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# The True Witness

Vol. LV, No. 20

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1905.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## JOHN REDMOND ON THE EDUCATION QUESTION

Speaking at a Catholic bazaar in Sunderland, England, on Nov. 5, Mr. John Redmond, M.P., stated the attitude of the Irish Party on the education question and the general elections.

Mr. Redmond, who was received with loud and prolonged applause, said:

The history of the Irish Catholics in Great Britain in the past is full at once of pathos and of pride. They came here in the old days from Ireland the poorest of the poor. Poor to a great extent, ignorant and friendless, they came here because the means of livelihood in their own country was denied them by the conditions that existed, and no one would deal, or attempt to deal, with this question of Irish Catholics and their interests in England without bearing in mind this fact, which I take leave to state here to-day, that emigration from Ireland to this country and to all other parts of the world which is going on to-day with as deadly a drain as ever will never end until the conditions in Ireland are changed and until the country is governed by the people themselves (applause). Those Irishmen who came to Great Britain came here because they had not the means of emigrating to America (applause). They crowded into all the great cities of this great land, all the great centres of population, aye, wherever the toughest and hardest labor was to be found, they crowded in in their thousands. The Irish people, with their stout arms and brave hearts, men and women, young and old, they crowded in to all the mines and potteries and mills and gas works and factories of this great land, from the fine air of their native hills. They came in many cases into the poisonous atmosphere of the slums of the great English cities. They found themselves here in those old days in a strange land, surrounded by a strange people, who derided their nationality, and often despised their poverty and often hated their religion (hear, hear). Now, ladies and gentlemen, I ask what would we have expected as the rational result of conditions such as that. Aye, this is why I say the history of the Irish in Great Britain is a history of pride. What would we naturally expect from a people coming to a strange country under conditions such as those? The loss of religion, abandonment of nationality, a sinking down of mere selfish materialism, or perhaps more natural than all, their utter annihilation in a vortex of misery and vice. That I believe would have been in the ordinary course of events, the history of any people under the conditions I have described. But, fellow-countrymen, what happened to the Irish who came to Great Britain? Truth compels us to admit, and with a sorrowful heart I admit it, a large proportion of our people who emigrated from Ireland, not only to Great Britain, but to America and Australia and elsewhere, succumbed to the circumstances of their surroundings, and it is a fact which cannot be lost sight of by those who desire to work for the spiritual as well as for the material welfare of the Irish race, that a large proportion of those who have emigrated, and do still emigrate, from Ireland fall from the high religious and national ideals of the Irish race. Yes, let there be no humbugging upon this matter. I have seen in every great city in the world where the Irish people have gone. I have seen a large proportion of them who have socially, morally and spiritually gone down in the dust; but, making all allowance even for this, the truth still remains that in the main the Irish people who have emigrated from Ireland have

struction, but where they are taught love of the Faith of their fathers (applause). I say, in respect of the matter of schools, the Irish in Great Britain have given an example to every section of the community—an example which, in my humble opinion, ought to command the respect of all sections and all grades in this country (applause). We politicians hear a good deal from time to time of

### THE HOSTILITY OF ENGLISH NONCONFORMISTS

to Irish Catholic interests. I take leave to say that in my judgment that hostility is greatly exaggerated (hear, hear). For my part I see no reason for hostility between any section or any creed in this country, and the Catholic schools they have no cause to quarrel with as they certainly cannot say our schools are proselytising agencies (applause). They have no quarrel with me. They cannot truthfully say that any of them are asked to pay for our schools (hear, hear). In the past we paid out of our poverty—we paid for those schools ourselves (hear, hear). And as things stand at the present moment I believe it is absolutely accurate to say that the school rate paid by Catholics in Great Britain amounts to a sum more than enough to maintain all the Catholic schools (applause). Now, I would like if I had time to dwell for a moment upon that point. One of the greatest arguments used by those who have been engaged in this education controversy has been that the Nonconformists ought not to be asked to pay for the teaching of a religion in which they don't believe. Well, but if it is true that the rate paid by Catholics in Great Britain amounts to almost sufficient to maintain the Catholic schools, then I say that no man of another creed is asked to pay anything for the teaching of the Catholic religion (applause). But what I do think we have a right to claim is that money contributed by Catholics should be spent upon these Catholic schools, and that these Catholic schools shall remain Catholic in their teaching, in their spirit and in their management (applause). I have been asked by more than one person why give any inkling or how this education question will be likely to be affected because of Irish voters in Great Britain at the next election. Now, I don't think this would be the proper occasion for me to deliver an ordinary political speech; but this much I may be allowed to say, that so far as Irishmen in Great Britain are concerned in this instance of the coming election, they will find that the interests of their creed are identical, as they have been in the past, and as, in my judgment, they will always be identical in the future (applause). Home Rule for Ireland is

### THE SUPREME POLITICAL ISSUE

(applause). For the Irish race it is a question of life or death, a question which comprehends religion, nationality, and the chances of eternal salvation almost for our race, and therefore our policy to-day is the same as it always was and is, to subordinate the question of Irish freedom to no other political question whatever (applause). But in taking this line it may be asked are we acting in an inimical spirit to the interests of the Catholic schools of Great Britain. No, my Lordship, ladies and gentlemen. So far as my opinion goes, and those of my colleagues of the Irish party, on the contrary, we are strengthening the defensive forces upon which these Catholic schools can rely in the future (applause). Who, let me ask you, are the defenders of Catholic interests in the English Parliament? (A Voice—"The Irish Party.") (Cheers).

Mr. Redmond—It is the Duke of Norfolk in the House of Lords ("No, no") and his nephew, Mr. Heps, in the House of Commons ("No, no"). What the case has only to be rated to be treated with ridicule that there is any other defensive force in the English Parliament for the Catholic schools except the Irish Party (applause).

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

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At a meeting of the St. Ann's Young Men's Society, held on Oct. 29, resolutions were passed expressing deepest sorrow on the death of Rev. Father Strubbe, their late spiritual director. It was resolved at this meeting to erect a memorial tablet in St. Ann's Church expressive of the great regret the society experienced, and to have a Mass offered weekly.

### CONVENT AT ST. LAURENT RECEIVED GIFT.

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### BRANCH 26, C.M.B.A.

Branch 26, C.M.B.A., held a very successful reunion and dance last Friday evening at the King's Hall, over three hundred persons being present. The President, Mr. J. H. Maiden, assisted by Messrs. W. F. Wall, W. Palmer, T. R. Stevens and James McCabe received the guests. The lady prize winners were Mrs. Malcolm, Mrs. Joseph O'Brien and Miss Murray, and the gentlemen Messrs. J. J. Costigan, W. Grant, and A. Murray. Supper was served at midnight and was followed by dancing. Branch 24 will celebrate its twentieth anniversary by an "at home" in the Conservatory Hall on November 30.

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### ST. GABRIEL'S JUVENILE T. A. & B. SOCIETY.

At the meeting of St. Gabriel's Juvenile T. A. & B. Society, held last Sunday afternoon, four new members took the pledge and were initiated. The nomination of officers then took place, and all the officers had contentments with the exception of President, Mr. J. J. Collins being re-elected by acclamation. The elections will take place in December. St. Patrick's T. A. & B. Society invited the Juveniles to their anniversary service and also to the reception to be held after the religious services. The arrangements are being made twice a week, and the membership at present is reaching the 300 mark.

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## ST. ANN'S YOUNG MEN'S ANNIVERSARY.

Last Sunday, St. Ann's Young Men's Society held its anniversary services. At 7.45 the members marched from St. Ann's Hall to the church and assisted at the 8 o'clock Mass and received Holy Communion in a body. The Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Lemire, C.S.S.R. In the evening they again assembled and marched to the church, where special services were held. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Thos. Heffernan of St. Anthony's Church. Taking for his text: "I beseech you that you walk worthy of the vocation in which you are called, with all humility and mildness, with patience supporting one another in charity, careful to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace" (Eph. chap. 4, vs. 1, 2, 3.) he said:

I have selected these words of the Apostle to form a guiding text to my theme this evening. Throughout the length and breadth of your city, it has been heralded that the members of St. Ann's Young Men's Society approached Holy Communion in a body for the benefit of the souls of their deceased members and of their founder and director, the Rev. Father Strubbe, of loved memory. Well, my dear young men, I have been selected to preach to you this evening, and I have selected these words of St. Paul which point forcibly to unity. We notice in the secular reunion of society how orators harp upon the motto: "United we stand, divided we fall." We must be as one if we would succeed, but especially so as children of God, for He is the head of the family of Christians, and we easily recall the prayer of His only Son—praying for unity among men: "That they may be one as Thou, Father, in me and I in Thee." It is not, however, on this specific unity that I would dwell this evening, it is on that other grand unity of the body Catholic, as we find its members in the family circle, in the business world, in social life. Its principles, as you may infer, are general, all that is required is its application in all circumstances with a fidelity like unto Christ's. To preserve this sweet virtue, the Apostle mentions four virtues—humility, meekness, patience, charity.

As fire and water are incompatible, so also pride and unity. Pride has for her daughters self-will, envy, selfishness, hatred, disobedience, self-exaltation and contempt of others. As the waters of the earth send their vapors heavenward, begetting thunder and lightning and other stormy accidents, so the vapors of pride, which arise from the heart into the head, raise discord and dissensions. Our everyday life proves, without doubt, that the pride of one man can bring great dissension, not alone into a family, but even into a whole community.

The preacher dwelt at length on the necessity of practising meekness, humility, patience and charity, so as to make our lives worthy of the Divine Model. In conclusion, he exhorted the members to live in unity and peace, to be models in society, thus giving good example to all as worthy imitators of Christ. After the sermon solemn Benediction was imparted by Rev. Father Fortier, C.S.S.R., during which the choir was heard to good advantage.

### SISTERS OF MOUNT CARMEL IN RETREAT.

A retreat is being held at present for the Sisters of Mount Carmel at which the Rev. Father Belval is the preacher.

Among those present were Sir Louis and Lady Jette, Sir Alexander and Lady Lacoste, Hon. Lomer Gouin, Mr. Justice and Madame Robitaille, Hon. J. J. and Madame Roland, Hon. P. E. and Madame Leblanc, Mr. F. J. and Madame Bisson, Consul-General Kiezkowski, Mr. Jacques Grier, Mr. and Madame R. Bellemare, Mr. and Madame H. Gervais, Dr. and Mrs. Mount, and Capt. Sheppard, A.D.C. to the Lieutenant-Governor.

The balls will be immediately put in the tower, and when ready will rank next to those of Notre Dame.

### THE TRUE WITNESS

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