

The Catholic Record.

"Christianus mihi nomen est Catholicus vero Cognomen."—(Christian is my Name, but Catholic my Surname)—St. Pacien, 4th Century

VOLUME XXXXI.

LONDON, CANADA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1919

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WHAT IS THE MELTING POT?

By THE OBSERVER

We are told that the War has greatly disturbed men's ideas. No doubt it has, but how much it has done so depends on what their ideas were. No man who really believed in God, in His Providence, His goodness and His justice, believes in them any the less because of the War. But men who had no spiritual perceptions, and who saw nothing in the world but human glory and material achievement, unquestionably did receive a great shock. The former still put their faith in God; the latter, being unwilling or unable to do that, have been driven in search of new quick medicines compounded of human ingredients alone; and great is their excitement and their confusion.

Those who adored God before the War began are still adoring Him; and those who adored human nature and the works of human hands before the War are still adoring human nature and the works of human hands; with this difference—that they seek now to give human nature a new coat of whitewash, while they bow down before a new assemblage of man-made things.

We hear it said every day that "Society is in the melting-pot," that "humanity has struck its tents and is on the march"; that "the old world has passed away in Flanders"; that "a new era dates from the signing of the armistice." The spiritual meaning of these dicta is not clear. If they meant that a wave of moral regeneration had swept man's hearts clean and stirred their consciences, one might indeed look confidently forward to better times and better things. But is that what is meant? Is the world really so much purer, more honest, less selfish, than before the War? Has anyone marked the disappearance from human society of any of the works and pomps of Satan, or even any very marked lessening of their popularity?

If Society is "in the melting pot," what is the solvent which is melting it? If "humanity is on the march," whither is it marching, and who suggested the course? If "humanity has struck its tents," where is it proposed to set up the new tents, and on what principles, or upon what considerations, is the choice of a new site to be made? If "the old world has passed away," how is the new one to be created, and who is to be the architect or the designer?

Emotionalism is popular because it is irresponsible; and human nature loves to shift responsibility. Emotionalism is popular because it requires no thinking, and human nature hates to think. So emotionalism is all the fashion just now. But men who feel a sense of responsibility deem it a duty to think; and thinking is bad for emotionalism. For instance, let us think a moment of some of these "catchwords" of the present moment: "Society is in the melting pot." What has been put into the pot? What solvent agent is going to do the melting? What do men want to see come out of the pot? What is the conception that is entertained in respect of this pot, and in respect of the operation of melting supposed to be going on therein. The only pot that anything definite is known about is the same old pot of human, material, selfish things; and the only solvent agent that can be noticed at work if one peeks into the pot, is the same old solvent agent of human, selfish, material self-interest. What wonderful product is to be looked for when such a melting down by such an agency, of such things, is completed and men gather round to see the pot spill out its contents.

There are spiritual elements which can transmute the base metal of human nature and human things into the pure gold of divine things; but have any of them been put into the pot to do their work in the melting down? Not by any means. Men wish it to be well understood that this is a purely human operation, and that God, if there is a God, is to keep His hands off.

The product will come out something like this; take some human nature, and add an equal amount of human nature; put in a pot; stir up carefully with an equal quantity of human nature, and watch it boil. Oh, never fear, it will boil if you stir it up enough. Wait patiently till it cools or simmers down; and empty the pot carefully and you will get—what? Something wonderful and new? By no means. Just human nature; that's all. You can't raise the natural order to the supernatural order without introducing supernatural elements into the process; and the world is very firmly of opinion that the natural is good enough, even though it has just given us the German War; and that the supernatural, if there is any such thing, is not wanted as a factor in human affairs.

The new melting pot is wholly imaginary. That some social changes seem much nearer now than they seemed a few years ago is true; but the whole theory of change at present agitating men's minds is human and worldly; and looks almost wholly to giving men more money and property. That is not a new idea. No new melting pot, but a very old melting pot, is in question there. The natural desire of human nature for more money and property is as old as the world, and exists from childhood to the grave in all mankind, speaking generally.

The more equal distribution of money and property has been inevitable; and received in our own times a very great impetus from education which increases the demand for luxuries, and from the whole materialistic tendency of society as a whole. Long before the War it was clearly to be seen by all, and was clearly seen by many, that if we were to go on equalizing men educationally and politically and socially, we must one day face a world wide demand for equalization in money and in property; and that we should have to face extreme and even violent demands for impossible and unjust distribution of money and property. The mental excitement caused by the War has given a sudden further impetus to a motion already considerably accelerated; and beyond that the War has done nothing in the matter.

But God's Providence is over the world. Men may set up their melting pots; but the product thereof is subject to the over-ruling of Divine Providence. Men may exclude justice from their calculations, or may give it an arbitrary interpretation in accordance with their material ideas and desires; but yet, in God's own good time, He will make it to prevail and to rule the world.

TWO IRELANDS OR ONE?

The New York Times, for some years past as strongly pro-British as its London namesake, feels called upon to warn England in pretty plain terms that her friends in the United States are finding it hard to defend the "futility of her good intentions" with regard to Ireland; that "it is getting late for well-meaning impracticabilities"; and "that all friends of England here must hope that a real solution will be reached and reached very soon." Read in the light of the role the Times has been playing this is a pretty plain intimation that the British Government's latest farcical attempt to settle the Irish Question won't go down with even "the friends of England" in the United States; or to attempt to justify it would be futile, and nauseating to true Americans. Follows the Times' editorial:

"Another Home Rule plan is reported from London. There are to be two Irish Parliaments, one for Ulster—all of Ulster with no counties excepted—the other for the rest of the country, with a Council for Ireland of forty members, half of it nominated by each Legislature. The powers reserved to the Imperial Parliament have not been decided upon as yet, but apparently they will be considerable, with the provision that after a time some of them will be assigned to the Council. On the resignation of the Council's powers must depend whether this proposal means an Irish federation of two States or two separate political units joined in a loose alliance.

"The plan without doubt reflects the conviction of everybody in England that something must be done, and attempts to solve the great obstacle of Irish dualism. But it will certainly fail to satisfy the South of Ireland, and in spite of its great concessions to Ulster it can hardly satisfy those who do not want any Irish Home Rule. In other words, it is another example of the futility of good intentions, such as have been so numerous in the recent history of Anglo-Irish relations. And it is getting late for well-meaning impracticabilities. What would have been enough in 1914 would have been a year ago; what would have satisfied them will not satisfy now; what will satisfy now will be inadequate next year.

"Sir Horace Plunkett's recent warning ought to remind the British that half measures will no longer suit anybody in Ireland. The Catholics can hardly be content with anything like Home Rule for anybody; but men whose loyalty to the cause of the free nations leagued against Germany is unassailable are beginning to feel that the days for considering Ulster first and the rest of Ireland afterward are over. A people which has known the difficulties of containing two nations in one State will sympathize with the ardent of the British Government, but all friends of England here must hope that a real solution will be reached and reached very soon."—N. Y. Times.

OUR IRISH LETTER

IRELAND SEEN THROUGH IRISH EYES

ECONOMIC PROGRESS

Despite the state of war under which Ireland is at present existing, the economic progress of the nation is receiving today more attention than it ever did. Aside from the several Sinn Fein projects described some weeks ago, there are several other works at work for the nation's material advancement—including a Parliamentary Reconstruction Committee, whose province is to look after the housing of the working class, the reforesting of the country, and the health of the community. Also an Irish Industrial Reconstruction Committee under Lord Willoughby de Broke. Whether Ireland welcomes these or not, they will at any rate to some extent supplement the work of the Sinn Fein Department.

One of the most definite and tangible offerings of assistance has come from an Irish American syndicate, which places \$750,000 upon very easy terms, at the disposal of the various Irish boards, for the purpose of better housing. And the same syndicate has tendered \$10,000,000 to help in the development of Irish shipping. In connection with the housing question it is worth noting that during recent years 60,000 laborers' cottages have been erected throughout Ireland by the District Councils—and are rented by the laborers for from fifty cents to seventy-five cents per week.

The shipping question has been receiving much attention. In addition to the direct line of ships being established between Ireland and France, a service has also been initiated for the purpose of fostering direct trade between America and Ireland. The first steamship of the line, the Lake Grotto, steamed into Dublin Bay recently with the Stars and Stripes at the peak—carrying from New York a general cargo—from motor chassis, machinery, canned goods, fruit products, confectionery, hosiery, boots and shoes, down to pins. The steamship was to leave Ireland again very shortly, laden with various Irish exports for New York. It is the little beginning of what one day in the near future, will be a great Irish-American trade. Going East these steamers will manufacture articles, and returning West, raw material. That is, just at present. Before very many years the Irish have confidence that the ships will be carrying manufactured articles going West.

It is of interest to note what items Ireland imports in largest volume. In 1915 the Irish imports that involved the most money were:

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Drapery and Apparel..... | \$85,000,000 |
| Bacon and Hams..... | 15,000,000 |
| Boots and Shoes..... | 9,000,000 |
| Wool..... | 5,900,000 |
| Confacatory..... | 2,500,000 |
| Margarine..... | 1,500,000 |
| Preserves & Jam..... | 1,500,000 |
| Cheese..... | 1,000,000 |

There is no reason in the world why Ireland should have to import the four largest items mentioned above—and it is hoped that within the next dozen years these items may be wiped off the import list.

LORD DUFFERIN ON IRISH INDUSTRIES

Although Ireland's manufactures were being systematically killed off through three hundred years past they were still not extinct one hundred years ago. One hundred years ago Dublin had 16 iron found-

ries employing many thousands of men. Nearly every article in daily use then was Irish made, beside many of the requirements of luxury and refinement. Pianos, leather, sugar refining, cut glass, ribbons, velvets, silks, poplins—all were produced at home. In the glass making industry in the year 1798 Dublin houses had two years advance orders on hand from America alone.

Earl Dufferin, although a good friend and supporter of Britain, had to confess, "From Queen Elizabeth's reign until a few years before the Union the various mercantile confraternities of Great Britain never for a moment relaxed their relentless grip on the trades of Ireland. One by one our nascent industries were either strangled in their birth or handed over gagged and bound to the zealous custody of the rival industries in England, until at last every fountain of wealth was hermetically sealed, and even the traditions of commercial enterprise have perished through desuetude."

THE SAME POLICY TODAY

The very same policy of killing everything Irish that happens to compete with things English is being pursued at the present day. There is a great outcry among the farmers and especially amongst the loyal ones in Ulster because of the fact that the English control boards in Ireland compel the Irish farmer to sell his hide at eight pence per pound less than the price at which they sell in the open market in England. And the Flax Control Board compels the Irish farmer to sell his flax at from \$400 to \$600 a ton less than the price in the open market in England. One of the most notable instances of England's attempting to stifle industries when a few years ago every effort was made by the English manufacturers to block Henry Ford in his effort to establish a motor factory in Cork. It is another reason why Ireland can not be permitted self-determination by England because that would put Ireland in the way of becoming a successful rival to England in the markets of the world.

EFFORTS TOWARDS REVIVAL

The copper mines at Ardmore, County Waterford, are just being opened up again after lying unworked for a hundred years. They will give employment to some hundreds of men at the start and it is expected to eventually employ more. This is one of the significant signs of the times in Ireland. There are many unworked mines and much power going to waste in the country, which it is expected will, from this time forward receive more attention. At the Mansion House, Dublin, a few weeks ago, there was held a preliminary meeting of inquiry into the resources and industries of Ireland. Men of different modes of thoughts sat there under the presidency of Arthur Griffith, Vice President of Sinn Fein. The resources of the country were considered under three heads, that of Power, Food and Minerals. A Food committee was formed, and a Power committee was dealt with the resources under these two heads. A Minerals Committee is to be appointed at the next meeting.

DARRILL FIGGIS

One of the ablest of the workers of the Sinn Fein movement, Mr. Darrell Figgis, was appointed Secretary to the Standing Committee upon Resources. Figgis is a bold and picturesque character who found and edited The Republic—a brilliant little weekly of course now suppressed. Like the other workers he has of course spent much of his time during recent years in English jails. Both in jail and out of jail, his literary activities have been irrepresible. Pamphlets and booklets from his pen fell thickly amidst a welcoming audience. He has written a novel, Life in Achill Island on the West Coast. He owns a picturesque bungalow in the wildest part of the wild land, and delights in studying the primitive life of the Islanders—at all times when his political call, or his jailer's limitations permit him to be there. One of the sensations and incidents of his career happened two years ago, when he suddenly and mysteriously disappeared from his English prison, and was discovered a week later campaigning for the Sinn Fein candidate at the famous Longford election.

STONE WALLS CAN NOT IMPRISON SINN FEIN

I mentioned the other week, that the Wild West in its palest days could not furnish a more fitting escapee than the Ireland of Sinn Fein serves up almost daily. In an English jail, in the heart of England last week, a few Irish prisoners knock down and bind their warder hand and foot, humorously lock him in a cell and say their wistful adieu to prison life. The escaped ones, in broad daylight, under the eyes of the onlookers, in an enemy city, did a disappearing act that would make a magician's fortune.

Austin Stack the most prominent of the escaped ones from the Strangeways (Manchester) jail, has spent almost all his time in prison during recent years. It was he who, while

the British Government was busy suppressing the Gaelic League in Ireland, was himself busy propagating the Gaelic language in a British jail, in the heart of Britain—teaching Irish to a class of his fellow convicts. And it was he who seized a wing of Belfast jail and held it for ten days or more against three armies—one of jail guards, one of police and one of soldiers. And it was he who—crowning effrontery!—issued a permit to the Governor of the jail to pass through this wing of his own jail under a guard of his Sinn-Fein prisoners. And it was he who won for his fellows the status of political prisoners. British jailers, if they were amenable to common sense, should sing a Te Deum for this terrible fellow's escape.

Pierce Bezaely, another of the escaped ones, is a clever Dublin journalist, who (like Figgis) had founded and ran his own weekly paper—every week that it was not suppressed. He, too, has been a frequent center of a dozen jails during the past three and a half years. And his escapades and escapes have brought his poor jailers to the verge of nervous exhaustion. If Lord French continues sending his stream of Sinn Fein prisoners flowing into the English and Irish jails, it is expected that the demented jailers will be knocking down their intolerable prisoners, and with aid of rope ladders making a burst for freedom.

SEUMAS MACMANUS OF DONEGAL

"JESUIT IN DISGUISE"

OUTWITS THE GERMANS, HELPS NURSE CAVELL, WARNS ENGLAND

DISCOVERS SUBMARINE BASE

Following is the Universe story, a summary of which was cabled to many papers on this side of the Atlantic. The marvellous adventures of this heroic Belgian patriot afford a glimpse of that splendid morale of the personification and the interpreter:

A remarkable story, as full of sensation as the modern novel, was told at Sunday's meeting in Balliol College Hall, by Piere Meus, S. J., a distinguished social worker, who came to England from Louvain especially to attend the conference. Piere Meus was in the service of his country from the beginning of the War, and worked at the continual risk of his life as one of the directors of the organization for maintaining the morale of the Belgian people under the German yoke. He was also a collaborator of the clandestine Press, La Libre Belgique, the source of which the Germans could never trace.

Piere Meus originated a daring scheme for carrying correspondence between the Belgian soldiers and their wives in the invaded districts, and by this means he was able to forward more than 1,200,000 letters. The story of this scheme—Le Mot du Soldat—will shortly be published. He also worked with Nurse Cavell and others in passing soldiers over the frontier. He was able to render this service not only to hundreds of his own compatriots, but to some 400 British soldiers. He became so famous for this work, and the hunt for him waxed so hot, that he was ordered by his superiors in 1916 to escape.

In London he found work waiting for him at Earl's Court, where he originated many schemes for the welfare of his compatriots. Returning to Belgium this year he was decorated by King Albert with the Order of Leopold with star and special commendation, and also with the Medal of Reconnaissance Nationale.

SOUGHT BY THE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS

Piere Meus told his surprising story in French to an audience which did not disguise its enthusiasm. He is still a young man, and displays his spirit of adventure in a buoyant smile. It is not now necessary to disguise the fact that Piere Meus was in close touch with the Intelligence Departments of the Allies, and it is interesting to note that Piere Meus and his confederates in the Society of Jesus were sought by the Allied Governments because their honesty could be trusted, whereas paid secret agents could not invariably be relied upon.

He worked with Nurse Cavell, he told his audience; yet although they were in constant communication, they saw one another only seven or eight times. Nurse Cavell had resolved to help her soldiers to escape because so long as three months after Mons the Germans were killing their British prisoners out of rage.

Piere Meus told how the prisoners were taken into Brussels in disguise, and were met by the grande espionne. The grande espionne was a little girl of eleven, who used to carry a big doll, run about and play, and look in the shop windows. The soldiers would follow her, without

any sign of recognition on her part. Then she would stop outside the house in which Nurse Cavell met them.

AIR RAID WARNINGS TO ENGLAND
The soldiers were then bandaged up and transformed into "hospital patients," and were introduced to Piere Meus as "M. Janssen," or sometimes "Baron Janssen." As "Baron Janssen" Piere Meus once visited von Blesing.

He would then get the soldiers across the frontier. Some of this daring priest's adventures and disguises are equally interesting. Once as a cattle-driver he got to Ostend and found the real lurking place of the German submarines.

It was heard that previous to an air-raid into England it was the custom of the officers of Zepellins and Gothas to meet at dinner. Piere Meus set himself up as a pastry cook, and was thus able to find out when the dinners were to be given and by means of carrier pigeons into Holland to inform the Admiralty by 6 p. m. of the impending raid.

It was only by chance that Piere Meus was not taken with Nurse Cavell, as the three chief conspirators had arranged for a midnight conference. Cardinal Mercier had sent for Piere Meus to get an important message into Holland. The other two were arrested and shot.

A MEETING OF THE CONSPIRATORS

A reunion of the conspirators was decided upon later, and they were to meet via a certain church in Brussels. Piere Meus arrived dressed as a musician. He was immediately challenged by a German police officer: "Who are you?"

He produced his identity card (which by the way, he changed with his identity every week). "What do you want?" "Comtesse van Pipelstock III; she wants a priest," replied the "musician."

"Right," said the police officer; "but you stay here." "Can't I must find a doctor," responded Piere Meus, as he cleared off.

Then the second conspirator arrived, having in his stockings the plans of the Ostend fortifications and the Year, written in sympathetic ink. "What do you want?" asked the police.

"Ashamed to say?" "But you must say." "Charity from the priest," "Very good. Porter, give him five francs. Get out!"

The third conspirator arrived disguised as a servant, and is recognized. Feigning illness, he is taken to hospital, but escapes. This priest, who is now a missionary in the Congo, was described by Piere Meus as a "priestly Charlie Chaplin."

Sixty secret agents in Brussels were within an hour all informed of the police vigilance, and got away without a single arrest. Piere Meus, helping to support a colleague who could not swim, got across the canal into Holland, and was fired on all the time. He emphasized the fact that the people of England knew about life in the occupied territory, or the repressed rage of the Belgian population under the tyranny of their oppression.

RHEIMS CATHEDRAL MAY BE RESTORED TO SERVICE

Paris, Oct. 28 (By Associated Press.)—After all, the Rheims cathedral has not suffered from German bombardments and fire so much as was first supposed, according to Cardinal Lucon. The Cardinal announced that divine service would be resumed in the cathedral from November 1, but the holy office will be restricted to the altar of the Virgin and the ambulatory around it.

Cardinal Lucon, despite his seventy-seven years, is still hale and alert, and he is an optimist. "Destroyed, my cathedral? Why, no," he said. "The damage is generally more easily repairable than is generally believed. A few ancient parts, it is true, can not be replaced; but the beauty of the cathedral lay, first, in its stained glass, secondly in its sculptures and thirdly in its statuary."

"Of the stained glass, nineteenth century has been saved and brought to Paris. The remaining tenth can be restored by specialists, with the aid of a great number of colored photographs we have. As regards the sculptures, we shall use the numerous moldings we have of them."

"As for the statuary, we have so many moldings that it will be easy to reproduce the damaged parts. The pillars, with their ornated capitals, have suffered little; only the two side doorways have been badly damaged by fire."

"Was there not some talk of leaving the cathedral as it was?" the reporter asked.

"If the evidences of Tautonic barbarity have to be preserved, let them be kept in a private museum," replied the Cardinal.

CATHOLIC NOTES

Father Alban Goodier, S. J., has been appointed Archbishop of Bombay, India. Father Goodier, who is at present in England, and is attached to St. Francis Xavier's College, Bombay. He is a great advocate of the establishment of Catholic medical missions in that country.

Rome.—The appointment of Count Tyszkiewicz by the Ukrainian government as chief of the embassy extraordinary to the Holy See has been approved by the Pope. The Cardinal Secretary of State has notified the Ukrainian government of this fact and in his letter pays a high tribute to the personal capabilities of the new envoy.

News of the closing of the Racina (Wia) College, an Episcopalian institution, recalls to a writer that the priest-poor, was long a professor there, and that such well-known converts as Henry Clay Dillow, of Los Angeles; Alexander Erskine, of St. Louis; Father Ebenezer Allen, of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and Dr. Thomas R. Sparrow, of Columbus, received a portion of education within its walls.

A monument to the Catholics who died in the world War is to be erected by public subscription near the Roosevelt road entrance to Mount Carmel Cemetery, near Chicago. Archbishop Mundelein has donated a large plot of ground for the monument which will be built under the auspices of the Memorial Association of the Catholic veterans of the world War of which the Archbishop is honorary president.

New York, Oct. 20.—All the buildings and recreational equipment of the Knights of Columbus at Fort Davis, New Mexico, have been turned over to 1,000 Indian children whose parents were victims of the influenza epidemic last year, it was announced tonight. A large quantity of supplies intended for the soldiers, who have been withdrawn from the winter months, has been turned over to the children.

Boston, Oct. 19 (By Universal Service).—When the accompanist of John O'Sullivan, the Chicago opera tenor, failed to appear last night at a concert to be given before the League of Catholic Women at Notre Dame Academy, Cardinal O'Connell attended the audience by volunteering as accompanist. His playing displayed remarkable musicianship. "Since we are all friends," the Cardinal said, "just a family party, I will try to make the transposition for O'Sullivan."

For every single daily communication in England nine years ago there are now ten. During these nine years the increase of Catholicity in England and Wales is 300 priests and 172 churches, or the equivalent of a very respectable archdiocese. During the same period three dioceses have been raised to Archbishopric rank and one new diocese has been created. The stupendous fact is, that every year sees the Catholic Church throughout the world increased by 5,000,000 or more.

At Kelly Field, Texas, the Knights of Columbus have for months been operating what is probably the only camp law school to give diplomas. Two hundred and fifty men have been graduated from this school, seventy-five of them officers. Professor G. M. Hayes of New York supervises the educational work of the Knights in the eastern camps. Beginning with one or two courses, such as typewriting and business English, the Knights have extended their camp curricula so that now they include several wage-earning trades, the most popular of which is auto mechanics.

"On the domestic hearth woman is queen," said Pope Benedict in answering an address presented to him by the women's unions on October 12. "The Catholic woman," said the pontiff, "besides feeling it her duty to appear such in the fashion of her clothes, repudiating those exaggerations of fashion which show the corruption of those who designed them." The pontiff strongly urged the formation of a league of Catholic women to fight what he termed the indecency of fashion, not only in their own clothing, but also of that of persons in families who approach them.

Lisbon, October 6.—In a letter to the Patriarch of Lisbon and the Portuguese Bishops the Holy Father speaks with great satisfaction of the improvement in religious affairs in Portugal. In particular the Pope encourages the good work of the Catholic press, and he urges Catholics to do everything in their power to aid this most powerful arm of Catholic and Christian defense. The Pope dwells with emphasis on the necessity for special care being given to the education of the clergy. He adds that the best qualified alumni should be sent to make their studies at the Portuguese College in Rome, whereby the bond between the Holy See and the Portuguese clergy will be immeasurably strengthened.