

The Catholic Record

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LONDON, SATURDAY, DEC. 15, 1917

ANTI-CATHOLIC BUNCOMBE

The Austrian and the German Kaisers have promised the Pope that the restoration of the papacy shall be one of the first fruits of their triumph.

This is an extract from one of Frank H. Simond's syndicated articles which have a wide circulation in the press.

With regard to the calumny, so far as it concerns the Italian army and its recent reverses it is already flat, stale and unprofitable.

The Pope is the spiritual head of the Catholic Church; his jurisdiction is universal; it is limited neither by race nor language nor national boundaries.

Our non-Catholic friends are not asked to make profession of the Catholic faith; but when they pass judgment on things Catholic, on the Church and its visible Head, they may reasonably be asked to understand the Catholic position.

Now let us examine for a moment this question of the "Temporal Power"—a stupid, ambiguous, misleading and inaccurate term never used by Catholics in this connection.

It is, moreover, quite evident that many who talk of the "Temporal Power" do not know what they are talking about.

Frenchmen out of the College, and in many instances back to France, as relentlessly as later on they drove out the English speaking members of the staff and all who sympathized with them.

In this we are speaking with personal knowledge of the facts. Nationalism has thrust itself into politics in various ways.

certain to follow its conclusion, that the Pope, the Head of the Church, which is nothing if not universal, has for a matter of secondary importance involved in the issue of the War the sacred interests which he is divinely commissioned to safeguard!

One does not need to be a Catholic to see that. To Protestant, Jew, Agnostic or Pagan it is equally evident.

The Pope and Kaiser story may furnish entertainment in quarters where the curious may exhaust their ingenuity in testing out the credulous superstition of infantile minds.

In the course of an editorial commenting on Bishop Fallon's pronouncement on the issues of the impending election The Globe says:

Not only are the Nationalists behind Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the struggle for the defeat of the Military Service Act, but in Mr. Rowell's judgment "the majority of the curés throughout the Province share Mr. Bourassa's Nationalist, clerical, and reactionary attitude."

The italics are ours. We challenge Mr. Rowell to bring forward a shadow of proof for this assertion with regard to the members of religious orders from France.

That appeal will undoubtedly help to clear the air. We may not agree with Bishop Fallon that the French curés are actuated entirely by racial motives in their adhesion to Nationalism.

On the contrary those members of religious orders from France, of military age, who found asylum in Canada volunteered at the outbreak of war to return to fight and die for France.

Those who, like The Globe and Mr. Rowell, repeat this unfounded charge against the French priests in Canada either know little of the intensely narrow and intolerant spirit of French-Canadian nationalism, or they are determined in spite of facts to identify nationalism and religion.

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THE HALIFAX DISASTER

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the stricken people of Halifax. By this awful visitation something of the horrors of the War is brought home to us.

If our own immunity in a world of suffering, realized afresh as we contemplate this appalling affliction does not deepen our gratitude to God, broaden our sympathies, and kindle in us the fire of living Christian charity, make us more humble and helpful and selfless—then God pity us.

WOMEN IN POLITICS

When female suffrage was an academic question, we always felt that those public men who voted for the Affirmative were not altogether serious in their contention, but not unwilling to court popularity.

BOOKS AS CHRISTMAS GIFTS

The following well-written letter is so timely and deals with its subject so admirably that we gladly give it editorial prominence and endorsement.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

THE PUBLICATION of the Life and Letters of Rev. Mother Teresa Dease may be said to mark a departure in the Catholic literature of English-speaking Canada.

THE FIRST LORETTO CONVENT IN AMERICA

THE FIRST Loretto Convent in America was a building, still standing, on the corner of Duke and Frederick streets, Toronto.

READER.

One of the worst features of the new situation is that it is apt to breed discord and hard feelings in many communities. Men, as a rule, take their politics very good-naturedly.

It goes without saying that this is no reflection upon the representative wives and mothers of the country. They love their homes, not the public forum, and they find sufficient there to satisfy all the cravings of their hearts.

MOTHER IGNATIA HUTCHINSON

MOTHER IGNATIA Hutchinson was appointed Superior of the Little band of religious whom Mother Ballantyne had founded at Rathfarnham.

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THE GLEANER

It is NOT our intention to relate the history of this modest but momentous enterprise. That would be to anticipate the pleasure in store for readers of the book before us.

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