out one of these Irish Regiments, and make his way either to Fermoy or Tipperary.

#### Ireland is Doing its Duty.

We have 100,000 men, at least, from the soil of Ireland itself. We have 115,000 men, at least, from the Irish in Great Britain. How many have we amongst the contingents from Canada, Australia, and New Zealand? I have good means of information upon these points, because I am in close touch with men in every one of our colonies, and I have been told by responsible men in Canada, and all parts of Australia, and New Zealand that an enormous and quite a surprising proportion of these contingents are Irishmen, either

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Irishmen born, or the sons of Irishmen, and it is, therefore, no exaggeration whatever for us to say that at this moment the Irish race has at the front, or with the colors at least a quarter of a million sons. Well, now, I don't want to make comparisons at all. I believe every country is doing its duty the best way it can.

#### Irish Army and Navy Leaders.

I make no claim for Ireland, except that Ireland is doing its duty, and I say that our record up to this is one of which we can be proud, and if we turn for a moment to the record of performances at the front, I think we Irishmen can hold up our heads. Sir John French is an Irishman. He springs from a good old Irish stock. Admiral Beatty is an Irishman from the County Wexford. Admiral Carden, who is bombarding the Dardanelles, is an Irishman from Tipperary. The Lieut. Commander of the destroyer that sank the U8 the other day is a Creagh from the County Clare.

And if we leave the high in rank and go down to the rank and file, I think the name of Mike O'Leary will be forever associated with the history of this war. And if you look at the performances at the front from another point of view, and if you look at the casualty list, and if you see how whole regiments of Irish troops have been almost wiped out, I do not think that any man will be found in this country to deny that Ireland is doing her duty. But after all we make no boast of it; it is no thing to be wondered at. It is in keeping with the history and traditions of our race.

## SIDELIGHTS ON THE WAR

### GENERAL.

Lieut. the Hon. Howard Carew Stanor, of the 4th Bedfordshire Regiment, attached to the 2nd South Staffordshire Regiment, son of Jessie, Lady Camoys and of the fourth Lord Camoys, was killed in action on March 10. The deceased officer was in his 22nd year.

The Musicians' Company of London have presented gold watches to three military bandsmen who recently won the Victoria Cross, one of the recipients being Lance-Corporal Kenny, a Catholic serving in the Gordon Highlanders, though born in Drogheda. The Lord Mayor of London made the presentation.

The other day a French soldier was awarded 'la medaille militaire et la citation a l'ordre du jour' of his regiment both on the battlefield and in the depot of Montpellier. Five reasons were assigned for the reward. The officer who received the despatch in the barrack square, apparently much struck, paused and said: 'Who is this M. de G.? Does anybody know him?' A soldier (a Benedictine) replied: 'Yes, I know him: he is a Jesuit priest.' Tremendous applause on the part of all the soldiers.

### CHURCHES AT DIXMUDE

The *Mansholt* publishes a letter from a chaplain at Dixmude, who says that in the ecclesiastical district of Dixmude not a single church remains undamaged. About forty have been demolished, and the priests of St. George's, Mannekens, Vere Lodslod, and Ysenberghe are dead. The Abbe Deman, chaplain of Essen, near Dixmude, was shot in the churchyard of his own parish. The Burgomaster of Handzoeme was also shot.

### SIX BROTHERS SERVING THE KING.

A Catholic family in Ulverston holds a commendable record. Six sons of the late Mrs. Dixon are serving in the forces. The eldest of this notable sextette is John Mulrennan, who is 39 years of age. He joined the South African Mounted Police twelve years ago, and is now serving with General Botha. He is married, and just recently the press recorded the gallant feat of his son, Tom, a naval cadet, in saving a boy from

drowning in Cape Town Harbor. Richard (32) has enlisted in the Highland Light Infantry. Robert (28) is leading signaller on H.M. Flagship Defence. He has served in the Navy for nearly twelve years. Isadore (27) has been in Canada eight years, and is in Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. Willie (26) is in the Royal Field Artillery, and has been in the fighting line. Fred (21) joined the Gordon Highlanders when war broke out.

### A PRIEST'S FORGIVENESS.

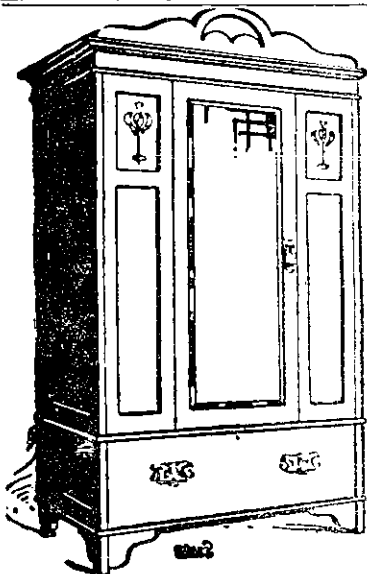
Writing in the *Jersey Weekly Post*, Father A. Bitot, S.J., recounted the experiences of several French priests who are fighting with the French Army. Of Father Veron he says: 'He deserved to be called a martyr.' Caught by the Germans when he was helping the dying soldiers on the battlefield near Le Cateau, he had to follow the foe for several days on foot, without sleep or food, except one or two apples, having besides to bear the most horrible treatments—kicks, blows, pricks from the bayonets. After eight days of this agony he breathed his last in a forsaken farm, assisted by another priest, also a prisoner, who had borne almost the same sufferings, but who, being younger and stronger, was able to endure them. Father Veron's last words were words of forgiveness for his tormentors, and words of hope that Almighty God would accept the sacrifices of his life for the success in the war of the countries so dear to his heart—France and England. Is not this a beautiful death indeed?

### REMARKABLE STORY OF GERMAN KINDNESS.

That the ill-treatment of the Catholic priests captured by the Germans is not universal is evident by the story of Father Doncoeur, an Army chaplain. Captured at Soissons with a lot of officers and men of my regiment (he says), I was offered to be set at liberty at once. Of course, the thought of forsaking my companions would never have entered my mind, so I refused to leave them, and I was taken with them to Germany to Krefeld, in Westphalia. There the commander of the place showed me the greatest respect, and gave me all facilities for performing my holy ministry to the troops. I was even allowed to pass every morning to go to the church in town. After three months' captivity I was sent back to France through Switzerland with several officers of the Army Medical Corps. My most earnest wish was to stay with my dear regiment, but this time I had not the choice. A fact which struck me was this: Whilst going in a cab from the barracks to the railway station of Krefeld many good people were on the threshold of their houses saluting us with sympathy and shouting, 'Good-bye: a pleasant journey to you!'

### CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS AT THE FRONT.

In the course of a letter from the front to his father, Mr. Patrick McMahon, Castletown road, Dundalk, Private Owen McMahon, of the Royal Irish Fusiliers, says: 'We have an Irish priest with our regiment here, and a brave man he is. Three weeks ago we were going up one night with rations to our firing line trenches when we met the priest, who had been praying over the graves of some of the men who had fallen. We were wet to the skin, and he must have been the same. We did not know who he was until he saluted us. Immediately afterwards there came a swarm of bullets across the road and we had to take shelter in an old house. We did not know whether the priest had been struck or not, but three days afterwards we were glad to meet him again. It was Christmas morning, and we were at Mass in an old barn—about a hundred of us. The priest was much moved, and we did not know the cause. When Mass was over he told us that he was moved not with sorrow, but with joy to see so many of us at Mass that Christmas morning in the barn—so far from home and from our friends in Ireland. We



### The Increasing Army

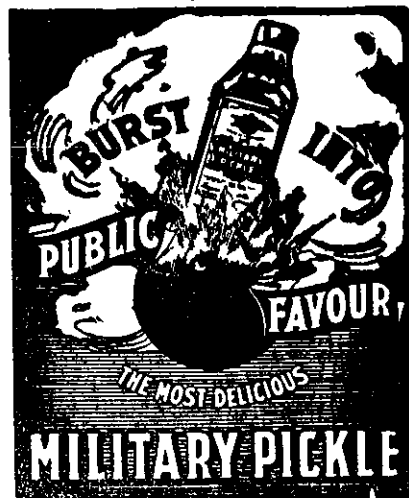
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were quite happy. Father Ryan is the name of this fine priest.

Private Percy King, of Warwick, writing from the front, mentions the visit of an indefatigable English priest 'who travels miles and miles to attend to the spiritual wants of Catholics in the troops.'

#### EXPECTED CRISIS NEXT MONTH.

Mr. Hilaire Belloc, lecturing on the war to a crowded audience in the Victoria Hall, Exeter, on March 13, said the Prussian armies crossed the Belgian frontier on the same day and hour as they crossed the French frontier in 1870. It was obviously superstitious, but it was premeditated. Since August the plans of the enemy had been fundamentally changed. At the beginning their plan was to hold up the Russian forces, while on the west the French were rapidly destroyed. They started out to accomplish it with vastly superior forces, and calculated rightly that Russia would not be able to put more than two million men in the field in two and a half months. The conception which was widely spread in this country at the beginning of the war that Russia controlled innumerable hosts which were going to be poured like a flood upon Germany was the conception of men who did not know what they were talking about; but it was true that if the war went on year after year Russia would be first as regards numbers. The whole story of the beginning of the campaign was the failure of Germany to crush the Franco-British resistance. The fact that every other large German strategic plan in the war had failed should harden on-lookers against the belief that they would take Warsaw, and if he were a betting man he would offer two to one that Warsaw would not be taken by the 1st of June. The Russian plan was to avoid being pushed back over the Vistula until they could get equipment and supplies through the Dardanelles, or what were now the ice fields; and in the west the plan of the Allies was to wait for the better weather, which would make an advance possible, and for a great reserve of munitions and men, and eventually wear down the German forces. The Allies' policy of attrition was going on all along the line. In the western theatre there would be an addition of at least one million men on the side of the Allies by the summer, and Russia would very likely have two million more. What had the enemy to put against that? He doubted whether Germany had another million men to train and put into the field unless she weakened herself militarily. The Germans could not run their military machine with much less than two million efficient kept from the army for military work. Mr. Belloc enumerated various causes which would lead towards a crisis in June, when he thought the effect of the blockade would begin to be severely felt. Unless the enemy got a decision in the east and came back and got a decision in the west within the comparatively brief period of ten or twelve weeks, they would have lost the campaign.

#### AN ANGLICAN ON THE CHURCH IN BELGIUM.

Last week in referring to the bitter attack made on the Catholics of Belgium at a meeting of the Clapham and Wandsworth branches of the Women's Protestant Union in the Northcote road Baptist Church, we (*Catholic Times*) said it is no wonder that Protestantism is held in contempt on the Continent. It is pleasant to be able to quote the words of an Anglican in reply to the bigoted critics. In the last issue of the *Church Times* a writer who had had personal experience in Belgium gives his opinion of the work done there by the Catholic clergy. On the whole it is exceedingly favorable. The Belgian priest, he tells his readers, understands the lives and sympathies with the lot of his people as few Anglican clergymen can do, and he considers that, at his best, the Belgian P.P. is perhaps the most edifying specimen of a parish priest that can be found. 'The Belgian priest, in town or country,' affirms the writer in summing up his impressions, 'well deserves to be called the father of his people, and no

class of citizens has come out in a finer light during the war. Nor must it be forgotten that Belgium, though the Government is Catholic, is Liberal in the best sense; for all religious communities, Roman Catholics, Jews, Anglicans, Lutherans, etc., are subsidised by the State in proportion to their membership.' The fact is that there is no nation in the world in which, prior to the war, the condition of the people was at a higher level morally and industrially.

#### BELGIAN STUDENTS MOBILISED.

One of the first results of the Royal Decree which has been signed by the King of the Belgians is (writes O. F. C.) the mobilisation of the ecclesiastical students of the diocese of Bruges. Most of them had fled to England together with their fellow-countrymen of the devastated parts of Flanders. The Rev. A. Legrand, the spiritual director of the Seminary at Bruges, had just succeeded in gathering them together and placing them in a house secured through the good offices of the Bishop of Portsmouth. Now, however, they are all bound to be at the front by the 15th of April. They left Portsmouth on the 8th to spend a few days in Retreat at Holy Rood House, in London, preparatory to their departure on the 12th. This is just one other proof, if any were needed, that Belgium is prepared to give all she can in the present struggle, with which she is personally so little concerned. The Reverend Director is asking for prayers for those young men, whose peaceful preparation for the sanctuary has been thus rudely interrupted.

#### A CONTRAST.

A Protestant chaplain at the front, writing in the *Church Times*, says: 'The almost entire ignorance of the average soldier of the elements of religion, the paucity of confirmed men or regular communicants, is simply appalling. A Roman Catholic soldier knows at once what to do: he asks for a Rosary to help him to say his prayers; he asks you to get him a priest; he wants to receive Communion or make his confession. He knows the Gospel of Christ; he understands about repentance, about grace, about the presence of the unseen army of saints and angels. Our poor Tommy, not from any lack of his own, but from our neglect, is quite unconscious of most of this as a reality. Someone wrote to me the other day these words: "This war should make a different manhood for the Church of the future. Men cannot live by the French churches for nothing. Their eyes must be opened." My friend meant that this great company of "Anglicans"—soldiers, orderlies, doctors, nurses, chaplains, etc.—living in a Catholic country day by day, feeling a need for religion, as they must, in the midst of such a critical experience, will ask themselves: "Does Anglicanism give us what these Catholic Allies of ours find in their religion? Here we have churches crammed day by day with Roman Catholics doing just the same work as we are doing. They find time to pray, to make their confessions and Communions. Why do not we? Why do we not want these things?"

His Holiness Pope Benedict XV. has appointed the Hon. Thomas Hughes, M.L.C., a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Gregory. Mr. Hughes, who was 52 years of age on April 19, was born in Sydney, and educated at Stonyhurst, England. He is a solicitor by profession. On four occasions he was Lord Mayor of Sydney.

I canna' leave the auld folks now,  
I'd better 'bide a wee,  
Dad's got a cold, and Mum's not well,  
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## Current Topics

### Bernhardi and the Invasion of Canada

Last week's cables conveyed a hint that Germany's next move would be a raid on Canada, or rather they contained a definite statement that such an operation was actually in progress. 'A message from Portland (Maine, United States),' says a London cable, 'states that Captain Branch, of the interned German barque Dolbeck, says that a German squadron of 15 vessels is heading for the coast of Canada, intending to destroy coastal cities and fortifications. This information was contained in a letter from an officer of the Germany navy. Captain Branch believes that the squadron is making its way along the coast of Norway, and will thence make a dash for Canada.'

\*

In view of the present naval situation, the story is on the face of it somewhat wildly improbable; and it happens that it has been denied and repudiated in advance even by the truculent and aggressive Bernhardi, who clearly sets forth very good grounds for regarding any such attempt as out of the question and impracticable. The author of *Germany and the Next War* has been contributing a series of articles to the *New York American*, and in one of the latest of these he thus discusses and dismisses the suggestion that Germany would attempt any aggression against Canada, or any part of the American continent. 'It is just as certain, also,' he says, 'that we should never think of assuming an antagonistic attitude toward America, much less dream of questioning the Monroe Doctrine. What advantages could we possibly expect from such behavior? Visionaries talk of the conquest of Canada by the Germans and of the acquisition of other colonies upon the continent! How could such dreams, even if they were for a moment cherished, possibly be carried out, even if we are so happy as to achieve an outlook for enduring peace at home on the advantages of victory, by a policy of wild adventure abroad? Whence would come the enormous fleets necessary in order to carry out an attack necessary against the enormous resources of the United States, or to maintain across the broad Atlantic a contact of combination between an attacking army and the home country? From the United States we expect neither direct nor indirect help in this gigantic struggle for existence. Long ago we understood that only the victories attained through its own strength count in the history of a nation. We shall therefore fight our battle to a finish alone, with German iron and with German blood.'

### Municipal Elections

Owing, doubtless, to the dominating influence of the war upon men's thoughts and attention, the municipal elections passed off throughout the Dominion without the close interest and keen excitement which attached to last year's contests. Where the sitting members again presented themselves, they were in the vast majority of cases re-elected; and everywhere the citizens appear to have shown a general disposition to leave things, as far as possible, as they were. In Dunedin, the only remarkable feature of the polling was the failure of the Labor Party to secure the return of a single one of their nominees on any of the four bodies for which elections were held. The Labor organisations and their following are numerically sufficiently strong easily to secure effective representation on any of the local bodies if they were really in earnest in the matter. In the present instance it is not suggested that the Labor electors voted for other than Labor candidates, but simply that they did not take the trouble to vote at all.

\*

It is probable that their apathy was not without its effect on the result of the mayoral election. The three candidates, Messrs. Clark, Myers, and Marlow, were all good citizens and competent men, and so far as that aspect of the contest is concerned it may be freely ad-

mitted that any one of the three would prove himself quite capable of discharging the duties of chief magistrate. It must, however, we think, be recognised, if the merits of the candidates are viewed fairly and dispassionately, that Mr. Marlow had an exceptionally strong claim on the support of the citizens. There is a sort of unwritten rule that there should be a certain amount of rotation in the mayoral office; and under this head, at least in regard to length of public service, Mr. Marlow had undoubted priority. His personal merits were beyond all question; and his fellow councillors have again and again borne willing tribute to his outstanding and commanding ability, and to the signal value of the services which as councillor and chairman of various important committees he has rendered to the city. Had the choice rested with them, as it does in great cities in other countries, there would have been absolute unanimity in the selection. But kissing, it is said, goes by favor; and so nowadays, it would seem, does election to our higher civic offices. In Dunedin, at least, there is a growing and dangerous tendency to let the religion of the candidates determine the direction in which favor shall be bestowed; and the fact that Mr. Marlow is a staunch and sterling Catholic did not, to put it mildly, help his candidature. He may rest assured that at this moment his co-religionists are as proud of him as they have ever been; and they look back upon his splendid public record with unalloyed satisfaction and gratification. Throughout his long and strenuous public career he has been the very model of all that a Catholic layman ought to be; and higher praise than that we cannot give. Good work is never lost; and Mr. Marlow's influence as an example to the Catholic young men of his adopted city will be felt for many a day. He retires temporarily from active public life with an unsmirched record, and with the good wishes and good will of all with whom he has come in contact.

### How the Neutrals Failed

Some months ago we expressed the opinion that if at the outset of the war President Wilson had put on record a protest against the violation of Belgium—which it was America's duty to do as a signatory to the Hague agreement guaranteeing the inviolability of neutral territories—the war would have been much less savage and sanguinary than it has been, and might even have been considerably shortened. The same thing is now being said more strongly, and with more emphasis and weight than could ever attach to our humble utterance, by American citizens themselves, and by some who are specially qualified to speak with authority on the subject. Mr. Richard Harding Davis, the well-known war correspondent, who was in Belgium when the first early havoc was wrought there and has since returned to America, declares in all seriousness and with the utmost earnestness that the neutral nations, by protesting against the invasion of Belgium, might have ended the war; and because they failed to do so future historians will not hold them guiltless. Mr. Davis says: 'No individual, no matter how just may be his indignation, can communicate that indignation to the German Emperor. His Government must do that for him, and as no Government had the courage to protest, to speak sharply, to brandish the big stick, Germany exclaimed, "We have a free hand." And from bad she has hastened to worse. From the moment she broke her word and entered the neutral territory of Belgium the rights of every neutral were in jeopardy. A man who is false to one will be false to another, but the neutral Powers could not see that. Belgium seemed so far away, and in the United States we were so entirely surrounded by water and so comfortably safe. So, although as joint signatories of the agreement made at The Hague, it was our privilege and duty to protest, we said nothing. Nor did any other neutral. And, emboldened by the silence, Germany, one after another, broke all the rules of war. If at the start of this war our Government and those of South America, Italy, Spain, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, and Switzerland had jointly protested to Germany against the

outrages she committed, against her breaking all the rules of civilised warfare, they might not only have prevented the destruction of lives and cities, but even might have brought the war to a close. To a committee who came to discuss our attitude towards the nations at war President Wilson used these words: "*Think of America first.*" Spoken by Holland or Switzerland, or any neutral nation that is small and weak, that sentiment might be understood. Coming from a great and powerful nation of a hundred millions, it is more unpleasant. Nor do I believe the American people are as selfish as that. I also like to think of America first, and had she made protests against the outrages of Germany on behalf of the Allies as affronts to humanity and civilisation, when this war was over she would have stood first; but now it is too late. When the burglars are finally driven away, the man who thought of himself first and crawled under the bed is not given much consideration.'

\*

We have been invited by a visiting representative of the American Federated Council of Churches—who is a strong apologist for President Wilson—to see evidence of America's friendship for Britain in the fact that she is sending a steady supply of arms and ammunition to the Allies. Such material has, of course, been very welcome to the Allies; but Mr. Bryan has been careful to explain that it has been supplied upon no principle of friendship but on strictly commercial lines. In his reply to a German protest, the American Secretary of State has pointed out that it would have been a breach of 'neutrality' to have refused to send such goods, and that America would be only too glad to fill German orders for the same material if only Germany were in a position to take delivery of the shipments. The question is not whether America has been the friend either of Britain or of Germany, but whether, as a professedly Christian nation, she has made any sort of honest and manly attempt to act up to her lofty and loudly professed ideals. We are not, perhaps, in a position to judge altogether impartially; but certainly, in this part of the world at least, there is an almost universal feeling that in this searching moral crisis President Wilson has acted the part of a poltroon and a runaway, that he has thrown humanity and high principle to the winds, and that he has been guided, for the most part, by a spirit of selfish and sordid commercialism. There is, it is felt, a large element of truth in the scathing indictment of the satirist who has pilloried him in lines modelled on the immortal 'Hosea Biglow':

'I du believe in Freedom's cause,  
Her Justice and Morality;  
But when in her the Prussian claws  
Are stuck - my cue's Neutrality,  
To slaughter gels and infants may  
Or may not - be improper,  
I haven't anything to say,  
My deal is selling copper.'

'I du believe in treaties planned  
To bind the folks that make 'em,  
And in supplying contraband  
(For cash) to those who break 'em,  
I du believe that War is Hell,  
And Wrong must come a cropper,  
But, if Wrong wants to buy, I sell  
For ammunition - copper.'

'I du believe in ideals great,  
For Truth and Right I heller,  
But what I love and venerate  
Is the Almighty Dollar,  
To Belgian pain and Prussian vice  
Oh, England, put a stopper,  
But while the Kaiser pays my price  
I'm out to sell him copper.'

### German Confidence

German generals and State officials, from the Imperial Chancellor downwards, are sounding the loud timbral of assured victory and an honorable peace for the German arms, and that at no very distant date.

That is, of course, as we should expect. It is the duty of the leaders of a nation to keep the nation's spirits up; and we quote German testimony, not as suggesting that it has any particular significance, but as indicating the German official attitude, and as giving a clue to the sentiments and opinions which representative and responsible Germans profess that they hold. In view of the actual existing military situation, it is difficult, in some instances, to believe that they really feel the sublime optimism which they express, but we may at any rate hear what they have to say, leaving ourselves free to take it for what it is worth.

\*

General Hindenburg, the hero of Germany, in an interesting talk with a representative of the *New York Times*, contrasts the swiftness of the German steam engine - i.e., the network of strategical railways in East Prussia—with the slowness of the Russian steam-roller, and continues: 'Great is the task that still confronts us, but greater my faith in my brave troops. I am not a prophet, but this I can say: Tell our friends in America, and also those who do not love us, that I am looking forward with unshakable confidence to the final victory—and a well-earned vacation,' he added, whimsically. The Germany Chancellor, Count von Bethmann-Holweg, is even more confident and positive. In an official interview given to the late James Creelman, representative of the *New York American* in Berlin, on February 10, the following passage occurs: 'You seem confident that the war will end in a complete German victory?' 'Absolutely. No one who understands the situation can have the slightest doubt of a complete German success. Remember, we are fighting on the enemy's soil. We have possession of Belgium; we have a large part of France, and our armies are extended far into Russia. Whatever doubts there may have been in the past few months, the present situation shows that Germany's triumph is absolutely inevitable. Every event in the field on all sides indicates clearly the ultimate triumph of the German arms, and when the day of victory comes Germany will prove that she has never aimed at the military domination of the world, and that her one supreme desire is to continue to develop science and art, to raise the productive power of her industry and her commerce, and to continue the peaceful development of the resources of civilisation and culture.' The President of the Reichstag, Herr Johannes Kaempf, talks loudly to the same effect. In a short address delivered at the opening of the Reichstag on March 10, the President said: 'In the west from the Vosges to the Channel, and in the east from the Baltic to Bukovina, our armies and those of our allies are standing like a wall of steel and iron. In the south the Turkish army is guarding the Dardanelles, which a great Anglo-French fleet is vainly attempting to conquer. An army is also threatening the Suez Canal and Egypt, which has become the prey of the British Empire. Germany is not to be conquered by starvation. Our enemies did not reckon with our economic strength, with the organised strength of our agriculture, commerce, and industry, the unity of the nation, and our firm determination to win. Our sacrifices are gigantic, but on the blood-soaked battlefields a lasting peace is springing up which will lead our great and beloved Fatherland to new and flourishing power.' Dr. Karl Hefferich, Secretary of the Imperial Treasury, in his speech presenting the budget, followed in similar strain. 'No policy of starvation or strangulation,' he concluded, 'will succeed in shutting off Germany's life breath. An honorable peace will amply atone for all sacrifices and the future will be ours.' Finally, we are told that the German people themselves, banking on Hindenburg's prowess to defeat Russia, are filled with a quiet but unquestioning confidence as to final victory. 'To the neutral American, intent only on finding out the truth,' says the correspondent of the *New York Times*, writing from Berlin under date February 12, 'the most thought-provoking feature here (overlooked by foreign correspondents because of its very featureless obviousness) is the fact that Germany to-day is more confident of winning than at any time in the three months I have been

here. This confidence must not be confused with cocksureness; it is rather the "looking forward with quiet confidence to ultimate victory," as General von Heeringen phrased it. Even more important is the corollary that, while the Germans have apparently never had any doubt that they would win out in the end, this 'ultimate victory' does not seem so far off to them to-day as it did three months ago.'

### Germany and England

This correspondent is good enough to indicate just how this 'ultimate victory' is to be brought about; and his statement is interesting as showing the very special place occupied by England in the German viewpoint. 'There are many indications,' he says, 'that the well-informed layman expects 1915 to see the wind-up of the war, while I have talked with not a few professional men who have expressed the opinion that the war will be over by Summer—except against England. This unanimous exception is significant because it indicates that to the German mind the war with Russia and France is, in prize-ring parlance, a twenty-round affair which can and will be won on points, whereas with England it is a championship fight to a finish, to be settled only by a knock-out. The idea is that Russia will be eliminated as a serious factor by late Spring at the latest, and then, Westward Ho! when France will not prolong the agony unduly, but will seize the first psychological moment that offers peace with honor, leaving Germany free to fight it out with the real enemy, England, though as to how, when, and where the end will come, there is less certainty and agreement. Some think that the knockout will be delivered in the shadow of the Pyramids; others, and probably the majority, believe that the winning blow must be delivered on English soil itself.' All of which merely serves to show that prophecy, and especially war prophecy, is the most gratuitous form of folly.

## THE STRIKE ON THE CLYDE

(BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF GLASGOW.)

I was very much surprised by the article in your issue of last week (says his Grace Archbishop Maguire in the London *Tablet* of March 13), in which you refer to the strike of Glasgow engineers. The observations on that subject did not seem to me to reach the high standard of fairness for which *The Tablet* is remarkable. I fear that the writer of the article had not read Mr. Lloyd George's speech with sufficient care, and that he was not very well informed as to the circumstances which led to the strike. I hope that you will, in justice to a very respectable and hard-working body of men, allow me to occupy a good deal of your valuable space.

The writer of the article seems to put the whole blame of the strike on the shoulders of the men. Mr. George did not do so. Is your writer sure that nobody else is to blame? He speaks of the men as the trade-union hirelings of Glasgow who are chaffering for another farthing an hour for their work, and threatening to withdraw ammunition till the bribe is paid. What is meant by the word hirelings—evidently used in an unfavorable sense? Does it mean hirelings of the trade union? Surely not; the men are paying members of the trade union, and they have the right to vote and direct policy, just as is done by members of Parliament. Does it mean hirelings of the masters? In that sense nearly all of us are hirelings, and there does not seem to be much reason to reproach the engineers because they are hired. You yourself and your leader writer, I presume, receive a salary; so do I; so do members of Parliament and Cabinet Ministers. We are not ashamed of that, and we are not called hirelings.

The men are 'chaffering for a farthing an hour.' (By the way, this sum is a rhetorical misstatement.) Are not the masters also chaffering? Why should the men only be censured? It may be said—because they have moved, gone on strike. But the masters do not

need to move; they have only to sit still, their profits go on and wages do not increase unless the men strike. The masters are ready enough to use their special weapon—a lock-out—when it suits them. It would not suit them just now. They want work to go on briskly and to produce good dividends, without having to pay higher wages. Meanwhile,

### Prices of Food and Other Necessaries Go Up.

The men, most of whom, thank God, do not believe in race suicide, and have families, have to think of their wives and children. Most of the masters and shareholders would be very little inconvenienced even if food prices should rise further and their dividends be somewhat reduced. As things are, there may be the trouble of looking out for new investments for surplus profits. We do not at present observe any very stringent economy in the lives of the comfortable classes of Glasgow and its suburbs.

Now as to the circumstances which brought about the strike. Three years ago the men entered into a wages agreement with the masters, rather an unfavorable agreement—as it turned out—for the men; trade improved, the employing firms were full of orders—but an agreement is an agreement, and the men loyally worked on. The agreement was due to expire on January 13, 1915. On June 14, 1914, *before war broke out*, the men, after considering their position, decided to apply for an advance of twopence an hour. In the terms of the 'provisions for avoiding disputes,' one month's notice requires to be given by either side. The application was put in on December 7, 1914. No reply was received from the masters till December 31, and in it the application was termed unreasonable and unjustifiable. Note that according to the 'provisions' mentioned above, the men had a right to have a 'local conference' of representatives of masters and men within seven days of their application. Later, meetings took place between masters and men. An increase of first one farthing, then one halfpenny an hour was offered and refused. All this time the old scale of wages continued, and profits went on. The masters, as I have said before, had only to sit still. At last the men lost patience and struck. You have an example of the advantage of delay to the profit makers in your London coal difficulty. A Government Committee is at last inquiring and gathering statistics. Meanwhile, those who are making profits out of the East End poor's bags of coals know that every week that passes is adding to their gains.

Against your writer's condemnation of the men I will call a, perhaps, reluctant witness. One of the engineer masters made a public speech the other day, in which he was reported as saying that the men were lazy, indolent, and unpatriotic. He was at once taken to task by the local secretary of the men's society, and in to-day's *Glasgow Herald* there is a letter signed by the speaker in which he explains that he did not intend what he himself calls 'the offensive adjectives' to be applied to the general body of the men, and must have expressed himself very badly. He meant to refer only to the originators of the strike, and adds:—'But even to those men I was not justified in using such strong and ill-chosen language, and to them I apologise.' Of the general body, he says that he has always considered them one of the most reliable sets of tradesmen, most regular in their attendance, diligent at their work, loyal and willing to do what is required of them.' And these are the chaffering hirelings of the trade union on the look-out for a bribe. Some light on the question of

### The Reasonableness of the Men's Demands

is thrown by the report in to-day's *Glasgow Herald* that the great ironfounders, the Carron Company, Falkirk, have, without waiting to be asked, granted to their men, because they are working at high pressure, a war bonus of 10 per cent. on total earnings, in addition to all overtime payments. I would ask you, then, not to put all the blame on the shoulders of the men. And it might be worth while to remember that if Mr. George and other Ministers and members of Parliament had taken up fewer hours in bickering over little per-



sonal disputes between Honorables and Right Honorables, and on Bills by which these great parties tried in turn to 'dish' each other, and so get or keep power, time might have been found long ago to pass well-considered legislation for the automatic settlement of trade disputes. It might be remembered, too, that it is not the working man only who brings pressure that may hamper the Government in time of war. The loyal members for Wales are threatening pressure if they do not get their own way about Disestablishment. If Mr. George were not a Cabinet Minister, he would probably be the loudest of the leaders of the threatened revolt.

You will permit me to speak of the drink question. Your article refers to Mr. George's hopes for what your writer calls 'the swift bridling' of the liquor traffic. 'For,' says the writer, 'it seems that the very men who are clamoring for a higher wage in consequence of the increased price of bread are coming to their work sodden with drink.' But turn back to the certificate of character from one of the masters given above, and then read Mr. George's own words. He merely says that some shirk their duty, that this is due to various causes, but mostly to the lure of drink, through which strength and efficiency are impaired. He admits that these men are a minority, but adds that even a small minority can throw a whole works out of gear. That we may take as rhetoric. He has to confess that 'the vast majority belong to a class we can depend on.' In the light of this, does not the remark about 'the very men . . . are coming to their work sodden with drink' seem a little exaggerated?

I trust that what is written here will induce the writer of your article and its readers to believe that the Glasgow engineers, though their local nickname is the 'Black Squad,' are not so black as they are painted, while some other people are not, perhaps, so white as they are washed. I trust also that nothing of what has been said will be looked on as offensive to your leader writer. I am sure that he wrote with the best and most patriotic motives. But we are all, just now, apt to get a little over-excited in our natural anxiety to see the war brought to a victorious close.

## THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE

### ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME IN MELBOURNE.

In another part of this issue appears a brief account of the visit on Saturday, April 17, of his Excellency the Apostolic Delegate to Melbourne. After the account referred to went to press, the Melbourne papers containing a full report of the reception came to hand, and from them we take the following further particulars:—

At 4.30 p.m. his Excellency the Apostolic Delegate, the hierarchy, and the clergy went in processional order from the palace to the Cathedral, where addresses were presented by the Archbishops and the Bishops of the Province of Melbourne, the clergy, and the laity.

### ADDRESS FROM THE HIERARCHY.

The following address on behalf of the Archbishops and Bishops was read by his Grace the Archbishop:—

'May it please your Excellency,—We, the Archbishop of Melbourne, the Coadjutor-Archbishop of Melbourne, and the Suffragan Bishops of the Province of Melbourne, extend to your Excellency a loyal and cordial welcome to our Cathedral City. In the establishment of the Apostolic Delegation to Australasia and in the selection of your Excellency as the first Apostolic Delegate, we recognise a further proof of the affectionate interest and fatherly care which the Holy See has never failed to bestow upon this new and fair province of God's Kingdom upon earth. Your Excellency comes to us with the blessing and commendation of two Pontiffs, Pius X. of holy and venerated memory, and Benedict XV., to whom already, in these days of strife among the nations, the whole world, distracted and longing for peace, looks for words of wise counsel and of dispassionate guidance. Young in years, but ripe in experience, your Excellency will, we trust and pray, be enabled to make good amongst us the promise of a

career already notable by marked achievement in other lands. With pride and joy we assure your Excellency that, in the discharge of the duties of your exalted office, you can rely upon the whole-souled co-operation of a zealous and devoted priesthood and of a loyal, faithful, and generous people. Nowhere within the wide domain of God's Church could you find priests and people more devotedly attached to the Holy See or more zealous for the interests of religion. In our churches, in our religious and charitable institutions, and above all, in our Catholic schools, you will find evidence of generosity and self-sacrifice, which have brought God's blessing upon our people and which, under God in large measure, account for the marvellous progress and stability of the Church in this southern land. The noble Cathedral in which we are privileged to welcome your Excellency is at once the product and the symbol of a faith that is deep and strong.

'To your Excellency, as the personal representative of the Holy Father, we tender a dutiful and loyal greeting; to yourself, we offer a warm and affectionate welcome; and we pray the Divine blessing upon every work that you undertake for the well-being and extension of God's Kingdom in this fair southern land.'

The address from the clergy was read by the Rev. J. H. O'Connell, and that from the laity by Dr. A. L. Kenny.

### THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE'S REPLY.

His Excellency, in replying to the addresses, said: My Lords Archbishops and Bishops, Very Rev. and Rev. Clergy, and esteemed members of the laity,—Even before my arrival in Australia as Apostolic Delegate I had ardently desired to visit your famed city, which rivals in many respects the greatest cities of the old and new world. As soon as I set foot in these new southern lands my long-felt wish became a pleasant duty, for the venerated Archbishop of Melbourne, with exquisite courtesy, went to the trouble of meeting me on my arrival in Sydney, and I at once promised to return his visit in Melbourne at the earliest opportunity. And now it is my happy lot to greet the beloved Archbishop in his metropolitan see. Faithful to the traditions of this city and of this ecclesiastical province, the Catholic hierarchy, clergy, and laity have united in according to me a brilliant reception, which I greatly appreciate, and which the Holy Father will even more highly appreciate as soon as the news of it shall reach him. I, in the meantime, thank you with all my heart in his name. In a very special way I thank you for the sentiments of fidelity and attachment to the Holy See which have found expression in your address—sentiments which have ever been the pride of the Australian episcopate. I thank you, furthermore, for the loyal co-operation which you promise me. Your help, your counsel will be most precious to me, and I shall ever treasure them. There is no need for me to point to the great development of the Catholic religion in this city, and in this ecclesiastical province of Melbourne. It is well known, not alone in Australia, but also in the other parts of the world, and especially in Rome. I will merely say this, that this Cathedral in which I now stand, dedicated to Ireland's glorious Apostle, is a poem of the faith and the generosity of the sons and daughters of Erin. Here the children of Ireland have, in a brief space, completed, in conditions not always favorable, what in other countries and times would have taken ages. If by the past we can judge of the future even more wonderful will be the monuments of zeal and activity of the Catholic hierarchy, clergy, and people of this State. Permit me, therefore, to express my heartiest congratulations, and to pray that God's choicest blessings may reward your labors. And from this Cathedral, the noble monument which adorns your city, permit me to present my compliments to the civil authorities, and to convey to them my deep appreciation of the courtesy and consideration they have shown me. It is now my pleasant duty to thank the clergy, secular and regular, and the laity of this ecclesiastical province for the part they have taken in this reception, and for their expressions of fidelity and loyalty to the Holy See, or its representative, and to



their Archbishops and Bishops. To the zeal and sacrifice of the Bishops and priests, and to the generosity and cordial co-operation of the laity is due the fact that we can to-day admire the numberless institutions of education and charity which make this one of the best-provided provinces in the new countries. But that which has most of all contributed to produce this splendid result in so short a time has been, as you yourselves have declared, the close union that has existed between the Bishops and clergy and between the pastors and people. That sacred union of hearts, based on the charity of Christ, and strengthened by the abiding spirit of discipline, has ever been, and ever will be, the principal strength of the Catholic Church. Let me exhort you then to be always united to your Bishops and united among yourselves, in the bonds of charity.

In your address you state that you 'enjoy the privileges of living under a flag which promises full religious liberty, and that you are loyal to your country'; for these reasons I am convinced that the time must come when the justice of your claims in the matter of education will be recognised. I cannot conclude my remarks without expressing publicly my deep indebtedness to your venerated Archbishop, Dr. Carr, for his kindness to me as the representative of the Holy See, since my arrival in Australia. No words at my disposal can adequately convey my feelings of gratitude towards him. It is my earnest wish that he may continue to enjoy for many years to come the affection and confidence of his own people, and the esteem and good will of all classes of the community.

The proceedings were brought to a close by Archbishop Cerretti imparting the Apostolic Blessing.

On Sunday morning at eleven o'clock Pontifical High Mass was celebrated in St. Patrick's Cathedral by his Grace Archbishop Mannix in the presence of his Excellency the Apostolic Delegate, his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, and their Lordships the Bishops of Sandhurst, Ballarat, and Sale. In the evening an address was presented to his Excellency by the Newman Society, to which he replied. In the afternoon he attended the quarterly meeting of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. In the course of the afternoon a visit was also paid to St. Vincent's Hospital, where an address, on behalf of the Sisters of Charity and the medical staff, was read by Dr. E. Ryan.

#### THE CIVIC RECEPTION.

At noon on Monday his Excellency was accorded a civic reception at the Town Hall by the Lord Mayor (Sir David Hennessy). Among those present were the Prime Minister, the Minister of Defence, the Minister of Public Works, Mr. Grey (representing the Premier), his Grace the Archbishop, his Grace the Coadjutor-Archbishop, and their Lordships the Bishops of Sand-

hurst, Ballarat, Sale, and Auckland. There was present a large and representative gathering of clerical and lay gentlemen of all shades of religious and political opinion.

After the toast of 'The King' had been honored, the Lord Mayor proposed the health of his Excellency the Apostolic Delegate, and on behalf of the city of Melbourne tendered him a hearty welcome. He said he felt that the Commonwealth had been honored by being recognised as sufficiently important to warrant an Apostolic Delegate being sent here. Archbishop Cerretti would find the Catholics in Australia as loyal to their Church as those of any other place in the world. He would find the people here one and undivided in upholding that British liberty and freedom of all classes which allowed all subjects of the Empire to worship God in their own way. He hoped Archbishop Cerretti's sojourn in Australia would be one of happiness and peacefulness.

The Prime Minister expressed appreciation of the honor done to Australia by the presence of an Apostolic Delegate. He hoped that all parts of Australia would have the opportunity of welcoming his Excellency, and he could assure him that when he visited the other States he would find his reception everywhere hearty and cordial. The Commonwealth would give him all the assistance that lay in his power to carry out his duties, and, speaking personally, he would give him all the assistance he could in the development of the moral character of the country. He wished Archbishop Cerretti health and happiness during his term amongst them.

Speeches were also delivered by Mr. Hazelthorn and Senator Pearce.

#### HIS EXCELLENCY'S REPLY.

Archbishop Cerretti, in response, said that he regarded the high honor which the Lord Mayor and other leading representatives of the great city of Melbourne had been good enough to accord him, as a great compliment. The honor was enhanced by the fact that he was surrounded by the chosen representatives of the city as well as by the most distinguished men of the Commonwealth and State. He accepted the greeting as a mark of respect for the high office he held, and he was deeply grateful for the feelings which inspired it. It was, indeed, gratifying to see such friendly relations between all sections of the community. Such a community could, he felt sure, look forward confidently and with great hope to the future. He had had some opportunity of seeing the city of Melbourne, and he had been greatly impressed with its beauty and extent. In many respects it reminded him of New York. He readily recognised that its greatness was due in no small measure to the progressive spirit of the men associated

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with its public life. He could assure those present that he was most sincere when he congratulated the Lord Mayor and the citizens on the possession of such a beautiful city as Melbourne. It was his earnest wish that it would progress in a manner most in accord with the welfare of the citizens. It was his earnest wish also that Australia, this great, flourishing continent, might march rapidly along the way of progress and importance, following the highest examples of the other nations of the old world.

## Diocesan News

### ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

From our own correspondent.

May 1.

Rev. Father J. J. Cullen, S.M., of the professorial staff of St. Patrick's College, has passed the first section of the B.A. examination in applied mathematics, chemistry, and mental science.

At Upton's Laundry the children of the convent school at Petone, conducted by the Sisters of the Mission, held a juvenile bazaar in aid of the Belgian fund, the amount realised being between £7 and £8.

Although all returns are not yet in, it is anticipated that the net profit of St. Patrick's Day celebrations this year will be over £150. This amount will be handed over to the Catholic Education Board.

Rev. Father Hurley, S.M., Dominion treasurer of the Catholic Federation, acknowledges a donation of 10s from 'Anonymous,' Johnsonville, towards the cost of providing a hall for Catholic soldiers at Trentham. Further donations will be gratefully acknowledged.

On last Monday evening at St. Peter's Hall, the Very Rev. Father O'Connell, S.M., entertained the ladies and gentlemen who assisted at the late parish festival. Father O'Connell expressed his appreciation of their efforts, which resulted in a net gain of £300 for the parish funds, a sum that was very much in excess of what he had anticipated. Musical and elocutionary items were contributed, and a most pleasant evening was brought to a close with a hearty vote of thanks to Father O'Connell for his consideration and thoughtfulness.

The mission, conducted by the Marist missionaries (Very Rev. Father Taylor and Rev. Father A. T. Herring) at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Thorndon, concluded last Sunday. There was a general Communion of the parishioners, many hundreds of whom approached the Holy Table, the Children of Mary and members of the H.A.C.B. Society being in regalia. The church was taxed to its utmost in the evening for the concluding service, when there was a renewal of Baptismal vows. Rev. Father A. T. Herring is conducting a mission at the residence of Mr. Thomas Campbell, Karori, for the benefit of the Catholics resident in that district. The mission services both morning and evening are well attended.

The presentation of the handsome Curtis cup to No. 4 section of St. Anne's Senior Cadets took place in St. Anne's Schoolroom last Thursday evening, the proceedings taking the form of a social function. Those present included Lieutenant Mills, Lieutenant Fitzgerald, several members of the New Zealand permanent staff and the N.C.O.'s of the company. The cup, which was donated for annual competition in rifle exercises, physical drill, route marching, and section drill, was received by Sergeant Bradley on behalf of his section. During the evening a number of loyal toasts were honored and several songs were sung. Special mention was made of the fact that there are now no fewer than 23 old members of the company serving at the front.

Miss Eva Gasquoine, eldest daughter of the late Mr. W. C. Gasquoine, general manager of the State Coal Mines Department, was married on Wednesday morning at the Sacred Heart Church, Hill street, to

Mr. D. Campbell, son of Mr. J. Campbell, of Newtown. Nuptial Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Kimbell, S.M., uncle of the bride, assisted by the Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., Adm. Miss Frances Gasquoine was the bridesmaid, and Mr. Leslie Campbell was best man. The bride was given away by her brother, Lieutenant C. J. Gasquoine. Among the numerous presents was a charming gift from the Sisters of St. Mary's Convent, of which the bride is an ex-pupil, and a beautiful collection of flowers from the Sisters at the Lower Hutt Convent. The honeymoon is to be spent at Auckland.

A pleasant social evening was spent last Monday evening by the members and friends of the Thorndon branch of the Hibernian Society at the opening of their new rooms in the Marist Brothers' Schoolroom, Hawkestone street. Among those present were: the Very Rev. Dean Regnault, the Very Rev. Father Taylor, and the Rev. Father Herring (Marist Missioners), Mr. P. D. Hoskins (district deputy), Mr. J. P. McGowan (president St. Patrick's branch), and Mr. M. Walsh, representing St. Mary's ladies' branch. Mr. J. A. Humphrey (secretary) stated that the progressiveness of the society had necessitated the occupation of the larger rooms. Mr. R. P. Smyth (vice-president), and Mr. R. P. Flanagan and other members spoke in congratulatory vein. Musical items were rendered by Misses Butler and Mulhane, Messrs. G. Leydon, A. Levin, and Master Reeves.

The Catholic hall at Trentham is now finished, and is a fine building. It is built of wood and iron, and is 75 feet by 35 feet, with a stage at one end, and two rooms—one to serve as a sleeping apartment for the chaplain, when he stays at the camp overnight, and the other as vesting room and confessional. The building has large and spacious windows, and is lighted at night by powerful kerosene lamps, suspended from the ceiling. Seating accommodation is available for 400, and deal forms are supplied for this purpose. The Bristol Piano Company has very kindly lent a piano and organ. The Sisters of Mercy journey from the Upper Hutt on Sundays, play the organ and sing the hymns at Mass. The hall is greatly appreciated by the officers and men, who are deeply grateful to the Catholic Federation and the kind benefactors who have subscribed towards its erection. Now that the hall is completed, arrangements have been made to entertain the men, and in this connection a party of ladies and gentlemen journeyed to the camp last Wednesday evening, and supplied a very enjoyable programme. The members of the Dominion executive (Messrs. J. J. L. Burke, Johnson, Reichel, and Hoskins), accompanied the party, and, although late in arriving, did much to make the evening an enjoyable one. The following contributed to the programme:—Misses Eileen Driscoll, Watkins, Peggy Reeves, and Myrtle McLaughlin, Messrs. R. Sievers, A. G. Hay, E. B. L. Reade, C. J. Houston, W. McLoughlin, and Master Fergus Reeves. After the concert the Catholic officers of the camp entertained the party at supper. The arrangements for the erection of the building were left solely in the hands of the Rev. Father Daly, of the Upper Hutt, who is also chaplain to the camp, and great credit is due to him for the successful result of his exertions. It is by his energy and self-sacrifice that the men are provided with facilities for the practice of their religion, and also with a hall for social purposes. Catholics should, therefore, do all they can to assist Father Daly in the important work in which he is engaged.

### THE HOME OF COMPASSION, WELLINGTON

It may be remembered (says the *Dominion* of April 26) that some five years ago a Jubilee Ward was added to the Home of Compassion at Island Bay to mark the jubilee of the remarkable work done by the Rev. Mother Mary Joseph Aubert in the Dominion. That dearly loved helper of the afflicted is at present visiting Europe, and when last heard of was succouring the hurt and afflicted in the terrible earthquakes at

Avezano, in Italy. While she is away the good work at St. Joseph's Home for Incurables and the Home of Compassion is being attended to by the hard-working, capable Sisters. The sad little colony of foundling babies and juvenile inepts is an ever-growing one, and it is the lot of the Sisters to twist and contrive to make the best of everything, and this they manage to do, and still keep cheerful. To return to the Jubilee Ward—this apartment has up to the present been one large hall, but the Sisters have been advised that it is imperative that an infirmary must be provided, in order that the sick or ailing babies should not sleep in the same room as those who are fit and well, so, to meet the need of the moment, the Jubilee Ward is being divided into three large and two small apartments. The large rooms will be utilised for the purpose of a dormitory, infirmary, and nursery. A glassed-in verandah is being provided on the north side, to get the advantage of the sun, and another shaded verandah will project from the eastern side of the nursery for the use of the little ones. This contriving will leave the present babies' dormitory—the large room on the north-western corner of the home proper—and the refectory available as a play room for the other children. The two small rooms that are being provided in the Jubilee Ward are a kitchen (in which there is a boiler for the hot-water system) and a bathroom, where the bairns can be conveniently attended to. The work of altering the wing is not being done for nothing—the times are out of joint for that—but the Rev. Mother always maintained that the Lord would provide, and that He had never failed her yet. Perhaps some human help will manifest itself to meet the needs of the good Sisters.

With the approach of winter comes the call for warm clothing (and plenty of it) for the children of the Home. There are at present no fewer than seventeen babies under twelve months, who find comfort and love all round them, and show it in their crowing, kicking, and crawling. A happier bunch of kiddies the writer never saw. This little colony has to be clothed, and though it may be that 'Sister Susie's sewing shirts for soldiers' (as the song runs), it is imperative that someone will have to help the Sisters in this direction. To that end a nursery tea is to be held at the Home in about a fortnight's time, and everyone who attends will be asked to bring something, however small, for the babies. The date of the tea will be announced in due course—in the meantime, needles and thread will doubtless be busily employed in the good work.

### Napier

Sergeant D. J. Cummings, the popular police officer in charge at Napier, has received notice of his transfer to Rotorua (says the *Napier Daily Telegraph*). The intimation that Sergeant Cummings is to be moved from here will be the subject of universal regret throughout the district. Of a quiet, unassuming manner, he has, by strict attention to duty and never failing courtesy, earned the good-will and respect of a large circle of friends. Coming to Napier six years ago as district clerk, Sergeant Cummings was two years later appointed to his present position, which he has filled with credit to himself and with satisfaction to all concerned for the past four years.

On the last occasion on which Sergeant Cummings appeared in the local Court before his departure for Rotorua, the Justices of the Peace assembled to make him a presentation and bid him farewell. Every justice was present, including the Mayor (Mr. J. Vigor Brown). Mr. S. E. McCarthy, S.M., said it was the desire of the Justices of Napier to recognise the able and courageous manner in which Sergeant Cummings had discharged

his duties in Napier. The district was a big one, and the inspector was often away, and in his absence Sergeant Cummings had ably carried out the extra duties. Last year, during a long illness of Inspector O'Donovan, the Sergeant had most successfully carried out both his own and the inspector's work. His duties in respect to his brother officers had been discharged with firmness and fairness. In court the sergeant had performed his work with intelligence and impartiality, and it was largely due to the sergeant's efforts that Napier had such a small amount of crime. He wished Sergeant and Mrs. Cummings every success in the future. Sergeant Cummings having suitably replied, the Justices adjourned to the sheriff's room, where the gifts, consisting of a silver-mounted oak tray, afternoon tea set, rose bowls in silver and china, and a silver-mounted inkstand, were handed to him. The inkstand and tray were both suitably inscribed.

The Mayor presided at a meeting of citizens, called for the purpose of presenting to Mrs. Cummings a purse of 50 sovereigns. In making the presentation his Worship referred to the high esteem in which Sergeant Cummings was held. He had been very tactful and humane in the carrying out of his duties. He wished both the sergeant and his good wife all prosperity, and would be pleased to see Sergeant Cummings back in Napier in the future in a higher office. The Mayor then handed Mrs. Cummings a lady's handbag with 50 sovereigns in it.

Eulogistic references to Sergeant Cummings were also made by Messrs. H. A. Cornford, R. L. Patterson, B. J. Dolan, J. C. Bryant, A. Kohn, Colonel Sandtman, and Dr. Leahy, to all of which the guest replied in a very happy speech.

A pleasant function took place at the police station, where the members of the force gathered to bid farewell to Sergeant Cummings and present him, for Mrs. Cummings, with a handsome liqueur stand. The presentation was made by Detective-Sergeant Ward, who paid a well-deserved tribute to the ability, tact, and firmness of Sergeant Cummings. Complimentary speeches were also made by Sergeant Fraser, and Constable Rosanoski. Sergeant Cummings was also tendered a send-off by the local pressmen, who presented him with a silver-mounted umbrella, suitably inscribed.

### DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

May 3.

Rev. Father Murphy, B.A., of the Cathedral, spent a few days of last week in Wellington, where he went to officiate at a wedding ceremony.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Cathedral on Sunday from the 11 o'clock Mass, followed by the usual procession and Benediction after Vespers. There will be the customary May devotions each evening during the month.

The Sunday school, recently established in the Linwood portion of the Cathedral parish, has proved a complete success. Two Sisters of the Mission conduct the school every Sunday afternoon, and the children attending at present number about fifty.

With a view of placing the church and school finances of the Woolston portion of the Cathedral parish on a satisfactory basis and to meet extra current expenses, a meeting of the residents was held on last Wednesday evening, when it was resolved to arrange a regular series of social events at intervals during the winter months.

A party of members of the Nellie Stewart Dramatic Company visited Mount Magdala on an afternoon last

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week, and provided a musical treat for about two hundred of the inmates. The party included Miss Gladys Gordon and Messrs. Bert Roche, E. Parker, J. Dunn, A. Melling, and Bert Garry. The programme was thoroughly appreciated by the inmates, and every item was loudly applauded. At the conclusion, Mr. A. C. Nottingham, who arranged the visit, moved a vote of thanks to the visitors, which was carried by acclamation.

Rev. Father Hanrahan, pastor of Lincoln, left by the Ionic last week, with his father (Mr. Hanrahan, of Ashburton), on a visit to the Home countries. They are to be present at the ordination to the priesthood of another member of the family at All Hallows College in June, who was at one time a student at Holy Cross College, and intended for the Christchurch diocese. During Father Hanrahan's absence, the Lincoln district will be served by the Missionary Fathers of the Sacred Heart from Darfield.

Mr. G. Girling-Butcher, general secretary and organiser of the Catholic Federation, concluded a successful lecturing tour of the parochial districts of Hawarden, Rangiera, and Darfield last week. On last Sunday, after devotions at St. Mary's, Christchurch North, he addressed a meeting of the congregation on the subject of his mission. This week is mapped out for work in the Methven-Bakara, Temuka, and Geraldine districts, to be followed by visits to the Timaru, Fairlie, and Waimate parishes.

The fortnightly meeting of St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held in the Hibernian Hall, on last Monday evening. Bro F. Smith (vice-president) presided over a fair attendance of members. Sick pay for £13 14s 4d and other accounts, amounting to £65 1s 3d, were passed for payment. One candidate was proposed for membership, and one was initiated. The quarterly balance sheet, which showed the branch to be in a flourishing condition, was read and adopted. It was decided to promote a complimentary hen fit entertainment in aid of a member, who has been seriously incapacitated for some considerable time past, to take place on Wednesday, May 26. An energetic committee has the matter in hand.

From a Catholic point of view the municipal elections were very successful. Councillor J. R. Hayward was returned within three votes of the highest number polled, and would, had a little additional effort been exerted, be senior councillor. Our first effort to have a representative on the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board, too, proved eminently successful, the Catholic candidate, Mrs. C. M. Green, being elected by nearly 5300 voters. Both these public-spirited candidates are deserving of hearty congratulation. Councillor Hayward has already proved his worth on the council as a sound, energetic, and useful representative, and, with past experience to his credit, will continue in the forefront of municipal activity. Mrs. Green, although not untried on public bodies, having for years been a member of the Christchurch Benevolent Association, which is entrusted with the distribution of the Mayoral coal and blanket fund, and being a member and now president of the Cathedral confraternity of Diocesan Ladies of Charity, has still to gain experience in the wider sphere. With her past record in charitable endeavor, however, she will no doubt well merit the confidence now reposed in her.

### Timaru

(From our own correspondent.)

May 3.

For the past two Sundays the parish committee of the Catholic Federation have been at the church door enrolling new members.

The May devotions in honor of our Lady were commenced on Sunday evening, and are to continue every evening during the month.

Sunday being the first Sunday of the month there was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament all day, and the usual procession in the evening.

The Celtic Football Club opened their season on Thursday afternoon on the Caledonian Grounds, when they met and defeated a team from Oamaru.

On Thursday afternoon of last week the Children of Mary gave a kitchen afternoon in the Girls' School to Miss M. Mara, on the occasion of her approaching marriage. Rev. Father Murphy, in making the presentation, expressed his pleasure at seeing such a large meeting to do honor to the bride-elect, and referred to her long association with the sodality, the good example she had always shown as a member, and the help she had always given in every good work in the parish. On behalf of himself and the members he wished her every blessing and happiness in her new sphere of life. Afternoon tea was then partaken of, and a very pleasant gathering was brought to a close.

### Huntly

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

May 3.

Mr. W. Battersby, who is a native of St. Helens, Lancashire, has been appointed conductor of the church choir.

Rev. Father O'Doherty has presented the boys with an Association ball, and intends to coach them in the game.

The ladies of Ngauwabia are very busy preparing for a three days' bazaar, which takes place on the 6th, 7th, and 8th of May.

The town is fast recovering from the set back caused by the recent terrible mining disaster. A business site in the main street has recently changed hands at £30 per foot. The handsome brick building, which is being built for the Bank of New Zealand, will, when completed, be an ornament to the place.

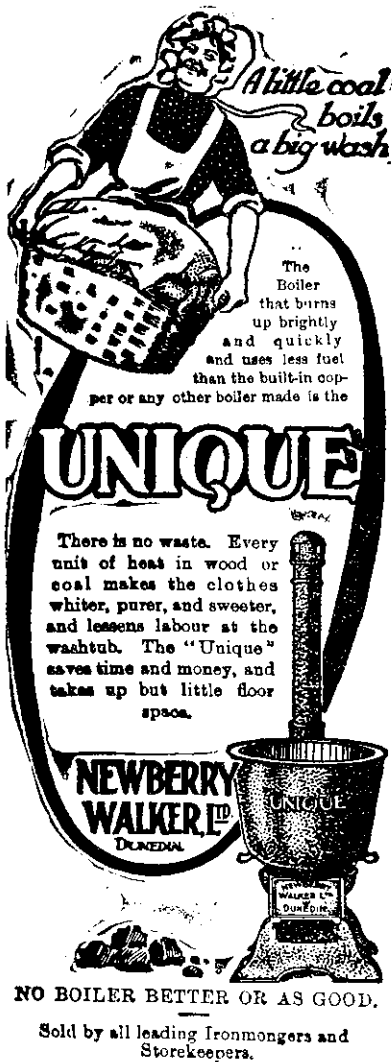
A Hibernian social, which was held on April 26, was an unqualified success. The hall was tastefully decorated. Vocal items of a high order were contributed by Miss Prendergast, Mrs. W. J. Ralph, Miss Bartle, and Miss Stone. The ladies' committee generously donated the refreshments. All present thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and look forward with pleasant anticipation to the next social. The members of the branch express their sincere thanks to all who had assisted in making the entertainment such an unqualified success.

## WEDDING BELLS

BROWN—PAYNE.

A pretty wedding was celebrated in Lyttelton on April 29, when Miss Maud Payne, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Payne, was married to Mr. Onslow Brown, second son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Brown. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father Cooney. The bride was charmingly attired in ivory crepe-de-chine with court train trimmed with orange blossoms and silk lace. She wore a beautiful hand-worked veil, and carried a shower bouquet. The bridesmaids were Miss Elsie Payne (chief), dressed in pale blue satin, and Miss Kitty Brown in salmon pink. Both had black silk velvet hats. Little Rona Payne was flower girl, and wore apricot satin with mob cap, and carried a basket of roses. The bridegroom's present to the bride was an aquamarine pendant, and to the bridesmaids a gold bangle and pearl brooches. Mr. Alan Hollis was best man, and Mr. Vernon Woods groomsmen. The happy couple received many valuable and useful presents, including a number of cheques. Amongst the presents were a complete set of cutlery from Messrs Forbes, Ltd., and a handsome chair from the employees of the D.I.C. to Miss Payne. A reception was afterwards held at the Excelsior Hall, where the guests were received by the bride and bridegroom's parents. Complimentary speeches were made at the wedding breakfast. The toast of the 'Bride and bridegroom' was proposed by

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a big wash.*



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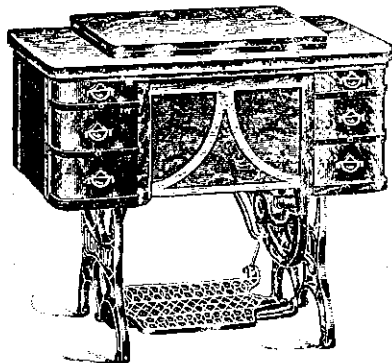
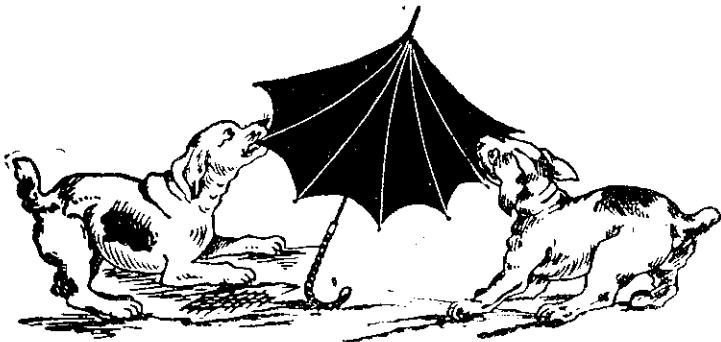
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Father Cooney. The other customary toasts were also duly honored. The happy couple left by motor car for the south on their honeymoon, the bride's travelling dress being a navy tailor-made costume, with furs, and black velvet hat with white wings.

## COMMERCIAL

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. report:—We held our weekly sale of grain and produce on Monday, when values ruled as under:—Oats.—Consignments are coming forward more freely, and, in view of the increased quantities offering at southern stations, buyers have little difficulty in filling their orders, and all feed and milling sorts have declined in value. There is fair inquiry for special seed lines at prices a shade above feed rates. Prime milling, 3s 9d to 3s 10d; good to best feed, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; inferior to medium, 3s 5d to 3s 7d per bushel (sacks extra). Wheat.—Samples are still coming forward freely from southern districts. Most of the later threshed lots are only in medium condition, and millers are not keen buyers of these. Choice lots, however, meet ready sale. Fowl wheat in small quantities is in fair demand. Prime milling velvet, 6s 10d to 6s 11d; velvet ear, Tuscan, etc., 6s 8d to 6s 9d; best whole fowl wheat, 6d 6d to 6s 8d; medium, 6s to 6s 4d per bushel (sacks extra). Potatoes.—The market is well supplied, and, in the absence of any regular demand for shipment, sales are not readily affected. The local demand is fairly good, and late quotations are still maintained. Best table potatoes, £4 15s to £5; others, £4 to £4 10s per ton (sacks included). Chaff.—There is a good demand for oaten sheaf, both for export and for local consumption; but prime lines only are in request. Straw chaff, both oaten and wheaten, has been in inquiry, and is saleable at satisfactory prices. Best oaten sheaf, £6 to £6 5s; choice black oat, £6 7s 6d to £6 10s; medium to good, £5 10s to £5 17s 6d; light and discolored, £5 to £5 7s 6d; oaten straw chaff, £2 15s; wheaten, £2 10s per ton (sacks extra).

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co., Ltd., report for week ended Tuesday, May 4, 1915, as follows:—Rabbit skins.—Our next sale will be held on Monday, 10th inst. Sheepskins.—We held our fortnightly sale to-day, and offered a full catalogue to the usual attendance of buyers. Competition was keen and prices were much the same as last sale. Quotations: Best half-bred, to 11½d; medium, 9½d to 10½d; best coarse cross-bred, to 11½d; medium, 9½d to 10½d; best fine cross-bred, to 11½d; medium, 9½d to 10½d; best merino, 8d to 8½d; medium, 6½d to 7d; best pelts, to 9½d; lamb-skins, 9½d to 10½d per lb. Hides.—Our next sale will be held on Thursday, 6th inst. Oats.—Consignments have been coming to hand freely and the market is weaker, the merchants not being keen to operate. Prime milling, 3s 9d to 3s 10d; good to best feed, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; inferior to medium, 3s 5d to 3s 7d per bushel (sacks extra). Wheat.—Millers are not keen to operate at present as they are holding good stocks, consequently there is not a strong demand. Quotations: Prime milling velvet, 6s 10d to 6s 11d; red wheats, 6s 8d to 6s 9d; best whole fowl wheat, 6s 6d to 6s 8d per bushel (sacks extra). Chaff.—The market is barely supplied, and there is a good demand for prime oaten sheaf. Medium quality, however, is not so much sought after. Prime oaten sheaf, £6 5s to £6 7s 6d; choice black oaten, to £6 10s; medium to good, £5 10s to £6 per ton (sacks extra). Potatoes.—The market is fully supplied, and there is a fair demand, but prices are a shade easier. Best tables, £4 15s to £5; medium to good, £4 to £4 7s 6d per ton (sacks in).

Take care of your furniture. Don't let incompetent carriers handle it. When shifting employ us. We use a care and gentleness in lifting, packing, and carting your things that obviates injury. They look as well at the end of the journey as they did at the beginning. THE N.Z. EXPRESS CO., LTD....

## CATHOLIC FEDERATION

GREYMOUTH.

(From our own correspondent.)

New life has been put into the local branch of the Catholic Federation since the visit of Mr. Girling-Butcher, who also succeeded in forming ten new branches in the district. The following representative committee has been appointed for the ensuing year:—Children of Mary—Misses M. Kennedy and A. Heffernan; Ladies of Charity—Misses C. Fogarty and M. Heffernan; St. Cecelia Club—Misses Crowley; Sacred Heart Confraternity, Mrs. J. Kennedy; Hibernian Society—Messrs. J. Collogan and M. Keating; St. Columba Club—Messrs. H. F. Doogan and P. J. Smythe; parish—Messrs. M. McGilligan, M. Quinlan, J. Bellamy, P. Blanchfield, J. Higgins, and W. Sullivan. The following are the office-bearers:—President, Very Rev. Dean Carew; secretary, Mr. M. McGilligan; treasurer, Mr. P. Blanchfield. A canvass of the town for membership has resulted to date in an increase of 400, which is very creditable indeed. A special word of praise is due to the ladies, who entered into the work with great enthusiasm. The branch has the right man in the right place, in the person of the secretary (Mr. McGilligan), who is sparing neither time nor labor, in endeavoring to establish, what will eventually be, the strongest branch in proportion to population in New Zealand.

## OBITUARY

LIEUTENANT J. G. COWAN, DUNEDIN.

We regret to record the death of Lieutenant J. G. Cowan, who was killed in the action at the Dardanelles. Prior to his volunteering for service with the 10th (North Otago) Company, Otago Infantry Battalion, he was a teacher in the employ of the Otago Education Board. He was born in Ardgowrie in 1889, was trained as a pupil teacher at Union and Albany Street Schools, and later attended the Training College. In April, 1914, he was appointed sole teacher at Waitahuna Gully, and in September, 1912, was promoted to the position of first assistant at the Oamaru Middle School, which he left in August of last year to join the forces. Lieutenant Cowan was a member of St. Joseph's Men's Club and St. Joseph's Harriers while in Dunedin. He was of a singularly attractive and amiable disposition, a man of staunch friendships, there being no personal inconvenience too great where the question of serving a friend was concerned. Behind his kindness of manner, however, was determination, energy, and ambition—strengthened by more than average ability,—that would have assuredly led to a successful career had his life not been terminated so early. His modesty of manner was unspoiled by the popularity he gained, and the specially affectionate regard extended to him by the children who came under his charge was of a kind won by few teachers. Lieutenant Cowan spent his early years in the North-east district (Macraes), and is a son of Mrs. Cowan, North-East Valley, Dunedin, to whom the sincere sympathy of a large circle of friends is extended in her bereavement.—R.I.P.

Father Ledochowski, the new General of the Jesuits, states, in a private letter to a friend in France, that of eighty-six voters at his election, there were but six Germans, 'two of whom were Swiss.' 'How, then,' he says, 'can the election be said to have been influenced by the Germans? My sentiments regarding France are those of our families, and I consider them more imperative than ever since I was elected.'

Lost, stolen, strayed—gone none knows where,  
'Twas with me yesterday, I do declare.  
It racked my chest, my head was sore;  
It's gone, I'll never see it more.  
What? Not a cough? Yes, yes, for sure;  
Lost when I used Woods' Peppermint Cure.



J. M. J.

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'Catholic Belief,' 7/- dozen.

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\* Candidates for admission are required to present satisfactory testimonials from the parochial clergy, and from the superiors of schools or colleges where they may have studied.

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MRS. T. J. BOURKE,  
*Hon. Secretary,*  
115 Hamilton Road, Wellington.

Owing to the great demand for tickets, and in the interests of this cause, we have received permission from the Minister for Internal Affairs to extend date of drawing till May 15, and the result will appear in the *N.Z. Tablet* of May 20.

## MARRIAGE

BROWN—PAYNE.—At Lyttelton, on April 29, 1915, by the Rev. Father Cooney, Onslow Hollis Brown, second son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Brown, to Edith Maud Payne, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Payne.

## DEATH

CARROLL.—On April 28, 1915, at her residence, 272 Main road, Normanby, North-East Valley, Catherine, widow of the late Patrick Carroll, aged 66 years.—R.I.P.

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## MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.

*Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiam causam promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.*

Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.

LEO XIII., P.M.

TRANSLATION.—Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing let the Directors and Writers of the *New Zealand Tablet* continue to promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.

April 4, 1900.

LEO XIII., Pope.



THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1915.

## THE NEW ZEALANDERS IN ACTION



OR the people of New Zealand the news of the week has been the intimation that 'our boys,' in company with the Australian troops, have received their baptism of fire in the important operations at the Dardanelles, and that they have come through the ordeal with the greatest distinction, their 'splendid gallantry and magnificent achievement' being the subject of special messages of congratulation from the King, the Admiralty, and the British Government. Every one, of course, who knows the stuff of which the New Zealand lads are made, confidently expected that they would acquit themselves with credit, but they appear to have exceeded even the most sanguine anticipations; and when the British Admiralty, which is accustomed to weigh its words, finds itself constrained to employ such superlatives as 'splendid' and 'magnificent,' it may safely be inferred that the New Zealanders have done superbly well. The people of the Dominion wholeheartedly rejoice in their success, and are genuinely proud of the way in which they have upheld the honor and good name of their country. Full details of the operations are not yet available; but we know that the colonial troops effected a landing in the face of unusual and extraordinary difficulties, that they triumphantly repulsed a series of fierce and determined attacks, and that the close of the fighting found them carrying on a vigorous and effective offensive. They were given the position of honor and of danger; and they proved themselves worthy of the trust reposed in them. They have won their spurs; and their achievement in this, their first time of testing, may be taken as a prelude to even greater things to come. Up to the time of writing, the full casualty list has not been published, and the country is naturally in a state of keen suspense. Such fighting as our men have gone through cannot be carried out without corresponding losses; and our people will bear their bereavements in the spirit of fortitude and endurance which the men themselves have so conspicuously shown. Now, at least, we will realise that we are really at war; and the sooner this simple fact is fully recognised, the sooner will the supreme effort be made which is necessary to bring the struggle to a close.

## AN UNWORTHY UTTERANCE

The bigots, like the poor, we will, apparently, have always with us. At a crisis like the present, when the great testing time for the Empire is drawing the various religious bodies closer together, and when all sections of the community are bending all their energies and straining every nerve to discharge the high duties

which have fallen upon them, it is deplorable that any individual should be found so unspeakably narrow and small-minded as to mingle sectarianism with his charity, and to drag the denominational issue into a sphere where nothing but good feeling and a spirit of broad and generous patriotism should have place. Yet one such has been found in the person of the Rev. A. Macdonald, Presbyterian pastor at Otautau. At a recent Sunday evening service he is reported in the *Otautau Standard* as having informed his congregation that 'it was the Protestant world that was coming to the succor of the Belgian nation at this time of national crisis, although the Belgians were a Roman Catholic people'; that Catholic peoples were 'only showing a poor second to the sacrifices being made by Protestant peoples in the cause of humanity in the present struggle'; and in particular, that 'no Catholic movement in our own district or Dominion had manifested itself, and this he thought should be done.'

\*

These animadversions and insinuations are as false in substance as they are regrettable and unworthy in spirit. To begin with, the movement to assist the afflicted Belgians is not a denominational one, and has not been so viewed in any part of the Empire, except, perhaps, in a particular manse at Otautau. It is a patriotic and charitable movement, taken up gladly and spontaneously by all sections of the community as members of a common Empire, which Empire owes its present position, and possibly even its existence, to Belgian heroism and gallantry. Had Catholics made it a denominational affair, constituting themselves a separate unit, and keeping their funds and their activities apart from those of the rest of the community, they would have been justly blamed for taking a narrow and sectarian view of a situation which preeminently called for a united and universal effort. With wider and wiser vision, they elected everywhere to throw in their lot with the rest of their fellow-citizens: and throughout the length and breadth of the Empire their record, both in the matter of giving and of working, will bear the closest comparison with any other section of the community. From Ireland, in addition to the special Church collections, enormous sums have been sent to Belgium: and thousands of Belgian refugees are being housed and cared for in that overwhelmingly Catholic country. The same is true with respect to the Catholics of England. The English Catholic papers--the *London Tablet*, the *Univers*, the *Catholic Times*, and the *Catholic Herald*--have all established special funds, in addition to the heavy contributions made by Catholics to all the other funds that were on foot. Files of French papers that lie before us--such as *L'Eclair*, *L'Echo de Paris*, *L'Express du Midi*, etc.--show that the Catholics of France, hard pressed as that country itself is by German exactions and by the calls of the war, are making noble and unceasing efforts to alleviate, both by money gifts and otherwise, the distress of their Belgian brethren. In New Zealand, as elsewhere, Catholics have made common cause with the general body of citizens, and they are everywhere strongly represented on the committees which are doing so much to make the movement in this country such a conspicuous success. In all the carnivals, concerts, sports, and demonstrations of various kinds which are being inaugurated, Catholics are doing yeoman's service; and the good people of Otautau will doubtless bear witness that this is as true of their district as of all other parts of the Dominion. In Dunedin, for example, of which we have special knowledge, collecting committees have been established for the purpose of obtaining regular monthly contributions; and at the last meeting of the local committee it was noteworthy that the largest amount from any individual collector--over £100--was handed in by a Catholic lady.

\*

In common with the authorities of other religious bodies, the Catholic Church authorities have arranged for special church collections for the Belgian funds in every diocese of the Dominion; and the total sums so realised will more than bear comparison with the like

efforts of other bodies. In Auckland the sum of £1128 has been collected; in Wellington, £950; in Christchurch, £1100; and in Dunedin diocese, between Oamaru and Gore, the sum of £500 has been raised. The returns for the remaining portion of the diocese have not yet come to hand. In the case of Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch dioceses, the money has not only been collected, but has long ago been despatched. Not only in money, time, and energy, but in life blood also, the Catholics of the Dominion are bearing their full share of sacrifice for the Empire, and for the cause of reparation to despoiled and violated Belgium. In the first Expeditionary Force which left our shores no less than 40 per cent. of the troops were Catholics; and in all the subsequent contingents the number of Catholics has been far in excess of the Catholic proportion of the population. These facts speak for themselves; and they place the Rev. Mr. Macdonald's utterance in its true light. We have given the Otautau deliverance more attention than its importance--or unimportance--deserved; but the ignoble taunt, as unworthy as it is untrue, was one in regard to which the Catholics concerned naturally felt somewhat keenly. We have only to add that Mr. Macdonald's remarks have been submitted to the chairman of the country organisations of the Belgian Relief Committee, whose headquarters are in Dunedin; and we shall have pleasure in publishing the official statement on the subject which we hope to receive from him.

## Notes

### Catholics and the Belgians: A Reply

We have referred elsewhere to the unworthy and uncalled for remarks of the Presbyterian minister at Otautau, in regard to Catholics and the Belgian relief movement. The Very Rev. Father Murphy, of Riverton, lost no time in correcting the misstatements, and the *Western Star* of Friday contains the following vigorous and dignified reply to Mr. Macdonald's aspersions:--'Sir,--The Rev. A. Macdonald, of Otautau, has deemed it his duty to rebuke the Catholics of the universe for their neglect in not aiding the Belgian nation in her dire distress. To this statement, I give an unqualified denial. Had Mr. Macdonald only read our Catholic papers, he certainly should not have treated his good people of Otautau to such a tirade against Roman Catholicism, as he has been reported in a local paper to have done in his church at Otautau, on April 18. Had he even read the daily papers, he certainly would have seen that our Holy Father, Benedict XV., has by his generous donation towards the Belgian relief fund given us all an example in this matter. Yes, and in these same daily papers also, he might have noticed that the venerable Bishop of this diocese, the Right Rev. Dr. Verdon, whilst presiding at a Synod of his clergy last January, ordered his priests to have a special collection made in every church in his diocese, for the poor suffering Belgians, although his Lordship was cognisant of the fact that the Catholics of the diocese of Dunedin had already given, and generously, towards the same object. And what Dr. Verdon has done, has been done by every Catholic Bishop in the Empire. I hope these few facts will set the rev. gentleman's tender conscience at rest.--I am, etc., P. MURPHY, St. Columba's, Riverton, 30th April, 1915.'

### Germany's Vulnerable Points

So long ago as February, Mr. Hilaire Belloc expressed the opinion that it was unlikely that any new phase of the war would begin to appear until June or July. Present appearances would seem to confirm this view. In the same address Mr. Belloc pointed out Germany's four vulnerable points. 'Germany is vulnerable at the four external corners of her empire. She must hold on to Belgium, to East Prussia, to Alsace-

Lorraine, and to Silesia. The giving up of any one of these four strategical positions will be fatal to her, the embarrassment of holding the four is likely to prove her undoing. Should the Allies continue to pin the enemy and compel him to shorten his line, then that is the beginning of the end.'

## DIocese OF DUNEDIN

Mass will be celebrated on Sunday at the Five Rivers, where the Seventh and Eighth Southland Regiments are in camp.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday from the last Mass until after Vespers, when the usual procession, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, took place.

The fine new school for the Christian Brothers is rapidly approaching completion, and persons who have promised subscriptions to the building fund are earnestly requested to pay them as soon as possible, as money is urgently required to meet payments in connection with the work.

In a recent issue we directed attention to the regularity with which Mrs. Jackson attended to her duties as a member of the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board. The public apparently appreciated her good work, for at the election last week she was placed second in the list of successful candidates, beating all the old members of the board.

On Monday, May 3, the nineteenth anniversary of the consecration of his Lordship Bishop Verdon, and also the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of Holy Cross College, Solemn High Mass was celebrated at the College, at which his Lordship presided. In honor of the occasion the students gave an entertainment in the afternoon for which his Lordship thanked them, and referred to the good work done by the College in the short time of its existence, and hoped it would do still better work in the future for the Church in the diocese. In the evening, his Lordship was entertained by the pupils of St. Dominic's College, when a fine musical programme was presented.

Corporal C. J. Spain, a son of Mr. S. T. Spain, Earnsclough, Clyde, who joined the Fourth Reinforcements as a member of the 4th Otago Mounted Regiment, distinguished himself recently in the shooting competitions held at Tretham. Not only did Corporal Spain succeed in winning the Imperial sharp-shooter's badge, but was, also, the winner in other competitions. Shooting at 700 yards he gained 13 out of a possible 15; in firing at rapidly moving figures he secured 13 out of a possible 15; and, in firing at the bull's eye, he was equally successful. Corporal Spain's brother, Sergeant Eric Spain, who has also enlisted, is now in camp, and, like his brother, is a crack shot. Both boys were members of the Christian Brothers' Cadet Corps, Dunedin, and it speaks well for the organising ability of, and excellent training, given by Major Hussey, who raised and commanded the corps, that over 60 of its members have joined the various Expeditionary Forces, and have been highly commended by their officers for their knowledge of their duties and efficiency in carrying them out.

## CATHOLIC SEWING GUILD.

The Catholic Sewing Guild for Belgian relief met on Wednesday and donations were received from the following:—Mrs. P. Brown, Mrs. Banks, Miss Bunnbury, Mrs. Hogg, 'A friend,' Mrs. Sweeney.

## DIocese OF AUCKLAND

(By telegraph, from our own correspondent.)

May 4.

The municipal elections engrossed the attention of the citizens last week, and resulted in the election of a new Mayor (Mr. J. H. Gunson). It was virtually a Greater Auckland election. Twenty-one councillors were returned, amongst whom Mr. P. J. Nerheny occupied a very prominent position. He was

fifth on the list for the City Council, with 6614 votes, third for the Harbor Board with 6785 votes, and second for the Hospital Board with 7700 votes. This is a record of which any man may feel proud, particularly when that man is always staunch and true to his Catholic principles. Mr. Maurice Casey, another Catholic, was third on the list of City Council members with 6741 votes.

Rev. Father O'Sullivan, C.S.S.R., has opened a mission at Devonport, Rev. Father Kelly, C.S.S.R., gives a three days' retreat to the boarders at St. Mary's Convent, Ponsonby, and Very Rev. Father Roche, C.S.S.R., left by express to-night for Wellington. This morning the missionaries enjoyed a motor drive round to all our religious institutions.

The May devotions commenced in all the city and suburban churches on Sunday. At St. Benedict's a general Communion took place. Our Lady's altar was tastefully decorated. In the evening a procession took place, in which a statue of our Blessed Lady was borne around the church. At the Cathedral the beautiful altar of our Lady was adorned with much taste, this being the work of the Sisters of Mercy.

The three weeks' mission by the Redemptorist Fathers at the Cathedral concluded on Sunday. During the whole of last week the attendances were splendid. On Sunday morning a general Communion took place at the early Masses. It is estimated that during the mission six thousand received Holy Communion. Impressive sermons were delivered at the 11 o'clock Mass and at Vespers, the latter on 'Perseverance,' by the Very Rev. Father Roche, C.S.S.R. The congregation on this occasion must have been a record one, as every available seat was brought in after the ordinary seats had been filled, and then hundreds had to stand. At the conclusion of the sermon, Father Roche thanked Right Rev. Mgr. Brodie, Rev. Fathers Cahill and Dunphy, the Sisters of Mercy, and the choir, without whom the mission would not have been such a magnificent success. He finally thanked the people for their cooperation, and imparted the Papal blessing. At almost every instruction given by the missionaries they exhorted all to join the Hibernian Society and the Holy Family Confraternity. It is hoped these excellent organisations may thus be augmented in numbers.

The following important circular has been sent to the Parnell parishioners by the Right Rev. Mgr. Brodie: 'An important meeting of members of the congregation will be held in the school next Sunday, May 9, immediately after evening devotions. The object of the meeting is to consider and devise ways and means of providing adequate support for the Sisters, who carry on the work of our parish convent school with such untiring zeal and with such great success. I am in a position to state that the matter is one of urgency, and requires immediate attention. His Lordship the Bishop has issued a letter to all the priests of the diocese laying down the principle that steps should be taken to see that the various religious teachers have adequate provision made for their support. The spirit of justice will prompt us to do what we can in this important matter. The efforts of the Sisters in the important work of Catholic education deserve due recognition, in a measure at least that for their work in the school they should receive what is necessary for their maintenance. The spirit of faith will urge us to endeavor to appreciate the work of the Sisters. We know that without our Catholic schools the Catholic faith could not thrive, without our religious teachers our Catholic schools could not continue. Therefore, if we value our faith, let us show that we do not hesitate to make some little sacrifice to support the Sisters, who devote their lives without earthly reward to the great work of Catholic education. It is then the duty of each and all to help. We must not in a matter of such great importance leave the burden on a few. Every parishioner should deem it an obligation to co-operate in this work, and as the work cannot well be taken in hand without its being fully considered by the people, I ask you to strive to be present at the meeting next Sunday evening.'

## ITEMS OF SPORT

### FOOTBALL.

The M.B.O.B. Association (writes our Christchurch correspondent) had four teams playing in Rugby football matches on last Saturday, with the following results:—In the senior contest, Varsity defeated Marists by 8 points to 6, the scores being—Varsity, a goal from a try and a try; Marists, two tries. In the junior games, playing on Sydenham Park, Marists defeated Sydenham (with two men short) by 31 points to nil. For the winners Dobbs (5), Elliott (2), Evans and Matson scored tries. Khouri converted two tries. In the third grade Belfast A defeated Marists by 9 points to nil, whilst in the fourth grade, Marists defeated Merivale by 11 points to 5. For Marists, Ellis, Darragh, and Marshall scored tries, and Murfitt converted one try.

On Thursday afternoon (writes our Oamaru correspondent) the local Celtic team tried conclusions with the Timaru Celtic second fifteen at Timaru. The Timaru Club had trouble in getting out a team, and so had to strengthen it with several senior men. The game was hard, fast, and even throughout, the margin of 9 points by no means signifying the difference between the opposing sides. The Oamaru team brought out several new members who should, after this their first performance, give football a good lift in the local sports arena. Hughes, as halfback, played throughout a plucky game, going down every time in front of the Timaru pack, which out-weighted our forwards by over a stone. Mansell and McCombie, at five-eights, and O'Donnell at centre, played sterling games; while the forwards, playing a heavier pack, worked as one man. For the Timaru team, Murphy, Lee, Scott, McCarthy, Cain, and D'Arcy played sterling games. The game ended in favor of Timaru by 9 points to nil. P. Fennessy captained the local team.

### SWIMMING.

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

May 5.

On Thursday afternoon the pupils of the Marist Brothers' School held their first swimming carnival in the Tepid Baths. Mr. G. Billson (the custodian) very kindly gave an exhibition of fancy swimming, which caused a great deal of amusement, and at the same time showed what can be done in the water by an expert. He made an attempt to swim the length of the baths (33 yards) in four strokes, and he did it comfortably. At an interval, the Brother Director thanked Mr. Billson and his assistants for the great kindness and courtesy they have always extended towards the pupils and teachers of the school. The following were the results:—Senior championship—P. Gregory 1, W. McCornack 2, L. Cotter 3. Junior championship—L. Cotter 1, P. Clarkson 2, L. Dwan 3. Senior handicap—P. Gregory 1, G. McNish 2. Neatest dive—L. Cotter 1, P. Clarkson 2, S. Harrington 3. Candle race—P. Gregory 1, S. Harrington 2. Clerk gathering—L. Cotter 1, McNish 2. Diving for plates—P. Gregory 1, W. O'Brien 2. Beginners' race—J. Wilson 1, S. Cotter 2. Back race—D. Christie 1, H. Foster 2. Race for non-winners—G. Blogg 1. The thanks of the boys are due to Mr. Cotter, City Hotel, who gave a generous donation for prizes.

### ST. JOSEPH'S HARRIERS, DUNEDIN.

On Saturday last, St. Joseph's Harriers held their weekly run from St. Clair Baths. The trail led round the second beach, up the track along the edge of the cliffs towards Cargill's Castle. Then, turning to the right, the pack indulged in some cross-country running, comprising road, hill, and valley, with obstacles of gorse, barbed-wire, and stone fences, till Coucord was reached. From here the members returned to the baths by way of Lookout Point, along the top of the hill to Mr. Sidey's property, and down the road past St. Clair Park and the tram terminus. On the con-

clusion of the run the members adjourned to the tea rooms as the guests of the committee. Mr. T. Roughan, on behalf of the members, thanked the committee for the good things they had provided, to which the captain (Mr. J. O'Farrell) replied.

### ST. BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC CLUB, AUCKLAND

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The half-yearly meeting of St. Benedict's Club was held in the clubrooms on Sunday, April 25. The president (Mr. Leo. O'Malley) occupied the chair, and there was a large and representative attendance. A great deal of business was dealt with, including the secretary's half-yearly report, the treasurer's statement, and the report of the delegates to the recent conference of Federated Catholic Clubs. Despite the general depression that has existed for some time, the treasurer's statement showed a very satisfactory state of affairs. The secretary reported on the work done during the past term by the out-going executive. Many progressive measures had been adopted, chief amongst which was the foundation of a gymnasium, which is to be lighted by electricity, and furnished with modern appliances. The necessary amount for carrying out this work has been placed upon the estimates, and a strong working bee has been formed, and is now pushing on the work, under the direction of a committee consisting of Messrs. Williams, B. Slade, and Forman. Messrs. Temm and Fox, who represented St. Benedict's Club at the recent conference at Timaru, presented a highly satisfactory report of the proceedings. They paid a warm tribute to the kindness and hospitality of the parish priest and members of the Timaru Club during their stay in the southern town.

The election of officers for the ensuing term resulted as follows: Patron, Right Rev. Mgr. Gillan; president, Mr. Leo. O'Malley; vice-president, Mr. Temm; chaplain, Rev. Father Forde; secretary, Mr. L. Hodgson; assistant-secretary, Mr. W. Heighton; treasurer, Mr. R. Owens; custodian, Mr. D. Slade; deputy-custodian, Mr. R. Early.

At a meeting of the new executive an interesting syllabus was drawn up for the winter term, including a club reunion, on May 18, socials, debates, etc. A class was formed to take up the study of the Catholic social study guild. Given the continued support of the members, the club will do good work in the interests of our Catholic young men in the future.

### Christchurch North

The Rev. Father Hoare, S.M., returned from the West Coast on Saturday.

During the month of May, devotions in honor of our Lady will be held in St. Mary's every evening at 7 o'clock.

Mr. George Girdling-Butcher, general secretary and organizer of the Catholic Federation, addressed a very large gathering in St. Mary's after devotions on Sunday evening. He outlined the work of the Federation, and gave a very interesting review of the work accomplished since its inception. At the conclusion the Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., Adm., thanked Mr. Butcher for his very impressive lecture, and said he felt sure his visit to St. Mary's would be the means of increased membership of the Federation in the parish.

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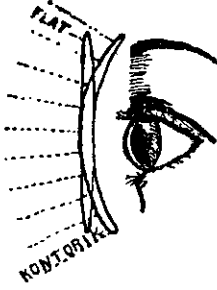
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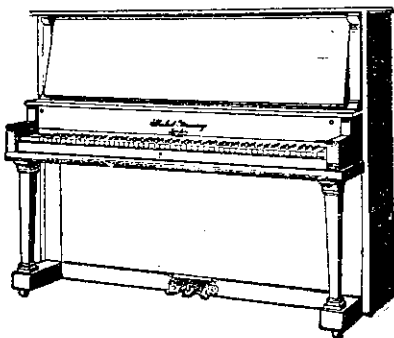
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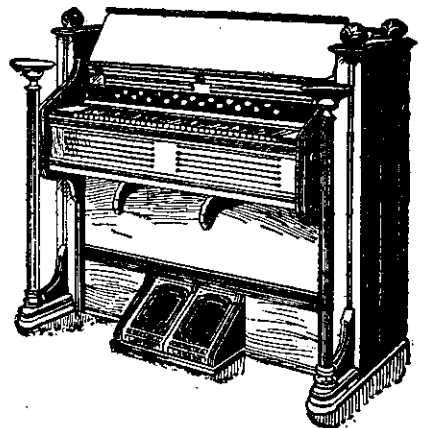
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## Irish News

### GENERAL.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin is to present in person an address to his Holiness the Pope from the Dublin Corporation.

Dublin Corporation has removed from its roll of honorary freemen the name of Dr. Kuno Meyer, a German *savant*, who formerly was very popular in Ireland because of his interest in the Gaelic revival.

Owing to the high prices charged for coal to the Dublin poor, the Local Government Board has prepared a scheme by which a bag of coal, weighing ten stone, shall be supplied for one shilling to persons earning less than £1 a week. The difference in the cost is to be made good by a Government grant.

At the last meeting of the committee of the Limerick City Regiment, National Volunteers, Mr. F. McNamara, V.P., presiding, a resolution was unanimously adopted expressing sincere sympathy with Mr. John F. Power on the death of his nephew, Lieutenant Power, who was killed in action at the front.

Lieutenant W. A. Redmond, M.P., Royal Irish Regiment, son of Mr. John Redmond, Leader of the Irish Nationalist Party, is now stationed in Tipperary, being attached to the Irish Brigade. With Lieutenant Redmond is Dr. Esmonde, M.P. for North Tipperary, who belongs to the R.A.M.C. of the Irish Brigade.

Mr. Ernest A. G. Ellis, J.P., Wellington, Spanish-point, Miltown-Malbaw, has obtained a commission in the Army. Mr. Ellis is the second son of the late Captain Robert Westrop Ellis, formerly High Sheriff for Clare, and son-in-law of Dr. Ellis, ex-Local Government Board Auditor. Mr. Ellis was in training with the local Volunteers.

The annual meeting of the *Freeman's Journal* shareholders, Dublin, received a report that the net profit for the year amounted to £6197. A sum of £1440 was voted to pay debenture interest. The remainder of the surplus was mainly utilised in writing off certain items, and the balance remaining carried forward to next year. No dividend was voted to the ordinary shareholders.

On St. Patrick's Day thousands of women sold shamrocks in the streets of London in support of a scheme devised by the Countess of Limerick to provide free refreshments for troops at railway stations. The Queen sent a message of sympathy, and among the sellers were Lady Jellicoe and the famous French actress, Mdme. Rejane. This year Queen Alexandra sent her usual gift of shamrocks to the Irish Guards, but it was despatched to the front instead of being distributed as usual at their barracks in London.

Second Lieutenant Roderick de Staapole, R.F.A., who was killed in action near Neuve Chapelle on March 10, was the youngest son of the Duke de Staapole. Born at Mount Hazel, County Galway, in 1895, and educated at Downside, Wimbledon College, and Woolwich, he was gazetted in August last, on his nineteenth birthday, when he joined the 1st Battery Royal Field Artillery, which went to France in the 8th Division. One of his brothers, who had been three years in the Connaught Rangers, was killed in action on the Aisne, and his two eldest brothers are at present serving at the front in the Connaught Rangers and in the Leinster Regiment.

### MORE IRISH HEROES.

Among those mentioned in Sir David Beatty's despatch for distinguished conduct in the Battle of the North Sea on January 24, when the *Blucher* was sunk, are Frederick Daly (chief carpenter, *Lion*), Patrick O'Callaghan (chief stoker, *Lion*), and James Keating (chief stoker, *Meteor*), and Michael Flood (stoker, *Meteor*). They have been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal. Amongst Irishmen mentioned in Sir John French's despatches is Major Edmund J. Mc-

Allister, Army Service Corps, son of Mr. Patrick F. McAllister, Dublin, and brother-in-law of Sir Joseph McGrath, Registrar of the National University. He was educated at Belvedere College, S.J., and University College, Dublin.

### ULSTER UNIONISTS AND THE WAR.

Articles have been written in many countries and in different languages to account for the origin of the war, but a correspondent of the *Northern Whig*, a Unionist journal published in Belfast, points out that the views and theories put forward so far are all wrong. The war, he states, was arranged by Providence, in order that the Ulster Unionists might be protected. Ulster was on the verge of war and had prepared for the maintenance of her liberty. 'The very uniform of the women of Ulster was ready. . . . By a stroke, as it were, of lightning, war on the Continent, instead of in Ulster, broke out. Belgium became the scapegoat of Ulster. The latter to-day dwells in peace and security. It was the hand of God that did it as miraculously now as in Bible times.' That is to say (remarks the *Catholic Times*), the lives of the Ulster Unionists are so precious in the eyes of the Lord that by His design nearly the whole of Europe was set aflame and Belgium devastated to save them. If the suggestion is rather blasphemous, it at any rate serves to give an inkling of the vast importance the Ulster Unionists attach to their preservation from danger. Is this the secret of the Ulster Volunteers' slowness in going to the front?

### DEATH OF CAPTAIN BELLINGHAM.

General sympathy will be extended by his fellow-countrymen to Sir Henry Bellingham, Bart., of Castlebellingham, County Louth, and to his family, on the death of the distinguished baronet's second son, Captain Roger Bellingham, who has met on the battlefield the gallant fate that has befallen so many men of his race and creed during the course of this momentous world-war. Sir Henry Bellingham is a brilliant and patriotic Irishman; the son was worthy of the father. Captain Roger Bellingham was a true lover of his own country, an ardent Home Ruler and Nationalist. It may be recalled that when he addressed a meeting of Irish National Volunteers in his native county some months ago, several Unionist members raised an angry agitation in the House of Commons, and clamoured for 'drastic measures' of some kind or another because the young officer was an A.D.C. to Lord Aberdeen, then Viceroy of Ireland. Every movement that made for the advancement of Irish ideals and the promotion of the people's welfare obtained Captain Bellingham's enthusiastic support. Now, in the flower of his age and the prime of his manhood, he is lost to the relatives and friends who loved him; but his memory will live in their hearts while life endures—and his actual services to Ireland and high aspirations for the nation's future will not be forgotten by his fellow-countrymen.

A writer in the *Freeman* pays warm tribute to the piety of the late Captain Bellingham. He was one of the Irish pilgrims to Lourdes, and at his own request he was given charge of a blind man there, whom he was to lead about everywhere, to Mass in the morning, back to breakfast, then to the Grotto, then round the Stations of the Cross, and so through the whole day's routine. The Captain discharged his duty with the devoutest fervor, and tried on his return to Ireland to provide for his blind friend in a home in Dublin. The tribute concludes:—

'And now he sleeps in the sunny land of France! Well, he was ready to go, for his soul was white and pure as a child's, and his heart ever burned with the love of the poor and the afflicted. Some will remember him as a companion in arms, some as a friend, some for a nearer and more sacred tie: but for me his name shall ever recall one picture—that of a soldier of our Lady, erect before her shrine, holding a blind man by the hand.'

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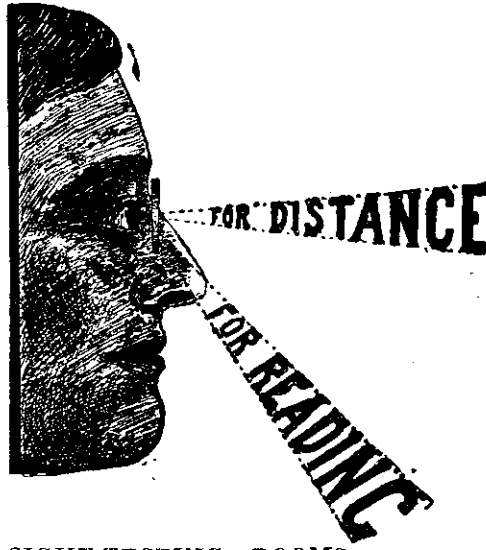
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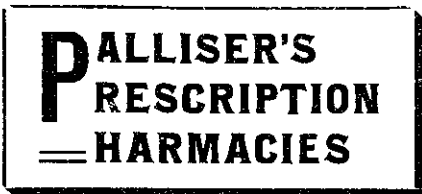
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## THE NEW IRELAND.

Ireland's position in the war was the subject of many interesting references in the speeches delivered at the annual St. Patrick's Day house dinner of the Irish Club in London. The gathering was a most successful and enjoyable one and afforded still further testimony to the high place which this popular institution holds in the Irish life of the English capital. Viscount Gough, the president of the club, was in the chair, and included in a distinguished company were—Lord MacDonnell, Mrs. J. R. Green, Lieutenant T. M. Kettle, Sir Robert Hadfield, Sir Horne and Lady Gordon, Lady Muir McKenzie, Mr. M. Joyce, M.P.; Mr. H. W. Thornton, general manager of the Great Eastern Railway; and Very Rev. Father Murphy (Provincial of the Marist Fathers).

Among the speakers was Lieutenant T. M. Kettle, who said that in the great assize that was searching all the world Ireland had done a great thing and done it greatly. She had put her money on the counter, and its clink had been heard throughout the world. The only uniform worn in his family under the King's auspices before was the uniform of the convict. But times had changed, and to-day he was on the side of England, because England was on the side of God. He was proud, and he was glad to say his father shared his pride, to wear his present uniform and to put his money on the table and join in this great gamble as his predecessors were in the old days. He had been personally to Belgium, and he saw what the Germans had done there. At Termonde he saw the rootless walls of a town that was; and as he looked upon the poor Belgian women searching amidst the ruins of their homes he said to himself, 'When you go back from here you have got to join an army, whether it be the French Army, or the Belgian Army, or the Russian, or the Servian, or the British Army, and you must do your part against these barbarians of Berlin.' That was the attitude of all of them who had taken this step which they thought it their duty to take. Coming from Holyhead that day he talked in the train with the Irish Lord Abbot of the Benedictine Monastery at Namur, who was a North of Ireland man, hailing from the constituency of which he (Mr. Kettle) had once the honor of representing in Parliament. The Abbot told him that he had seen with his own eyes two of his priests shot down when bringing the last Sacrament to dying soldiers. And yet they were told that these atrocities were inventions. Ireland had always been on the side of just causes, and if they were losing causes, what matter. They did not take up this cause for anything but honor and justice, and wherever honor and justice called, Ireland would go. Whatever the issue of this gigantic struggle might be, he joined in the dream of Lord MacDonnell—if it were a dream—that they in Ireland might have a sense of reality brought home to them, and that after the war they might discover that there was some better way of putting their own and their neighbors' heads together than by smashing them against each other. He hoped that when Catholic and Protestant blood had mingled on the battlefields of Europe, and when Nationalists and Unionists had fought and died together, they might on their return to Ireland be able to find a solution of their differences which would not necessarily involve a parochial war as a sequel to a European war. Life had now been reduced to its clear, clean last essence. People were finding that, after all, money and luxury did not matter much. Ireland—or at least that part of Ireland for which he spoke—had taken her stand, and whether the war lasted six weeks or six years, or, like the Napoleonic wars, twenty-three years, Nationalist Ireland would abide by the position she had taken up. They had given blood and treasure, and they would give more. They would give the new fidelity that the new regime had brought them, and they would carry on this war until it would be no longer in the power of diplomatists or gun-makers or financiers to throw the shadow of death over the whole world. Honor, justice, and, if need be, a losing cause, were Ireland's traditions, and Ireland would see out to the last this great gamble and this great adventure.

## People We Hear About

On Tuesday, March 23, his Eminence Cardinal Bourne attained his 54th birthday. He was born at Clapham, London S.W., on March 23, 1861. On June 11, 1884, he was ordained at Clapham, and on May 1, 1896, he was consecrated by Cardinal Vaughan—his immediate predecessor at Westminster—as Coadjutor for Southwark. He succeeded to the Bishopric of Southwark in April of the following year, and was translated to Westminster by an Apostolic Brief of September 11, 1903. He received the Pallium a month later. On November 27, 1911, Dr. Bourne was created a Cardinal Priest of the Holy Roman Church of the title of St. Pudentiana.

The Queen of the Belgians has been very devoted to the wounded soldiers since the present tragic war began. She transformed the Royal Palace at Brussels into a hospital, and at Antwerp she was both day and night by the bedside of the wounded, only leaving her patients for a few days to take her children to England, so that they might be fairly safe from the bombs dropped from the Zeppelins. It is a strange coincidence that these huge dirigibles should be constructed on the borders of Lake Constance, in the locality where Queen Elizabeth in her girlhood days, as a Bavarian Princess, spent many a gladsome hour. The Queen was at the retreat from Antwerp. She was at the terrible battle of the Yser, and she has known all the hardships of the past winter, as she has been constantly by her husband's side. Her Majesty continues to devote herself to the wounded, and has sent many comforts to the soldiers in the trenches. The men naturally love their 'little Queen,' so frail, so delicate, yet so full of kindness and energy.

Captain Maxwell Scott, who has won the D.S.O. and mention in despatches from the front, is the future head of the historic house of Scott of Abbotsford, and great-great-grandson of the immortal Sir Walter, whose great-granddaughter and ultimate heiress married a brother of the late Lord Herries (says the *Glasgow Observer*). The Hon. Mrs. Maxwell Scott, whose charming books—mainly on historical subjects—have an interest not confined to Catholics, may be said to sustain the literary traditions of her distinguished family, as her eldest son does the military. Sir Walter's elder son, who succeeded him in the baronetcy, was a colonel of cavalry, and his grandson, young Lockhart, was a cornet of dragoons at the date of his early death. The Abbotsford estate has so far descended through a succession of heirs-female, Mrs. Maxwell Scott having inherited it from her mother. It will be an interesting event if the old title should ever be revived in favor of her son and successor, and a Catholic Sir Walter Scott reign one day at beautiful Abbotsford.

Adele, Countess of Cadogan, the widow of the late Earl who has just passed away, is a Catholic. She is the daughter of Count Neri Palagi, and a grand daughter of Sir George Cadogan, and, therefore, was a cousin of her late husband. The wedding took place in Florence in 1911. Since she came to England Countess Cadogan has given up a great deal of her time to works of charity. One of her most kindly acts was to start a recreation room for working girls in Westminster. The Nuns of the Spanish Convent generously placed a large room at the Countess's disposal, and this has been transformed into a club room, where the girls come daily for a rest and a chat. It is open until nine o'clock every night, and through the kindness of their benefactress the members are provided with refreshment. Thus, after a hard day's work, they can go to the club and have a little relaxation, congenial companionship, and rest, away from the temptations of the streets. This is but one of the many activities with which Adele, Countess of Cadogan, is identified.

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**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, WELLINGTON**

(From an occasional correspondent.)

The quarterly meeting of the particular council of the St. Vincent de Paul Society was held at St. Patrick's Hall, Boulcott street, Wellington, on Sunday, April 18. The attendance indicated an increased activity, and the reports from the various branches were generally most satisfactory. A special work taken up by the Council is that of the spread of Catholic literature. The Catholic Truth Society's penny publications are recognised by the Council as a most effective method, and arrangements are made to increase the circulation of these by the various branches. The president (Bro. Reichel) congratulated the members on the increased activities generally, and in particular on the spread of Catholic knowledge by the Catholic Truth Society's publications. He expressed regret that Bro. Walsh, who proved such an efficient and ardent secretary, had, on account of ill-health, to retire from that position.

Amongst those present were the Very Rev. Dean Regnault, S.M., and Very Rev. Father O'Connell, S.M.

Dean Regnault gave a most interesting address, detailing some of the efforts made by the French laity and clergy in the interest of Catholic education, the satisfactory results of which, he stated, were now very clearly in evidence throughout France. He instanced the work of reinstating 1184 colleges which had been confiscated or closed by the French Government. One institution of the Marist Order had 450 boarders. Schools were replaced in 5000 parishes. The teaching staffs were provided by priest-teachers and expelled nuns, who had qualified under the Government requirements as secular teachers by submitting themselves to examination boards and so obtaining teachers' certificates, and took appointments as teachers in the various re-established schools. Special reference was also made to the work of the Assumption Fathers throughout France. The Dean gave very interesting particulars as to the issue of *La Croix* newspaper, whose offices the Dean visited. This newspaper, in the Catholic cause, is distributed throughout every town in France. Twice it was confiscated by the Government, and twice was repurchased by a notable Catholic layman, upon which he expended two million of francs.

The Dean's remarks were of engrossing interest, and illustrated the extraordinary revival of Catholicity throughout France, which is standing that nation in such good stead in the present crisis.

Very Rev. Father O'Connell also addressed the meeting, and emphasised his desire that the society might assist in the distribution of Cardinal Mercier's noble and beautiful Pastoral, which has already become a historic document.

A very interesting paper containing suggestions as to the practical handling and distribution of the C.T. pamphlets was read.

**OBITUARY****MRS. ANN DILLON, BLACKSTONE HILL.**

There died at Home Hills, Blackstone Hill, on Sunday, April 25, Mrs. Ann Dillon: aged 81 years. During her last illness she was attended by Rev. Father O'Dea, and died fortified by all the rites of the Church. The deceased, who had resided in the district for half a century, was widely known for her sterling good qualities, her generosity, and willing help in all cases of illness and distress. Genuine sorrow was felt when it became known that she had passed away after a short illness. She was buried at St. Bathans on Wednesday, April 28, where Mass was celebrated for the repose of her soul. The respect in which she was held was testified to by the large number of people who came from all parts to attend the funeral, which was the largest ever seen in the district. Rev. Father O'Dea officiated at the graveside.—R.I.P.

**Rangiora**

(From a correspondent.)

April 30.

Rev. Father Leen, who has just undergone an operation in the Lewisham Hospital, Christchurch, is progressing very favorably.

A very pretty wedding was celebrated at St. Mary's Church, Rangiora, on Wednesday, April 28, the contracting parties being Miss Annie O'Meara, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. O'Meara, King street, and Mr. Stephen J. Ryan, of 'Melford,' Rangiora. The Very Rev. Dean Hyland (assisted by Rev. Father O'Boyle) officiated, and also celebrated the Nuptial Mass. The bride was given away by her father. The bridesmaids were Miss Katie O'Meara and Miss M. Ryan. Mr. C. Ryan was best man. Mrs. H. R. Dix presided at the organ, and played the 'Wedding march' as the wedding party left the church. After the ceremony the guests were entertained at the residence of the bride's parents. Mr. and Mrs. Ryan left for Christchurch *en route* for the North Island, where their honeymoon is to be spent.

We had a visit from the general secretary and organiser of the Catholic Federation (Mr. Girling-Butcher) on Sunday evening, April 25. Owing to no hall being available, he gave his address in St. Mary's Church. There was a very fair attendance. Very Rev. Dean Hyland introduced the speaker. He spoke on the Bible-in-schools proposals, immigration, etc. His visit here will be very beneficial, and I am sure it will be the means of gaining many more members for the Federation. Mr. Girling-Butcher also visited Oxford on Sunday morning, and Kaiapoi on Monday evening. Very Rev. Dean Hyland accompanied him to both places. Canvassers have been appointed to make a systematic canvass of this parish in the interest of the Federation.

**RAILWAY TICKET-DATING MACHINE**

The Railway Department has acquired the patent rights of a machine for dating railway passengers' tickets. This machine (says the *Otago Daily Times*), which is the invention of Mr. W. P. Nolan, station master at Waitahuna, is simple in construction, but very ingenious. The principal advantage of the machine is that it dates the two halves of a return ticket simultaneously, and without turning the ticket over. The machine possesses two sets of type, worked upwards, enabling a ticket to be completely dated in one operation. To do the same work with the present machine requires three operations. It is obvious, from these particulars, that tickets can, with this machine, be issued in half the time occupied at present, and for this reason the patent will prove a boon to booking clerks in the matter of time saved, and to the general public in obviating the unpleasant crushing which repeatedly occurs, especially on holidays and special occasions, when there is a rush for tickets a few minutes prior to the departure of the train. It should also lessen to a great extent the possibility of delay to passenger trains. The manipulation of the machine is much simpler than of the machines now in use, and the cost of construction to the department will also be less than the cost of procuring the others. The Railway Department has had the machine extensively tested for a considerable time at the principal booking offices, and the results have been so satisfactory that negotiations with Mr. Nolan for its purchase have now been completed, and the machine will be manufactured for general use in the ticket offices throughout the Dominion. It reflects great credit on Mr. Nolan to have been the means of bringing about such an improvement. The old make of ticket-daters is still in vogue in the Commonwealth and at Home, and it is expected that Mr. Nolan will have no difficulty in placing his machine on the market in these countries.

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## A POLYGLOT DIOCESE

If St. Luke could take his stand in the diocese of Pittsburgh to-day, he might well apply to it the words he used in the Acts of the Apostles in reference to Jerusalem on the Feast of Pentecost: 'There were dwelling there devout men out of every nation under heaven.' And the sacred writer's description of the amazement of the multitude, 'Because that every man heard them speak in his own tongue,' is still verified in the ten counties of Western Pennsylvania, where the inspired utterances of the great Evangelist are read Sunday after Sunday to the assembled congregations in no fewer than seventeen languages (writes Rev. T. Coakley, D.D., in *America*). In addition to this, many different dialects are used, some of them almost rising to the dignity of a separate tongue. Every quarter of the world has sent its representatives. There are English and Germans, French and Belgians and Italians, Slovaks and Poles, Slovenians and Croatians, Bohemians and Russians, Bulgarians and Lusatians, Lithuanians and Magyars, Rumanians and Syrians. It does not seem an exaggeration to say that Pittsburgh is the Pentecostal diocese of America. We have Catholics all the way from the frozen steppes of Siberia to the burning sands of the Sahara, and far beyond; from China, Egypt, Arabia, and the Islands of the Pacific, from pagan India and infidel Turkey, from Catholic Spain, and Protestant England. Any Sunday morning in the majestic Cathedral at Pittsburgh, for instance, one can see dusky negroes lisping the quaint dialects of the sunny South, almond-eyed Japanese from the far-away gardens of Nagasaki, and olive-skinned Castilians from the blushing vine hills of their own delightful Spain. There are freshly-baptised Jews from the local tobacco factories on Centre Avenue, as well as Syrians, speaking the self-same language as Christ Himself, and who were Catholics at a time when history seems just emerging from the night of antiquity. There are well-groomed American converts, impetuous and eager in their new-found faith, but who, as yet, have had no opportunity to suffer for their religion, while they worship side by side with Catholic immigrants from south-eastern Europe, swarthy men, with military tread, and muscles of iron, whose history is bathed in glory, for it was their sires that saved Europe from the Turk, drenching the fairest plains of the earth with their heart's blood that the Cross of Christ might be unfurled as the standard of western civilisation. It is not for nothing that the Slav wears the Cross publicly on his coat, for he has been in very truth

### The Athlete of Christ.

Including the Slavs of the Greek Ruthenian Rite, nearly 300,000 Catholics in the diocese of Pittsburgh do not say their prayers or go to confession in English. In other words, about three-fifths of the diocese speak a foreign language, for the last issue of the *Catholic Directory* gives the Catholic population as 500,000. Among these half a million Catholics there are, according to statistics published recently by Bishop Canevin, 70,000 Italians; 65,000 Poles; 45,000 Slovaks of the Latin Rite; 8000 Lithuanians; 8000 Croatians; 6000 Slovenians; 4000 Magyars; 4000 Bohemians; 2000 Belgians and French; 2000 Rumanians; 1500 Syrians, and 30,000 Greek Ruthenians. In proportion to the total negro population, there are few cities in the country having a larger proportion of Catholic negroes than Pittsburgh. There are 18 Italian parishes and 6 Italian missions, in charge of 22 Italian priests. There are also 78 separate parishes and 25 missions for the various Slavonic races, in charge of 112 priests. Many priests of the diocese must be able to speak four, five, and six languages and dialects, in order to take care of their many-tongued flocks. Every seminarian training to become a priest of the diocese is required to learn, as an integral part of his course, either Italian or one of the Slovak tongues.

The difficulties encountered in thus preaching the Gospel in the diocese are paralleled only by the labors of the early Apostles of Christianity. The many thousands of immigrants working in the coal mines and at the coke ovens, and in places far distant from established churches, have imposed a gigantic burden on the bishop and priests of the diocese. To make due provision for their spiritual welfare, and to instruct the children in their religion, the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine has been splendidly organised and officered. It is a body of the laity, old men and young, maidens and matrons, under the direction of the clergy, who go out into the remote villages and hamlets on Sunday afternoons searching for Catholics, gathering in the children and adults, teaching them catechism, and preparing them for the Sacraments. In many instances their work results in the organisation of a flourishing parish, and the erection of a church and school. These lay missionaries now have under instruction over 4000 children in this diocese, who would otherwise be lost entirely to the Faith. To equip the teachers for their work properly, a school for catechists has been established, with a graded course of two years, leading to a diploma. If Christianity flourishes in after years in Pittsburgh, no small measure of its progress will be due to

### The Energy and Zeal and Generous Sacrifices

which these devoted lay missionaries are making to spread the kingdom of God on earth. May their number increase! Conditions in one parish may be cited as typical of the obstacles encountered and overcome by sheer hard work and everlasting persistency. It stretches for eleven miles up and down the river, along both banks, comprising ten different villages and hamlets, in which more than fifteen languages are spoken. In one locality the office of the mine superintendent serves as the Sunday schoolroom; at another village the kitchen of a dwelling is used as the place of assemblage; at a third point, no building at all being available, the zealous pastor may be seen in favorable weather on the banks of the flowing river, a few inches from the water's edge, instructing his youthful flock, as did St. Paul when he met Lydia and her companions on his first European missionary journey. At a fourth place a stable is used, and the hospitable beasts of the field again give room, even as they did to Christ Himself, on the first chilly Christmas night at Bethlehem long centuries ago.

So striking are the resemblances, that it is not such a far cry after all from Jerusalem and the days of the Apostles, to their successors, the zealous Bishop, priests, and people, 'devout men out of every nation under heaven,' who, in this twentieth century, are obeying literally the command to 'teach all nations' in this polyglot diocese of the western world.

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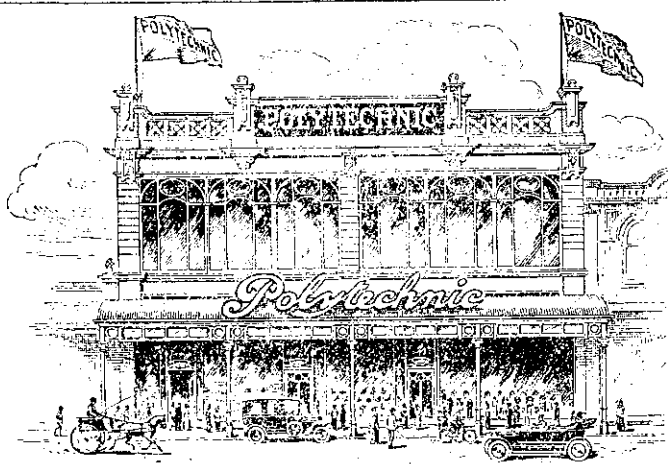
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## Intercolonial

On April 21, his Grace the Archbishop of Sydney opened the 35th annual conference of the New South Wales district of the H.A.C.B. Society. Delegates from all parts of the State were present, as well as representatives from kindred societies. In the annual report it was stated that the total number of branches in existence at the close of the year was 205, comprising—men's branches, 154; women's branches, 49; juvenile branches, 2; total, 205. Dispensations were granted for the establishment of two branches, and arrangements completed for the formation of four others. The total admissions were 1708, and the total membership at the close of the term under review, 13,373. The steady growth of the society's funds is again evidenced. The total funds on December 31, 1914, were £87,480 13s 8d; accounted for as follows—investments, £79,100 0s 10d; in savings banks, £6205 11s 11d; in current accounts, £2175 0s 11d; total, £87,480 13s 8d.

Sir William Patrick Manning died at his residence, 'Aru,' Rose Bay, Sydney, on April 19. He had been in failing health for some time. Sir William had given a number of the best years of his life to public service. In 1887 he was elected for Bourke Ward to the City Council, and held his seat for about 15 years. Four times during his aldermanic service he was selected by his brother-aldermen to preside over the city's affairs as Mayor, and it was during his last Mayoral term, in 1894, that he received the honor of knighthood. He was a prominent figure in Catholic life, and was one of the treasurers of St. Mary's Cathedral. He was appointed a Papal Chamberlain by the late Pope Pius X. For 24 years he was president of the New South Wales Philharmonic Society, during which he was very prominent as a patron of music. Amongst other positions held by the deceased was that of chairman of directors of the Australian Bank of Commerce.

The wave of temperance has reached every part of the Empire. Here in Victoria it is very pronounced (writes the Melbourne correspondent of the Sydney *Freeman's Journal*). Both the Archbishops are strong temperance advocates, and say a word in season in furtherance of the cause. The King's example will percolate through every grade of the people. His Grace the Archbishop addressed the people in the Cathedral a few Sundays ago. He said that just at the present a wave of total abstinence was rolling over most of the countries of Europe, and had already reached these distant shores. Directly or indirectly this was undoubtedly due to the war. If the war had brought dreadful calamities in its train, it had led to at least one result. In urging total abstinence for the sake of the war, it might seem to some people that he was not speaking consistently with some observations which he made some time ago regarding the use of light alcoholic drink, not as a positive good, but as the lesser of two evils.

### THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE IN MELBOURNE.

His Excellency the Apostolic Delegate visited Melbourne on Saturday, April 17. When passing through Albury he was met and welcomed at the station by the Most Rev. Dr. Mannix and several priests, including the Superiors in Victoria of the Jesuits, Carmelites, and Vincentians, and the Albury priests. On arriving at the Spencer street Station, Melbourne, his Excellency was received by his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, who was accompanied by their Lordships the Bishops of Sandhurst, Ballarat, Sale, and Auckland, Sir David Hennessy (Lord Mayor), Dr. A. L. Kenny (Private Chamberlain to the Pope), Count O'Loughlin, K.S.G., and Mr. John Gavan Duffy. At St. Patrick's Cathedral addresses of welcome were presented by the Archbishops, the Bishops of the province, and the clergy.

After celebrating Mass at the Convent of the Good Shepherd, Abbotsford, on Sunday, his Excellency presided at the High Mass in the Cathedral. The Coadjutor-Archbishop (Most Rev. Dr. Mannix) was the

celebrant. The Archbishop occupied the throne on the Epistle side, and the Suffragan Bishops of the Province of Melbourne and the Bishop of Auckland were also present.

A civic reception was accorded his Excellency by the Lord Mayor in the Town Hall on Monday. The platform was occupied by Sir David Hennessy (presiding), the Apostolic Delegate, the Archbishop of Melbourne, their Lordships Bishop Reville, Bishop Higgins, Bishop Phelan, Bishop Cleary, the Prime Minister, and Mr. F. W. Hagelthorn (Minister for Public Works of Victoria), and the Minister for Defence. Members of the Commonwealth and State Parliaments and leading citizens were seated in the body of the hall, which was entirely filled.

### M.B.O.B. CLUB, AUCKLAND

(From a correspondent.)

April 26.

The members of the club attended in large numbers at the men's mission Communion at St. Patrick's Cathedral yesterday. Speaking last evening before a crowded congregation, the missionary complimented the men of the different clubs and societies on their fine display of faith, and urged all ex-pupils of the Brothers to join the M.B.O.B. Club. As I mentioned in my last notes, the concert company visited Tuakau on April 10. On arrival they were met by Rev. Father O'Hara, Messrs. McGahan, and Dromgool, members of the committee. The company were entertained at dinner by the committee, and then gave an excellent programme before a crowded house. The visitors are loud in their praise of the warm-hearted reception given them. The company attended the 9 o'clock Mass on Sunday, after which about 100 people left by two motor launches for a two hours' trip up the Waikato River. About a mile past Mercer the party landed for lunch. The day being perfect, a very pleasant time was spent. At 4 o'clock a start was made for Tuakau, all agreeing that it was the pleasantest outing they had ever taken part in. In the evening the members sang the music at Benediction, Mr. Clarke being the organist. The visitors left Tuakau at 7 a.m. on Monday, and were farewelled by members of the committee. To Miss McGuire and Mr. McGahan (joint secretaries), the visitors expressed their heartfelt thanks for a most enjoyable week-end. On the following Wednesday, the company journeyed to Paunure, and gave a most successful entertainment in aid of the Sisters of Mercy. The hall was crowded, and a very enjoyable time was spent by all.

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# The Catholic World

## ENGLAND

### HELPING A MISSION.

The mission of St. Boniface, Tooting, London, S.W., has just benefited by an anonymous donation of £3000. The debt on the parish originally stood at £7000. Thanks to the zeal of the pastor, Father W. P. O'Halloran, this was gradually reduced to £6000. As a result of the magnificent gift the mission debt now stands at £3000.

### DEATH OF A POPULAR LADY.

The funeral took place on March 4, at Exton, of Lady Agnes Noel, eldest daughter of the Earl of Gainsborough, who died at Exton Park, Oakham, after a few hours' illness. Lady Agnes was grand-daughter of the late Mr. Robert Berkeley and Lady Catherine Berkeley, of Spetchley Park, Worcester, Lord Gainsborough's first wife being Miss Augusta Mary Catherine Berkeley. The news of Lady Agnes's death created a painful sensation in the Campton district, where she was well known and very popular.

### A GENEROUS BEQUEST.

One of the best friends of the Crusade of Rescue was the late Major-General Sir Luke O'Connor, V.C. It was his yearly habit on the anniversary of the Battle of the Alma (at which, it will be remembered, he won his Victoria Cross) to send to Father Baus a thank offering; and, besides, for several years he paid the emigration expenses each year of at least two children of the Crusade to Canada, thus showing what a deep interest he took in the work, and especially in the problem of the emigration of children to the Dominion. At the present time there are several children in Canada who, were it not for the generosity of Sir Luke O'Connor, would not be at present in a position to earn their own living there with such good results likely to accrue therefrom. In his will, which was proved recently, there is the following clause under the legacies: 'A legacy of £1000 to the Administrator of the Incorporated Society of the Crusade of Rescue towards the expenses of the emigration annually to Canada of two children, male and female, and a further sum of £500 for the general objects of that society.'

## ITALY

### THE ARCHDIOCESE OF GENOA.

A good deal of interest was evinced in the first Pastoral of Archbishop Gavotti, of Genoa. After mentioning the encouragement given him by Benedict XV. to become chief pastor of the archdiocese of Genoa, and after giving counsel to his clergy concerning the doctrinal and moral instruction of their flocks, the Archbishop says: 'Let us pray for our country, and for all the authorities who rule it, for the majesty of King Victor Emmanuel III., and for the royal family, for the high dignitaries of State, and particularly for all the civil and military authorities of the archdiocese. To these I send my respectful salutation, convinced that they will recognise the great efficacy of the mission of a bishop, a mission essentially of peace, intended to procure that moral progress which they certainly desire and recognise as the chief factor in social prosperity. Now, whilst inviting you to pray for the country, I believe I am performing the duty of a good citizen in also exhorting you to pray that it may enjoy the benefits of peace.'

## ROME

### SPIRITUAL PRIVILEGES FOR SOLDIERS.

The Sacred Congregation of the Sacraments (says the *Irish Catholic*) has issued a decree, dated February 11, by which, during the war, by special permission of

the Holy Father, soldiers at the front may receive Holy Communion under form of Viaticum; also that priests free of any canonical impediment who are in charge of the wounded may celebrate Mass in any place provided it be safe, as also in the open, as long as it be removed from danger of any irreverence.

### THE CAUSE OF THE IRISH MÁRTYRS.

One of these days (writes a Rome correspondent) the Sacred Congregation of Rites will communicate to the Postulator of the cause of the Irish Martyrs the result of the vote recently taken on the introduction of the cause before its tribunal. In case its decision is favorable—and there is no reason to expect that it will be otherwise—the mass of evidence, compiled by his Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Walsh, Archbishop of Dublin, some ten years ago, will be returned to Ireland, and his Grace will be asked to add to it any further particulars it may be possible to procure. This is one of the most important causes which the Sacred Congregation of Rites has had before it for years, for it includes no fewer than three hundred names of bishops, secular and regular priests, and lay Catholics of both sexes. Furthermore, one name sometimes stands for ten or fifteen martyrs. For example, where Cromwell's army put to death the members of a religious Community for the crime of being Catholics, frequently only the name of the Superior of the house has come down to us. Hence around him are grouped his martyred companions, whose names are written only in the Book of Life. In the long list are to be found the names of many Franciscans, Dominicans, Jesuits, Augustinians, Cistercians, and members of other religious Orders. How well the Irish clergy clung to their faithful people may be gathered from the official report of Mgr. Bentivoglio, Internuncio at Brussels, to the Holy See in 1613 on the condition of the Irish mission. There were in Ireland in that year, states this prelate, 800 secular priests, 130 Franciscans, 30 Jesuits, and a few of other Orders.

## GENERAL

### ANARCHY IN MEXICO.

The news to the effect that the Government of the United States has ordered additional warships to Vera Cruz and has warned Generals Carranza and Obregon that they will be held personally responsible for the safety of American citizens in the Mexican capital has inspired the hope that President Wilson may at last decide to interfere for the purpose of restoring order in Mexico. Anarchy in Mexico (says the *Catholic Times*) has reached an extreme stage, but intervention by the United States cannot yet be regarded as probable. The work of destruction will, no doubt, be allowed to proceed till the contending forces almost exterminate each other. No language could give an adequate idea of the state to which the country has been reduced. Blood has long been flowing freely; business has been brought to a standstill; property is confiscated; and thousands are in dire want. For the clergy and the nuns the worst outrages have been reserved. Priests have been murdered, after having been forced to endure tortures. Other members of the clergy have been held to ransom. Churches have been desecrated and ruined. Catholic organisations have submitted to the American Government authenticated lists of Mexican atrocities, and have been informed that the authorities were in sympathy with their views, but nothing has been done. Ex-President Taft has expressed the conviction that the Mexican anarchy is the logical consequence of America's policy of inaction. Let us hope the President will at length see that the time for action has arrived.

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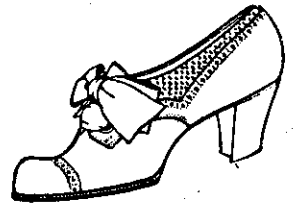
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## SOCIAL PROBLEMS

### OLD AND NEW METHOD OF TREATMENT.

Dr. James J. Walsh lectured recently before the Ancient Order of Hibernians at Holyoke, Massachusetts, on the comparison between olden and modern methods of treating social problems, in the course of which he said:—We used to think that this was the first time that medicine and surgery, particularly surgery, had ever developed so as to be really great contributions to human progress. In recent years we have been republishing the old text books of the medieval surgeons and physicians and finding out how marvellously they did things, the surgeons particularly, anticipating nearly every phase of our modern surgery. They operated on the head for tumor and abscess, on the thorax for fluid of various kinds, and on the abdomen for all sorts of conditions. They could not have done this without anaesthesia and we find now to our surprise that they had several forms of anaesthesia which were successfully used for nearly two centuries and then somehow forgotten. They would have killed off an enormous number of patients with such extensive surgery without a knowledge of antiseptics, and we find that they anticipated Lister at least in practice, used strong wines as the only dressing for their wounds, and boasted of getting union of their surgical incisions by the first intention and having the scars that followed scarcely visible. It is not surprising to find after all this surgery that they had fine hospitals, well ventilated with tile floors that could be kept thoroughly clean, and painted walls that could be washed down, and fine, dry, airy quarters.

#### Caring for Aged Poor.

We must not forget, however, that it is once more that we are doing this and that same thing is true with regard to the solution of all the social problems. Let me take you back with me to Stratford, England, and show you there a fine solution of the problem of caring for old people which still remains as a monument of the Middle Ages. Along one of the main streets of the little town there is still to be seen a row of little houses known as alms-houses. In each one of them there lives at the present day, supported by a fund left in the Middle Ages, an old couple. They have just two rooms and these are not large, and one of them is the kitchen and dining-room and the other the living room with an alcove for the bed. Even the oldest of women if she is on her feet at all can care for these nice little quarters. Here the old couples live out their declining years. You know what we do with old couples. We take them out miles from a town and, having put the old man in a huge building with a lot of other old men, we say to him: 'Now you be happy and we will give you enough to eat, to live on until you die.' And we call the place a poor-house. The difference between alms-house and poor-house is very striking. And we take the old lady, for every old woman is an old lady, and we put her in a separate building at a distance from her husband, though they have lived together for 40 or 50 years, and we put her with a lot of other old women and without a chick or a child near her, and we say to her: 'Now, you be happy.' It is bad enough to ask an old man to be happy with old men, but to ask an old woman to be happy with other old women and nobody else to talk to, that is the climax of absurdity and thoughtlessness.

#### How Much Better in the Middle Ages?

You see how much better they managed it all in the Middle Ages. The alms-houses were on a main travelled street of the little town, where the current of traffic went by and there was something to see every minute at the window or the door. Friends might drop in and they did drop in because it was just around the corner. Our poor-houses are miles out in the country, and it takes a whole day or at least half a day to get to them, and of course the poor people do not have many visitors. What have old people to do as an interest in life if not to talk with visitors? There was something more about these Stratford alms-houses,

however, for just behind them was the playground of the guild school, situated just down the street from the alms-houses. It was a good thing to have the old people, and especially the poor people, so near the young folks on their way to school, but it was a still better thing to have young folks play under the eyes of the old. I do not know who thought of putting the playground so close to the alms-houses. Perhaps it was only chance, but if there is anything in the world that makes old folks feel young and be as satisfied, it is to see young folks playing around them.

Think of all the thoughtfulness for men and women as individuals and not in masses that was involved, in this care for the old at Stratford. Think all of our hopelessness in the modern time, and then you will realise what we now can learn from the old time about caring for individual necessities. The guild that provided these almshouses also provided other forms of old-age pensions and disability pensions and insurance against loss by fire and loss at sea and by highway robbery and by the death of cattle and by the destruction of crops and all the other phases of insurance that we are inclined to think of as modern developments. At the time when Henry VIII. destroyed the guilds and confiscated their property because they were Church property, because they were Church societies, though that was only an excuse, there were 30,000 of these guilds in England and there was 100,000,000 dollars as a surplus for their work.

#### Olden Time Tag Days.

Some years ago we began Tag Day as a modern invention for getting money for charities. People were stopped on the street and required to pay a sum of money for the general charities of the town or the city hospital. Tag day is, of course, not new, but a very old institution. They used to stretch a rope at one entrance at a bridge or across a main travelled street and demand toll of every one who passed by on certain days every year. They solved that thorny problem, the tramp problem. Men carried tokens with them. These tokens represented contributions made as alms at the funerals of dead brother guild men. One of these tokens represented contributions made as alms at the three or four places in the village where he could have it redeemed for whatever he needed most, clothes or shoes, or food or lodging. He was not pauperised by receiving it, because he knew that the contribution had been made with the idea of its being beneficial to the dead brother guildman in another world, and he got all the benefit of it and there was no question of the benefactor being deceived into giving money to a beggar who could use it wrongly or to one who perhaps had a large account in a savings bank and was cheating other poor people of their rights in charities and all the other evils that we know as incident to street giving. 'Is it any wonder,' Dr. Walsh asks, 'that we would ask those who are now deeply engaged in trying to solve social problems to come back with us and see how the old times in the Church days and under Church influence solved the problems of real charity, for charity means not giving as seems to be the idea now held, of the world, but the dearness to us of those whom we want to benefit.'

#### SYMPATHY.

If there is one person who deserves sympathy it is surely he who suffers from chronic colds. A sudden change in the weather or going out into the night air from a heated room, is quite enough to bring on the trouble. Usually the tendency to catch cold is due to a generally run-down condition, and the treatment should take the form of a tonic like BAXTER'S LUNG PRESERVER. It is pleasant to take, gives sure results, and is quite harmless; for children and adults you cannot find a better cough or cold remedy. 1/10 a bottle from all chemists and stores, or by post direct, -----J. BAXTER & Co., CHRISTCHURCH.-----

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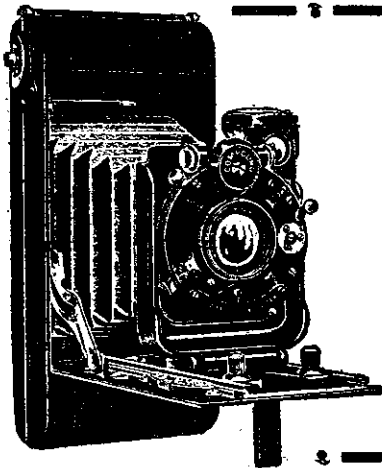
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## Science Siftings

By 'VOLT.'

### Poland's Salt Mines.

Wieliczka, eight miles from Cracow, possesses the most wonderful salt mines in the world. They have been worked since the thirteenth century, and the workings now cover an area of twenty-four square miles. Many of the miners live permanently underground, where they have built a wonderful town, with streets, squares, public buildings, and tramways, which, together with the crystal vaults, sparkling aisles, and fairy palaces of the mines, have formed the background of numerous romances. The annual output of the Wieliczka mines is about 60,000 tons.

### Heating Miles of Orchards.

One of the greatest feats of artificial outdoor heating ever attempted was resorted to by some fruit growers in Colorado, to save a crop of fruit estimated at £600,000 in value. Thousands upon thousands of smudge-pots were scattered through the orchards over twenty-seven miles of territory, and the raising of temperature that resulted effectually dispelled the unexpected frost. The smudge-pots used were of many different types, some burning oil and others coal. The temperature in the orchards was actually raised 8deg and 9deg. over the entire twenty-seven miles of territory, as many as 300,000 smudge-pots being used.

### The Best Hour for Work.

It is a curious fact in psychology that nobody can stay at the same mental and physical level for 24 hours together. In the morning you are more matter-of-fact, for instance, than later in the day. It is in the morning that the best brain work is done, too—brain work of the sort that requires industry and clear thinking. And it is about 11 in the morning that our body reaches its highest point of energy. In other words, you are stronger, though almost imperceptibly, at 11 in the morning than at 3 in the afternoon. You reach that highest point twice in the day, for about 5 in the afternoon the muscular energy has risen again. But from 5 onward it declines steadily all through the evening, and on till between 2 and 3 a.m.

### Tall Men or Short?

Dr. M. S. Pembrey, lecturer on physiology at Guy's Hospital, opened an interesting discussion recently at the Royal Sanitary Institute, London, on the question of tall versus short men for the Army. A typical Scot (said Dr. Pembrey), would be considered a tall Welshman, in support of his contention that a man might be considered tall when his height was four or five inches greater than that of the average of his countrymen. The difference in height between a tall and a short man was due chiefly to the longer legs of the former, but height depended upon the correlated activity of certain glands which produced internal secretions and extremes. The essential organs, Dr. Pembrey added, were in the head and trunk, and these were often better developed in the short than in the tall man, the weight of the brain being relatively greater in the short man and the reaction time not so long. Tall men of full proportions, he contended, were heavy and often slow, and there were strong physiological reasons for the greater agility and activity of the small man, who did not suffer from the mechanical disadvantages of height and weight. The small man had a greater capacity for work, endurance, and stronger resistance to disease. Judging from the fighting capacity of tall and short races and from the fighting capacity of tall and short men of the same race, Dr. Pembrey summed up in favor of the short man, though he modified his remarks by warning his hearers to beware of the danger of rushing to extremes.

The Boy Proof Watch at 5/- is a watch that no man need be ashamed of, especially when it will keep time to a tick. You should see them at Smith and Laing's, Invercargill.

## Greymouth

(From our own correspondent.)

The usual weekly meeting of the St. Columba Club was held on Monday, April 26. The president (Mr. H. F. Doogan) occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members. The president reported having made final arrangements with the president of the Trinity Club for the annual inter-club senior debate, which is to be held on May 21. Mr. F. D. Sargeant was appointed judge, and submitted the following subject:—'That the jury system should be abolished from our law courts.' The following were selected to represent St. Columba—Messrs. C. Rasmussen (leader), A. J. Fraser, F. Hargreaves, and H. Millard. The St. Columba representatives are to speak in the affirmative. The following were appointed a committee to carry out the winter socials—Messrs. M. Renai, F. Hargreaves, J. Deere, and H. Millard. A very enjoyable evening was brought to a conclusion by an extempore debate, on the origin and the consequences of the war. All members participated, and some very original and instructive addresses were delivered.

The annual meeting of the Marist Old Boys' Football Club was held in the St. Columba Club Hall, over 30 members being present. Mr. T. O'Donnell (president), who occupied the chair, congratulated the members on the very satisfactory results of the club's first season. Three teams had been entered in the competition, the fourth grade team being the most successful of the three, as they succeeded in winning the shield. The senior team also gave a very creditable display, and, for a young team, covered themselves with glory. He hoped that the coming season would be even more successful than the last, and that members would persevere in their training. The election of officers resulted as follows:—Patron, Very Rev. Dean Carew; president, Mr. T. O'Donnell; vice-presidents—Messrs. J. Deere, E. M. Sheedy, A. Beban, J. Gieseck, J. King, T. Fogarty, J. M. Sullivan, M. Fitzgerald, P. Blaichfield, H. F. Doogan, D. Shanahan, J. Kennedy; captain, Mr. T. J. O'Callaghan; secretary, Mr. T. Hogan; treasurer, Mr. T. O'Callaghan; committee—Messrs. C. O'Neill, H. Bowman, P. Hogan; delegates—Messrs. J. Heffernan, P. Hogan, and M. Keating; selectors—Messrs. T. O'Donnell, J. Heffernan, and W. Harris. It was decided to again nominate three teams for the competitions. It was decided to make the following players, who volunteered for active service, life members of the club—Messrs. A. McMillan, J. Le Motte, T. Mullins, J. Elliott, J. Bullman, and W. Bowman.

The following letter has been received by Miss Winifred O'Neill (Convent of Mercy, Greymouth) from Madam Louise Harris, the donor of the Victor Harris Memorial gold medal, which is annually awarded to the candidate who obtains the highest marks in New Zealand in the local centre examination of the Royal Academy of Music, London: 'It gives me much pleasure to forward to you the Victor Harris Memorial Medal, awarded to you by the Associated Board for violin. I heartily congratulate you on your success in the study of that most beautiful instrument, and trust the winning of the medal (which is given in memory of my talented little son, who died in London while studying at the R.A.M.) will spur you on to further artistic efforts. It is not often medals find their way to the West Coast; therefore you must feel highly gratified at your success, and that you may meet with always the same through your musical career is the wish of yours faithfully,—LOUISE HARRIS.'

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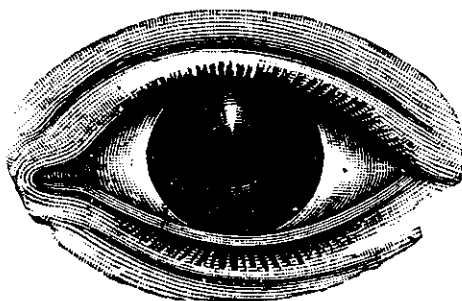
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## GARDENING NOTES

(By MR. J. JOYCE, Landscape Gardener, Christchurch.)

### HYBRIDISING AND CROSS-BREEDING.

To the lover of flowers and plants this is a very interesting field to labor in. To be successful he must be possessed of great patience and perseverance, for it will take some time before he sees the result of his work. In the first place he selects the plants which he intends to operate on. If he wants a cross-breed he will select two varieties of the same species, but if he desires a hybrid he will choose two different species. Having decided on the plants, he must pot them, and place them in a greenhouse or some safe place, where bees or insects cannot have access to them. Both plants should be treated alike, and when in flower must be carefully watched for the time when the hybridising should be performed. When this arrives the pollen of the male plant will appear like fine powder or dust, and the female flower will show a mucus-like fluid on the stigma, now is the time to operate, fine bright sunny weather being the best. With a pair of very fine tweezers nip off the stamens bearing the ripe pollen, and gently deposit it on the stigma of the female flower, and the operation is completed. No other flower but that fertilised should be left on the plant, so as to prevent self-fertilising, for if any pollen should happen to be present there is every possibility that the operation would be a failure. On that account no flower of the same species should be allowed in close proximity. It would be wise to place a gauze frame to protect the flowers from the intrusion of bees or insects after the work is performed, and then there should be careful treatment as to air and water when necessary. I omitted to state that the female flowers should be divested of all their anthers before their pollen would be in a fit state for fertilising, and also the petals of the flower would be better cut away, so that there would be no attraction for bees or other insects to bring the pollen of another plant. It must be borne in mind that most flowers are male and female combined, that is, they bear anthers which produce pollen, and are therefore capable of being fertilised by their own agency. That is why the anthers of the female flower must be removed at an early stage, so that no other pollen, but that to be operated on will be present. Varieties are always capable of uniting readily and producing seed freely, but it is very difficult to get species to do so. When they do, the outcome is a hybrid, and hybrids are usually non-productive of seed. Hybrids are generally termed mules. Nature has decreed that each species should be carefully guarded against the intrusion of foreign agents, or else there would be nothing but chaos. We would be crossing the gooseberry and the currant, and the result would be a hybrid; then the apple and the pear, the plum and the cherry, and so on, with the result that there would be an endless

number of hybrids. If nature intended that plants should be multiplied in such a manner, there is no doubt that in time the originals would be completely lost. But nature has, however, decreed that each species is to propagate its own kind, but this does not prevent man from multiplying and improving varieties of each species of plant or animal for his benefit. And man has taken advantage of the opportunity to improve those classes of plants and animals to such an extent that the number of both throughout the world to-day is enormous. But with the breeding of species it is different. The law is laid down, and so far and no farther, can man go, either in the animal or vegetable kingdom.

Learned experts and botanists have experimented with a great many species of plants, in their endeavors to raise new hybrids, but all to no purpose, as only a very few species would amalgamate with others. The apple and pear are very similar in appearance, and yet they will not amalgamate, neither will the cherry and plum, nor the gooseberry and currant. Experiments were tried with those many years ago, and they resulted in failure. It is really marvellous how perfect are the laws of nature. Look at the numerous varieties of wild plants throughout the world, and yet each tree in the dense forest propagates its own species, never interfering with its neighbor, and all nature in that respect is in harmony and peace. This is also the case with the innumerable plants and flowers throughout the universe: they conform to the laws which nature has laid down.

### A DREAD DISEASE AND ITS REMEDY.

Rheumatic pains are caused by the presence in the blood of an excess of uric acid, lactic acid, and other foreign substances. This accumulation of acid poison must be neutralised and driven out before a cure can be effected. It is useless taking a pill or liniment that will merely deaden the pain,—the poison needs to be expelled. RHEUMO is the one sovereign remedy which will speedily and effectually cure Rheumatism, Gout, Sciatica, Lumbago, and other kindred ailments. It is the triumphant result of years of scientific experiment. It has cured thousands, and it will cure you. Put it to the test. Give it a fair trial. All chemists and stores sell it, 2/6 and 4/6 a bottle.

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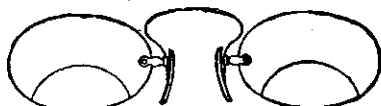
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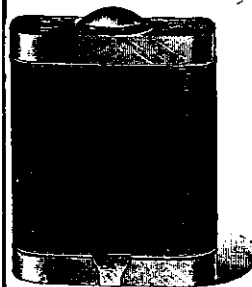
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# Domestic

(By MAUREEN.)

## Savory Rice.

Two ounces of grated cheese,  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb of rice,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint of milk, some breadcrumbs, pepper, salt, dripping. Wash the rice thoroughly and cook until tender; stir in half the cheese, pepper, and salt to taste. Well grease with dripping a pie-dish, sprinkle in some breadcrumbs, put in the rice, scatter rest of cheese on top with some more breadcrumbs and some small bits of dripping. Bake in a hot oven 20 minutes. Serve hot.

## Apple Ginger.

Bruise  $1\frac{1}{2}$  oz of whole ginger, put it into a small jar, and pour over sufficient whisky to cover. Let this rest for three days. Then cut  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lb of apples into thin slices after coring and peeling, add  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lb of white sugar and the strained juice of two large lemons. Simmer with the ginger and whisky very gently until the apples are transparent, but not broken. This is not for preserving, but for immediate use.

## Sponge Pastry au Chocolate.

Take 2oz of butter, sifted sugar, and flour. Beat the butter to a cream, beat up 2 eggs and add, then beat in the sugar and flour. Take 2 square tins about the same size, put the mixture on these about the thickness of half a crown. Bake in a moderate oven about twenty minutes to half an hour; when done, spread apricot preserve over one, and put the other piece of pastry on the top; press both firmly together, then cover with the chocolate icing. Before it is quite cold cut it into fingers. Add flavoring if liked.

## Orange-flavored Rice Pudding.

Tie up in a cloth four tablespoonfuls of rice, leaving plenty of room for swelling; boil in water till quite tender; set it to drain. Cut off with a knife very thinly

the rind of a large orange, put it into a saucepan with a pint of milk; when it boils, pour it over two ounces of cornflour, previously mixed up with a little cold milk or water; then boil it for eight minutes, stirring continually, and add to it six ounces of sugar and a piece of butter or lard the size of a nut. Now pour it over the rice, stir and mix it well, taking out the orange peel. Put it into a well-greased pie-dish, with a few pieces of lard or butter on the top, and bake for thirty or forty minutes. This pudding can be boiled by adding to it two or three eggs to ensure its turning out of the basin.

## Removing Stains.

**Paint.**—If the paint is fresh, turpentine, alcohol, or naphtha will probably take out the stain. If the stain is old and dry, try chloroform. Put the portion of fabric to be cleaned over several thicknesses of clean cloth before trying to clean it.

**Grease.**—Use French chalk for grease spots. Apply it thickly and let it stand for several days. If this is not effective, sponge the material first on one side, then on the other, with spirits of wine. Then press over a piece of thick linen.

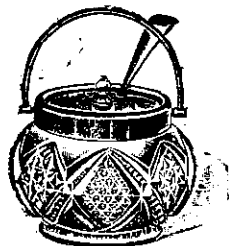
**Candle Wax.**—Put a sheet of blotting-paper under the spot and another over it. Heat with flat iron and the wax will be removed by blotting-paper.

**Milk.**—White soap and warm water should be used to take out milk stains. It should be used immediately.

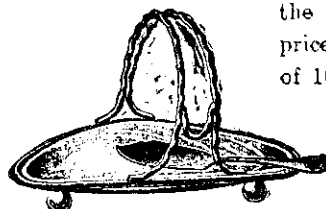
**Ink.**—There are several good ink eradicators on the market, and it is well to have a bottle of one of these on hand. Another method is to dip the ink-stained article into milk. The milk should not be allowed to dry on, but if it does not remove the ink within a short time it should be washed out and a fresh application of milk made.

**Tea Stains.**—Clear warm water should be used to remove tea stains.

*Maureen*



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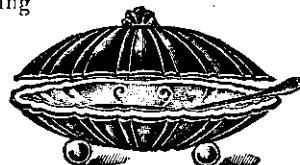
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## On the Land

### GENERAL.

It is an undisputed fact that the manure of sheep is much richer than that of other live stock with the exception of that of fowls.

It is not generally known, and the fact may be questioned by some practical men, but every test that has been made over extended periods has conclusively proved that the quality of the food does not materially affect the quality of the milk, but the quantity only.

Until recently, the national vegetable of Belgium, chicory or witloof, has been little known in Great Britain. Since the arrival of Belgian refugees, however, large supplies of chicory, grown by Belgian cultivators, have been reaching Covent Garden, and are being retailed in the principal stores and fruit shops. Belgium may thus be the means of bringing another very useful vegetable to our notice.

The soil of a farm is not simply an inert mass of material containing certain mineral substances which plants utilise. It is full of living organisms. Besides the numerous insects, worms, etc., it contains myriads of low organisms, not visible to the naked eye, but capable of examination by the aid of the microscope. They are known as bacteria or micro-organisms, and are so minute that a gram of soil may contain many thousands, increasing and propagating under favorable conditions with incredible rapidity.

At Addington last week there were again moderate yardings of stock, and the attendance was limited in consequence of rain. Fat cattle showed some improvement in price, and store sheep sold a little better, especially lambs. Fat lambs showed a further decline. Fat sheep were a little firmer. Fat Lambs.—Extra prime lambs, to 21s 6d; best lambs, 13s to 18s; others, 6s to 12s 6d. Fat Sheep.—Prime wethers, 17s 6d to 20s 6d; others, 12s to 17s; merino wethers, 17s 9d to 20s; prime ewes, 14s 6d to 19s 6d; medium, 10s to 14s; others, 6s 3d to 9s 6d. Fat Cattle.—Extra steers, to £19 15s; ordinary steers, £7 10s to £11; extra heifers, £9 5s; ordinary heifers, £5 5s to £7 10s; extra cows, to £10; ordinary cows, £4 17s 6d to £7 10s (price of beef per 100lb, 26s to 40s). Pigs.—Choppers, 30s to 76s; extra heavy baconers, to 80s; heavy baconers, 57s 6d to 67s; light baconers, 47s to 55s (price per lb, 5½d); heavy porkers, 33s to 40s; light porkers, 28s to 32s (price per lb, 4½d to 5¾d). Stores: Best stores, 22s to 28s; smaller stores, 16s to 20s; weaners, 3s 6d to 5s.

At Burnside last week there were only medium yardings of all classes. Fat Cattle.—137 head yarded, most fair quality cattle. There was good competition, and prices advanced from 15s to 20s per head. Best bullocks, £14 to £15; extra, to £16 10s; medium to good, £10 to £12; best cows and heifers, £9 to £10; good, £7 10s to £8 10s; medium, £5 10s to £6 10s; aged and inferior, £4 to £5. Fat Sheep.—1700 penned, a large proportion being aged and inferior ewes, with a few pens of prime to good wethers. There was a strong demand for good sheep at an advance of 2s to 3s per head, but medium and inferior sorts were much about the same. Prime wethers sold at 24s to 26s; extra, up to 34s; good, 19s to 21s; medium, 17s to 18s; best ewes, 16s 6d to 18s; extra, to 27s; good, 12s 6d to 14s. Lambs.—Only 215 penned, which sold at slightly lower prices than previous week. Best lambs sold at 16s to 18s; extra, to 22s; medium to good, 13s to 15s; inferior, 9s to 10s 6d. The supply of fat pigs was about equal to the demand, and prices were on a par with those ruling lately.

### MILK AND ITS CONSTITUENTS.

A series of very exhaustive tests has recently taken place in the laboratory of a well-known dairy company, having as object the determination of the composition of milk. Among other important points it was noted that the average result of some 20,000 tests made during one year placed the fat percentage of milk at 3.71 per cent., the lowest figures in this particular respect being

observed in May and June, and the highest in the months of October and November (says *Farm, Field, and Fireside*).

The average difference between the fat content of morning and evening milk was 0.30 per cent., which was rather less than usual. In the month of April it was found that the proportion of morning's milks that tested 3 per cent. was 1.2 per cent.; in May it was 6.8 per cent.; and in June, 6.7 per cent.

The solids not fat were usually lower in July, August, and September. But climatic conditions must in this instance be invariably taken into consideration, for in the year of a prolonged drought, where there is a consequent shortage of succulent herbage, the deficiency in solids not fat is naturally greater than usual. The proportion of samples containing less than 8.5 per cent. of solids not fat were as follows:—In July, 7.9 per cent.; in August, 27 per cent.; and in September, 13.2 per cent. These figures give one some idea of how milk varies in composition at different times of the year.

The constituents of milk include milk globules (fat) and milk plasma (water, casein, albumen, milk sugar, and ash), and of these the albumen and casein are the proteid or nitrogenous bodies, which usually make up about four parts in 100. Usually there is about 4.5 per cent. of milk sugar, 0.7 per cent. of ash and mineral matter (potash, soda, lime, chlorine, etc.), and about 87 per cent. of water. The average percentage of fat has been noted in the former paragraph.

The colostrum, or the milk yielded by newly-calved cows, contains a much greater percentage of albumen than normal milk, usually about 10.5 per cent., while there are smaller proportions of fat, sugar, and ash. The fat itself is present in milk in the form of little round masses of milk globules, which make a true emulsion with a film of the liquid portion of the milk between the globules.

These different constituents of milk do not exist in the blood of the cow in the same way as they exist in the milk. As a matter of fact, the blood only carries to the udder the digested nutrients of the food, and the question which arises then is the use which the udder makes of these nutrient materials.

Before an animal becomes pregnant the milk glands of the udder are largely composed of tissues and a considerable amount of fat. There are also milk-secreting cells present in the udder, and these cells are surrounded by masses of fat and framework tissue, some of them afterwards undergoing a fatty degeneration and passing out in the first milk as colostrum.

There is practically no milk in the udder before the cow is milked. This has been proved when a dairy cow which was travelling in a train that met with an accident had to be slaughtered. On opening the udder very little, if any, traces of milk were found, although it was known that the animal was, in the ordinary course of events, just due to milk. This shows us that milk secretion is in no way a manufacturing process, but purely the result of nervous action, prompted by the artificial stimulation that is effected when a milkman handles the teats. It is in reality, of course, simply the maternal instinct that is awakened. Therefore, it follows that any disturbance in the nervous system of the cow hinders the normal production of milk in the udder at the time of milking.

There is something very peculiar in the secretion of milk by a dairy cow. It is claimed, for instance, that an animal may easily produce milk fat without a particle of fat in the food. There can be no question of any kind of filtration from the blood, for there is no milk sugar, butter fat, or casein in the cow's blood when it reaches the udder.

The material actually used in milk formation comes directly from the lymph fluid contained in little spaces surrounding the clusters of milk cells in the udder, and this lymph receives raw material, as it were, from the blood and simply passes it on to the milk-forming cells 'over the fence'; or, in other words, on to the other side of the basement membrane of the udder. Waste products are also carried away from the udder or gland tissues, and finally returned to the blood stream for excretion.

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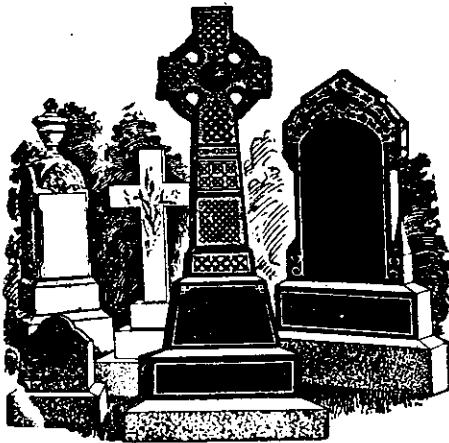
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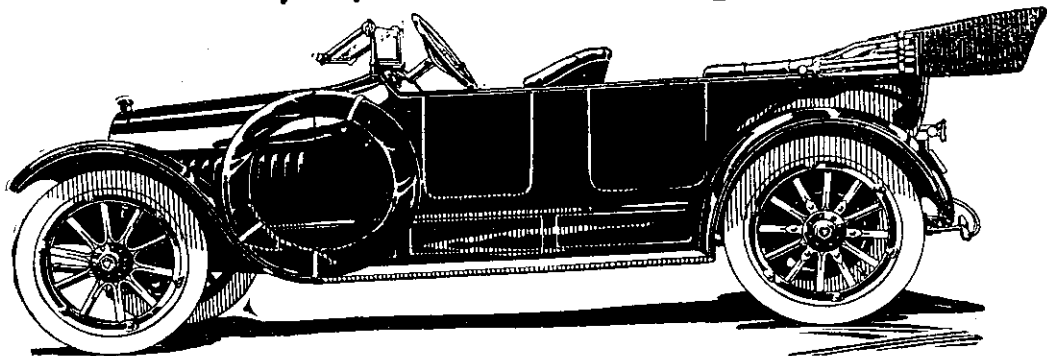
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# The Family Circle

## THE DOG.

I've never known a dog to wag  
His tail in glee he didn't feel,  
Nor quit his old-time friend to tag  
At some more influential heel;  
The yellowest cur I ever knew  
Was, to the boy who loved him, true.

I've never known a dog to show  
Half-way devotion to his friend,  
To seek a kinder man to know  
Or richer, but unto the end  
The humblest dog I ever knew  
Was, to the man that loved him, true.

I've never known a dog to fake  
Affection for a present gain,  
A false display of love to make,  
Some little favor to attain.  
I've never known a Prince or Spot  
That seemed to be what he was not.

But I have known a dog to fight  
With all his strength to shield a friend.  
And, whether wrong or whether right,  
To stick with him until the end.  
And I have known a dog to lick  
The hand of him that men would kick.

And I have known a dog to bear  
Starvation's pangs from day to day  
With him who had been glad to share  
His bread and meat along the way.  
No dog, however mean or rude,  
Is guilty of ingratitude.

The dog is listed with the dumb,  
No voice has lie to speak his creed,  
His messages to humans come  
By faithful conduct and by deed,  
He shows, as seldoms mortals do,  
A high ideal of being true.

## AN OLD FABLE.

Once a poor crane was caught in a net and could not get out. She fluttered and flapped her wings, but it was of no use; she was held fast.

'Oh' she cried. 'What will become of me if I can not break this net? The hunter will come and kill me, or else I shall die of hunger, and if I die who will care for my little ones in the nest? They must perish also if I do not come back to feed them.'

Now Trusty, the sheep-dog, was in the next field and heard the poor crane's cries. He jumped over the fence, and, seizing the net in his teeth, quickly tore it in pieces. 'There,' he said. 'Now fly back to your young ones, ma'am, and good luck to you all.'

The crane thanked him a thousand times. 'I wish all dogs were like you,' she said. 'And I wish I could do something to help you as you have helped me.'

'Who knows?' said Trusty. 'Some day I may need help in return, and then you may remember me. My poor mother used to say to me:

'To do a kind deed wherever we can  
Is good for bird and beast and man.'''

Then Trusty went back to mind his master's sheep, and Mrs. Crane flew to her nest, and fed and tended her crane babies.

Some time after this she was flying homeward and stopped at a clear pool to drink. As she did so she heard a sad, moaning sound, and, looking about, whom should she see but Trusty, lying on the ground, almost at the point of death. She flew to him. 'Oh, my good, kind friend,' she cried, 'what has happened to you?'

'A bone has stuck in my throat,' said the dog, 'and I am choking.'

'Now, how thankful I am for my long bill!' said Mrs. Crane. 'Open your mouth, good friend, and let me see what I can do.'

Trusty opened his mouth wide; the crane darted in her long, slender bill, and with a few good tugs loosened the bone and finally got it out.

'Oh, you kind, friendly bird!' cried the dog, as he sprang to his feet and capered joyfully about. 'How shall I ever reward you for saving my life?'

'Did you not save mine first?' said Mrs. Crane. 'Friend Trusty, I have only learned your mother's lesson, which you taught me, that

'To do a kind deed wherever we can  
Is good for bird and beast and man.'''

## WHY MINNIE COULDN'T SLEEP.

She sat up in bed. The curtain was drawn up, and she saw the moon, and it looked as if it were laughing at her.

'You need not look at me, Moon,' she said. 'You don't know about it; you can't see in the daytime. Besides, I am going to sleep.'

She lay down and tried to go to sleep. Her clock on the mantel went 'tick-tock, tick-tock.' She generally liked to hear it; and to-night it sounded just as if it said, 'I know, I know, I know.'

'You don't know, either,' said Minnie, opening her eyes wide. 'You weren't there, you old thing; you were up-stairs.'

Her loud voice awoke the parrot. He took his head from under his wing, and cried out: 'Polly did.'

'That's a wicked story, you naughty bird,' said Minnie. 'You were in grandma's room, so now!'

Then Minnie tried to go to sleep again. She lay down and counted white sheep, just as grandma said she did when she couldn't sleep. But there was a big lump in her throat. 'Oh, I wish I hadn't.'

Pretty soon there came a very soft patter of four little feet, and her pussy jumped up on the bed, kissed Minnie's cheek, and then began to 'pur-r-r, pur-r-r.' It was very queer; but that, too, sounded as if pussy said: 'I know, I know.'

'Yes, you do know, kitty,' said Minnie; and then she threw her arms around Kitty's neck, and cried bitterly. 'And—I guess—I want—to—see—my—mamma!'

Mamma opened her arms when she saw the little weeping girl coming, then Minnie told her miserable story.

'I was awfully naughty, mamma, but I did want the custard pie so bad, and so I ate it up, 'most a whole pie; and then—I—oh—I don't want to tell, but I s'pect I must,—I shut kitty in the pantry to make you think she did it. But I'm sorry, mamma.'

Then mamma told Minnie that she had known all about it. But she had hoped that the little daughter would be brave enough to tell her all about it herself.

'But, mamma,' she asked, 'how did you know it wasn't kitty?'

## WOMEN NOT AFRAID OF BIG THINGS.

A young navy lieutenant was detailed as third in command in a perilous cruise. He was timid, his brother officers despised him as lacking in courage, and his admiral thought seriously of asking him to resign from the service, but men were scarce and he was sent (says 'Looker-on' in the *Boston Pilot*).

The object of the expedition was the capture of a smuggling vessel. After they had been a short time at sea, cholera broke out on board. The crew threatened to mutiny unless set on shore. The captain and first officer went down with the scourge. Then the timid youngster's mettle showed itself. He took charge, drove the men to their posts at the point of a gun, found the smuggler, captured it, brought it back and then collapsed. He might have left the service branded by

himself and all who knew him as a coward. The crisis enabled him to find himself.

There is timidity and a lack of confidence that come from inexperience. Abnormal introspectiveness may blind a man and his associates to the real quality of his courage. If a crisis comes of sufficient importance it will sweep away the small doubts and fears until the naked character stands out like a rock on the wind-swept desert. If the stuff is there, events will bring it out.

Women are proverbially timid. But it is a fear of small things like mice, not big things like death. Women ordinarily are sheltered from the perils to which men grow accustomed, but the critical moment finds many gentle matrons and girls to possess a courage that shames the valor of the veteran of many battles. Noble ladies went to the guillotine during the French Revolution, as if they were going to a ball. The history of the Indian Mutiny is filled with incidents showing forth the heroism of women who had been petted and protected all their lives. They looked death in the face and found themselves.

#### WHAT SHE MEANT.

Several villagers were discussing a departed sister, who had been given to good deeds, but was rather too fond of dispensing sharp-spoken advice.

'She was an excellent woman,' said the deceased lady's pastor. 'She was constantly in the homes of the poor and afflicted. In fact, she was the salt of the earth.'

'She was more than that,' remarked a villager. 'She was the vinegar, the pepper, and the mustard as well. She was a perfect cruet-stand of virtues.'

#### A LIE'S PUNISHMENT.

'Oh, Percy, dear, your birthday gift was so beautiful!' remarked the young lady, with her best smile. 'And you unintentionally left the pricemark on £10.'

'Oh, how careless of me!' replied Percy.

'And I see you bought it at Payne's. Now, I know you wouldn't mind taking it back and exchanging it for one of those lovely £10 sable muffs they have in the window, would you?'

'Oh, not at all; with pleasure!' he replied.

An hour later that young man was lamenting the foolish act of buying an ornament for £2 and sticking a £10 label on it.

#### DIPLOMACY.

A well-known English politician was much annoyed by reporters. One day he was enjoying a chat at a London hotel, when a strange young man came up who seemed to have something of importance to communicate, and led him across the room.

Arrived in a corner, the stranger whispered, 'I am on the staff of an evening paper, and I should like you to tell me what you think of the Government's foreign policy.'

Mr. Dash looked a little puzzled: then he said, 'Follow me.' Leading the way, he walked through the reading-room, down some steps into the drawing-room, through a long passage into the dining-room, and drawing his visitor into the corner behind the hatrack, he whispered,

'I really don't know anything about it.'

#### BULLS, HIBERNIAN AND BRITISH.

In a new book, just out, the author relieves the Irish from a distinct burden of responsibility when he says that bulls do not feed on Irish pasture alone (says a writer in the *Universe*). Mr. Bonar Law, for instance, rather lost himself in the meshes of his metaphor

when he spoke 'of the habit of the Government in letting things drift until they run against some precipice which brings them to a standstill.' It is always damaging to the cause when a temperance speaker perpetrates sentences such as this: 'Let us take our guns on our shoulders and plough the waste places till the good ship Temperance sails over the land.' A native bank clerk in Calcutta, who had to make a report to some high official, was met on his return by an Englishman, who asked him what the official had said. He replied, 'In the language of your William Shakespeare he praised me with faint damns.' It was a Hindu baker in Bombay who catered for the English community, who advertised himself as a 'first-class British loafer.'

But although these examples of oratorical error are fairly good, we must return to Ireland for the real thing. Sir Edward Carson declared that 'Mr. Asquith was like a drunken man walking along a straight life—the further he went the sooner he fell.' Mr. Birrell, in the House of Commons, spoke of a certain report as 'a garbled version of what never took place.' This is an extract from a report of a meeting dealing with sweated labor: 'Mr. Thornton Burke gave a terrible picture of life in the East End of London where, he said, there were thousands of people grinding their faces in the dust of poverty and trying at the same time to keep their heads above water.' I forget for the moment who it was who, speaking of a certain man's perilous position, said he was 'walking on the thin ice of a burning volcano.'

#### HE DID NOT MEAN IT.

The proud father had come up from the country to see his sailor son on board his ship. He had never seen a battleship before, and accordingly marvelled thereat.

Just as he caught hold of the two ropes which hung over the side to assist sailors to the deck, he was somewhat surprised to hear a clanging of bells—the eight bells of seamen's time.

As he stepped on deck he met the officer of the watch. He saluted him and said timidly:

'I beg your pardon, sir, I've come to see my son Jack, but, 'pon my word, I didn't mean to ring so loud.'

#### AN ABSTRACT NOUN.

A teacher was taking a class of small children in English grammar, and was explaining the difference between a common and abstract noun.

'An example of a common noun is dog,' he said, 'for you can see it, while you cannot see anything that is an abstract noun. For instance, have any of you seen abundance?'

There was silence for about a minute. Then a little boy got up and said: 'Please, sir, I have never seen a bun dance, but I have seen a cake walk.'

#### STILL WEARS LAST SEASON'S FEET.

In a bootshop store a stout man appeared to be having considerable difficulty in finding just what he wanted.

After showing him a dozen or more pairs the salesman blandly observed:

'Now, here is a pair that I think will suit you to perfection.'

After examining the boots the stout man exclaimed:

'I don't like them. They are too narrow and too pointed.'

'Ah,' returned the clerk, 'but they are wearing narrow, pointed shoes this season.'

'Possibly,' returned the stout man, 'but I am still wearing my last season's feet.'

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