## THE LEGION OF HONOR

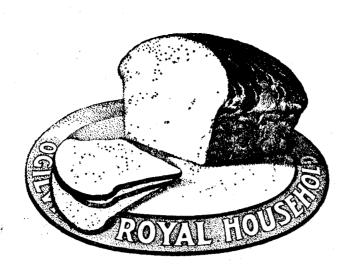
The Legion of Honor, of which Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux has just been made an officer, is the order of merit which holds the highest place under the French Government. It was instituted on May 19th, 1802, by Napoleon I, as a recompense for military and civil services. The first investure of the order took place on June 14th, 1804.

While founded for the protection of the Republican principles then in vogue, it has undergone many changes in its constitution. Embracing four classes at its institution, it was increased to five in 1852. At the same time the insigna was changed by substituting the cross for the star. The number of members in each class is fixed, but the foreigners invested with the order are not counted among these. There are 70 grand crosses, 200 grand officers, 1,000 commanders, 4,000 officers, and 25,000 chevaliers or knights. Three fifths of the members of each class must be soldiers or sailors. Candidates in time of peace must have served in some military or civil capacity for at least twentyfive years, but in time of war conspicuous bravery or severe wounds are frequently rewarded with an appointment. In France it is necessary to pass through the inferior grades to receive the higher decorátions.

On the obverse of the white, fiverayed, enamelled cross is a female head representing the Republic, and underneath is the motto, "Republique Francaise, 1870," and on the reverse two crossed fiags with the motto, "Honneur et Patrie." The cross is suspended by a wreath, half of oak and half of laurel leaves. The ribbon is watered scarlet silk. The military members receive a pension-3,000 francs for the first class, 2,000 for the second, 1,000 for the third, 500 for the fourth, and 250 for the fifth. Besides there are 40,000 medals distributed among the rank and file of the army, and each medal entitles the holder to 100 francs a year. The distributions of honors of the order are made each year for military members on the parade ground, and in the Supreme Court for the civilians. No thember can be submitted to an ignoble punishment while he remains a member, but the honor may be stripped from him if a member renders himself unworthy of the honor bestowed. The total annual expenditure of the order is seven million francs, and education is given free to four hundred daughters, sisters and nieces of members.

The vast number of the members and the insignificance of some of them has deteriorated from the values of the decoration in the past, but in 1872 a law was passed to reduce the number by giving only one decoration for every two vacancies in the ranks of the civilians, and for every three or four in the military and naval ranks. There are still over fifty thousand members.

The honor of the decoration has been conferred on several Canadians in recent years. To accept this honor, however, it is necessary to receive the permission Among the Canadian members at the Russia is aware that the Church, far present time are Sir Wilfrid Laurier, grand officer; Sir L. A. Jette, Lieuten- is a paid Government agent, and has Messrs. Hector Fabre, Canadian Commissioner in Paris; ex-Mayor H. Beau- Catholic Church never would and never grand, Hon. Raoul Dandurand, Dr. Louis Frechette, Mr. Justice Pag orders from the head of the State that Judge Chauveau, Mgr. J. C. K. Judge Chauveau, Mgr. J. C. K. Laflamme, Dr. E. P. Lachapelle, Dr. A. Brodeur, Hon Adelard Turgeon, Fhilippe Hebert, G. E. Franklyn, A. D. Decelles, Lieut.-Col. Gourdeau, Dr. Guerin and Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux.-Ex.



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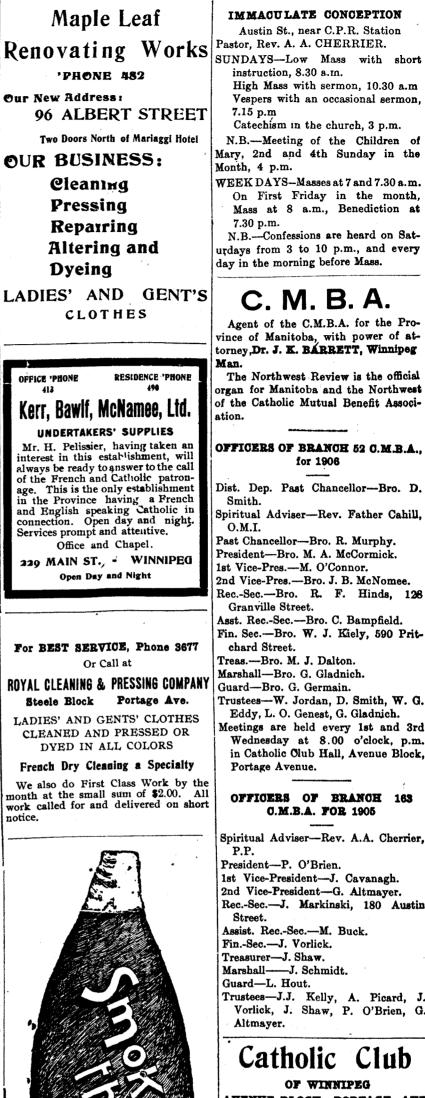
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ing of establishments, and by narrowing the scope of the Holy Synod to the smallest compass." Despite this menial and unworthy position which it holds in the State, the Russian Church teaches that it is the only true Church in Christendom and that it is infallible. "Cultured Russians, and even the most patriotic, treat the pretensions of the Russian Church with disdain," says Mr. Barker, "especially as these pretensions are all the more astonishing in view of the peculiar relations which exist be- GO TO tween Church and State in Russia; of the king, but this is readily granted. for even the most casual observer in from being an independent institution,



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