

order to assist in detecting the murderers of the police inspector on the first day, and that there ought to be some sort of a bargain between Mr. Thomas and himself—Mr. Thomas to find evidence in Ireland against the earlier murders and Mr. Lloyd George to investigate seriously the charge against the later murderers. The first absurdity here is the offensive insinuation that anything has been, or is ever in the least likely to be, lacking on Mr. Thomas's part in the discharge of every British citizen's ordinary duty of helping the police to detect crime whenever called on to do so. More unpardonable still is the unmistakable suggestion that the discharge of the Government's elementary duty of preventing men in its uniform from murdering innocent workmen may rightly be in some degree conditional on the discharge of a quite distinct duty, in a different case, by a private citizen with whom the Premier finds himself fencing in Parliament. Mr. Lloyd George certainly promised some sort of inquiry into the Mallow murders, but he made the promise almost worthless by avowing in the same speech that his Government still shirks publishing the Strickland Report on the incendiaryism by irregular police at Cork. He talked as if there had been some sort of drastic effort to restore discipline, or, at any rate, reduce the frequency of felony in the public service, after the Strickland inquiry. The Mallow murders show what the effort was worth. The whole record of arson and murder, in rivalry with the arson and murder of the private criminals of Ireland, from Balbriggan to Mallow, shows that unhappily these secret investigations by the superior officers of the criminals involved, and the "very severe measures" declared by Mr. Lloyd George to follow them, have been ineffectual as deterrents. But really so long as the Government has the responsibility for the notorious "Weekly Summary," with its obvious encouragement to crime among the Irish guerrilla police, it is hardly worth while to discuss the measure of seriousness in the Premier's faint and equivocal disclaimers. A Government that allows its officials to circulate incentives to misconduct among its own armed forces can only pass, among the other Governments of the world, as a Government of bad character, not their own equal, and not to be regarded as a desirable friend. It is chiefly in the case of America that this rapid loss of caste is immediately injuring our national interests. Contempt for our Government's performance in Ireland is visibly lessening from month to month, the chance of that substantial solidarity of the English-speaking nations which held out a few years ago, the best hope for our national safety and for the world's peace. But, in the eyes of every other civilized nation as well, we are going downhill, and they look on and wonder how far we shall go down this slope that Prussia has travelled to the bottom.—The Manchester Guardian, Feb. 18.

## DIVORCE PROHIBITION

### FATHER O'GORMAN REPLIES TO COMMENTS ON ANTI-DIVORCE PAMPHLETS

Toronto Daily Star, Feb. 19  
Rev. J. J. O'Gorman, D.C.L., of Ottawa, who recently issued an appeal for opposition to establishment of divorce courts in Canada, today contributed a further statement on the subject to The Star, as follows:  
A month ago copies of a pamphlet "Divorce in Canada, An Appeal to Protestants," were sent out by the publishers, the Catholic Truth Society of Canada, to the press. At the request of The Star I will now consider some of the characteristic comments the appeal elicited. Its reception has been, with few exceptions, courteous and conciliatory. I am convinced that an understanding between Catholics and Protestants on this vital national issue is as possible as it is necessary. A beginning has been made: I think it should be followed up by both sides. When we finally exhaust the common ground of agreement and arrive face to face with fundamental religious differences, we can agree to disagree in peace.

#### CHARACTERISTIC EDITORIAL COMMENTS

On January 24 The Toronto Star contained a two column summary of the pamphlet, and the other Toronto dailies gave about a column apiece.  
A Canadian Press despatch, dated from Toronto the same day, announced the launching of the appeal.  
On January 24, the Mail and Empire, in an editorial congratulating the Prime Minister's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Melgion, on their golden wedding, made the following pertinent comment:  
"Will occasions for golden weddings be fewer fifty years hence than they are now? The progress of medical science in its war against disease and the increasing knowledge of the laws of health give us reason to expect that the average length of life will be extended. But what about the growing volume of business to be despatched by divorce courts? It is no less than alarming, and we hope that Rev. Dr. O'Gorman's Appeal to Protestants to control the divorce evil may lead to good results."

FEARED POLITICAL CAPITAL  
Next day (Jan. 25) the Toronto World viewed the question from the

political angle: "Rev. Dr. O'Gorman is quite within his rights in publishing a pamphlet on the subject of divorce in Canada, and he has committed no offense in securing the imprimatur or approval of Archbishop McNeil."  
"Whether its publication at this particular time be expedient is another question. We would not be surprised to see this pamphlet referred to in the West Peterboro election, and, indeed, given a free translation by a number of people who have not or will not take the trouble to read it."  
The World's fears are groundless. West Peterboro concerned itself with other questions. The divorce court bills of the last two sessions were merely private bills. The Government has no intention of introducing a divorce bill. It will appear before parliament again as a private member's bill, and hence is not a party or political issue.



HIS EMINENCE DENNIS J. CARDINAL DOUGHERTY

The Anglican organ, the Canadian Churchman (Jan. 27), entirely agrees with the thesis upheld, but states its unwillingness to co-operate with Catholics owing to the Quebec mixed marriage question.  
The Hamilton Herald (editorial of Feb. 5) thinks that the pamphlet asked for too much. It says:  
"Any arguments against the proposal (to establish divorce courts) are timely and worthy of attention, for the question is a debatable one. But it is rather late in the day to go further and start an agitation against the institution of divorce."

#### THE PROHIBITION OF DIVORCE

The immediate question which will be before parliament this session is, undoubtedly whether greater facilities should be granted for the obtaining of divorce for adultery, the increased facility being in this case, divorce courts for Ontario and Prince Edward Island. But before deciding for or against greater facilities, one must first agree as to whether the thing to be facilitated be good or evil. Now everybody admits that divorce is an evil. Apart altogether from religion, ethics condemn it as against the interests of the family and of him for whom the family chiefly exists, namely, the child. The most that any of its defenders claim is that it is, as the Hamilton Herald put it in the above-mentioned editorial, "sometimes a necessary evil."

Half of Christendom, on the other hand, claims that it is so evil that it can never be necessary. But whether a necessary or unnecessary evil, it should be restricted as much as possible. Here again everybody agrees. If we have within recent years prohibited by drastic laws things in themselves good, though dangerous, such as wine and whiskey, the idea of prohibiting a thing admitted by all to be evil, should not appear too radical. In any case, since divorce is evil it seems only reasonable to propose some form of restrictive legislation which if it does not immediately destroy, will at least diminish, this evil. In the pamphlet one such suggestion was proposed or rather repeated, for I lay claim to no novel views on this question.

#### MAKES ADULTERY PENAL OFFENSE

Will Parliament pass a law condemning to the penitentiary for a period of years a wife or a husband convicted of adultery by a divorce court? This would be but slight punishment for the injury done to the State through the disruption of a Canadian family. Men are sent there for much less. By this effective quarantine the divorce disease would be controlled. After various restrictive laws had been for some time in force, public opinion, if sufficiently organized on this question, would ultimately sanction the total prohibition of divorce.

There is nothing to prevent a Protestant who believes that divorce for adultery is not against the law of God, from voting in favor of a measure which would make it

against the law of Canada. Christ expressly sanctioned the use of wine; yet we have passed a law forbidding its use, because it is considered by the majority that the general use of wine today is not for the common good. Even if it be admitted (with the Catholic Church) that I hold it cannot) that Christ for their hardness of heart suffered His disciples to put away their wives on account of fornication. He certainly did not command them to do so. If we have passed a law forbidding wine at the wedding feast, we can pass a law forbidding divorce after the wedding feast.

When Christianity came into the world both slavery and divorce were incorporated into the social structure. Christianity tolerated slavery; instead of abolishing it at once by a social cataclysm it taught a moral code which must ultimately result, as it did, in the abolition of slavery. Admit or suppose that Christ toler-

#### A GRIEVANCE DISPELLED

Certain Protestants had two other grievances against Quebec, which are likewise disposed of by this remarkable decision of the law lords of the privy council. The first was that a Protestant minister might not validly marry two Catholics. I fail to see wherein this was a grievance. At any rate the privy council upsets a number of Quebec decisions and decides that a Protestant minister is qualified by law to marry two Catholics. It was doubtless the intention of the framers of article 127 of the civil code of Quebec to recognize the matrimonial impediments in force in 1866 in the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish churches; and Quebec judges have so interpreted this law in their decisions; however, this article is so poorly worded that the privy council does not give it this interpretation. In view of other articles of the code which seem to take no cognizance of it. Since February 11, 1921, a Protestant minister in Quebec is empowered by the law of the land to marry two Catholics. That grievance, if grievance it were, now disappears.

The final and perhaps greatest grievance against Quebec was that the ecclesiastical courts of the Catholic Church determined the canonical validity of the marriage of Catholics by the canon law of the Catholic Church. Now the recent decision of the Privy Council, as cable news, expressly denies this Catholic procedure. "The law does not interfere in any way with the jurisdiction of any ecclesiastical courts of the Catholic religion over members of that community so far as questions of conscience are concerned but it gives them no civil operation. Whether persons so affected choose to recognize those decrees or not is a matter of individual choice and concerns themselves alone." Hence if one Catholic or two Catholics be married outside of the Catholic Church, and afterwards desire to have the marriage canonically recognized, he or they must first fulfill the conditions laid down by the Catholic Church as pre-requisite. These conditions involve, not the disruption of the union, an idea condemned by the Council of Trent as scandalous, but its complete ecclesiastical validation. The Catholic Church, the privy council admits, "has the inherent power . . . to decide the conditions upon which one may remain a member of that community." This disposes of all the objection that was raised to the No Temere.

#### CO-OPERATION POSSIBLE

Now that the objections of some to co-operate with Catholics against divorce, based upon the Quebec and Catholic marriage laws, have been disposed of by no less an authority than the judicial committee of the privy council, the time is opportune for a combined effort against the divorce evil. It may be useful to summarize first of all our points of agreement as evinced by the recent "appeal to Protestants."  
The consensus of opinion is opposed, first of all, to any extension of the grounds for divorce. The social service council of Canada issued a resolution to that effect at its London session on January 24, 1921. Secondly, a similar consensus views with concern any increase in the number of divorces and is generally opposed to granting greater facilities for divorce. That the establishment of a divorce would grant greater facilities for divorce is pretty generally realized. It will be remembered that it was principally because "the establishment of such a court will tend to destroy the stability of the home and encourage the dissolution of the marriage tie," that the legislature of Prince Edward Island unanimously passed a resolution against the establishment of divorce courts. Mr. Nickle, the member of Parliament who fathered the unsuccessful divorce bill of 1919, admitted quite frankly that it was "to facilitate divorce." Everywhere in the world the establishment of divorce courts has increased divorce. Six times more divorces are granted by divorce courts in one year in England than were granted in over 300 years (1534-1857) by acts of Parliament.

RELEASED, NOT RE-LEASE  
It has been the same in Canada. At Confederation, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and when it entered, British Columbia, had divorce courts. Ontario and Quebec, then as now,

had none. There were, from 1867-1887, only 26 parliamentary divorces in Ontario and Quebec, while there were no less than 109 judicial divorces in the other three provinces whose combined population was less than Ontario's alone. From 1906-1918 the ratio of parliamentary divorces in Ontario, Quebec and the prairie provinces (which then had no divorce courts) was 1 divorce for every 23,992 persons, not each year, but for the whole fourteen years; during the same period the ratio of judicial divorces in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and British Columbia was 1 divorce for every 3,254 persons. The refusal to grant a divorce may occasion an individual hardship but, as Rev. Byron Stauffer said in a recent interview published in The Star: "Far better have a few people suffer vicariously than have our homes disrupted." As G. K. Chesterton put it in one of his latest books, "The Superstition of Divorce," the innocent party in extreme cases has a right to release, but not to release spelled with a hyphen.

If those opposed to divorce organized, as the temperance people organized, not merely would the third attempt to establish divorce courts by a private bill fail this session (as it doubtless will, if they take any interest in the matter at all), but something practical would be done to check the swamping of the Senate and of divorce courts with application for the dissolution of marriage. It will, I think, be universally admitted that it is simply scandalous that acts of parliament or decrees of courts should reward adulterers or adulteresses by permitting them to re-marry. Far better have adultery declared a penal offense.

This might be the first step in a progressive series of restrictive legislation which would first of all reduce to nigh negligible proportions the number of divorces applications and thus pave the way for complete prohibitive legislation. If nothing is done, there is grave danger that the senate should tire of dealing with the mass of new war applications for divorce, and simply to get rid of treating a plague that may be as transitory as influenza establish a permanent means of encouraging it. What would follow in Ontario from the establishment of a divorce court may be deduced from the appalling record of the recently established court in Manitoba. In the present abnormal period through which we are passing, we may have as many as one hundred parliamentary divorces annually for Ontario. Establish a divorce court in Ontario and then we shall have not one hundred divorces a year, but soon one thousand a year. As was said in last year's Senate debate: "We have to face a tidal wave of divorces cases, but it is only a passing and exceptional surge due to special, extraordinary and well known causes. Are we going to accept the notion that to face a transient evil we should enact a lasting harm? The muddy flood will recede, but the impairment of our social system would stay."

JOHN J. O'GORMAN.

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## CATHOLIC NEWS

### FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD

PARIS CABLE  
(By N. C. W. C. Special Cable)  
Paris, Mar. 7.—A great gathering of French cardinals and archbishops was held last week in Paris. The deliberations were presided over by Cardinal Andrieu, in the absence of Cardinal Luçon, dean of the hierarchy, who is ill. The subject of the deliberations was not made public, but it is indubitable that the prelates debated the future legal status of the Church in France, and considered the guarantees that must be asked from the State if negotiations are undertaken after the restoration of the embassy to the Vatican with the purpose of solving by conciliation the difficulties raised by the Separation Bill.

PRELATES DECORATED  
General Humbert, Governor of Strasbourg, in the presence of the garrison troops, conferred the rosette of an officer of the Legion of Honor on Bishop Ruch, of Strasbourg, former military chaplain of the twentieth French army corps. Bishop Biney, of Soissons, former military chaplain, has been knighted. Monsignor Charcot, Coadjutor of Rennes and formerly Bishop of Lille, received in Lille the Star of the Legion of Honor from De La Salle, who was Mayor of Lille during the occupation. The ceremonies were attended by manifestations of gratitude to the courageous bishops on the part of the population.

#### DUBLIN CABLE

(By N. C. W. C. Special Cable)  
Dublin, Mar. 7.—The commercial boycott, being carried on by the Catholics of Ireland in protest against the treatment of their co-religionists in Belfast, is having a grave effect upon many parts of Ulster. Belfast's commercial outlook daily grows more depressing, and fears prevail in the north that, when partition is actually attempted, conditions will become worse. A prominent publicist states that no Belfast goods now find their way into any Catholic home north or south. Industrial proprietors in Derry are showing extreme anxiety, as the prosperity of Derry depends largely on the adjoining Catholic county of Donegal which may refuse to continue trading with Derry when it goes under the northern parliament.

## ANTI-PARTITION LEAGUE FORMED

Unionists in the south of Ireland have formed an anti-partition league, which has just protested to the British Government against the Partition Act. A remarkable article appears in this week's Church of Ireland Gazette, the official organ of southern Protestantism, calling upon all creeds to unite in preserving an undivided nation.—COX.

#### LONDON CABLE

(By N. C. W. C. Special Cable)  
London, March, 7.—American Catholics saved hundreds of missions from ruin during the War period, said the Acting Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, reviewing the work of the American Society for the past six years at a conference held at the cardinal's house, Westminster. The director pointed out that, at the outbreak of the War, the central office in Paris found itself in peculiar difficulties, because hostilities had cut it off from several countries, large subscribers' exchange was adverse, and money was hard to transmit. The American branch of the society, under the direction of Monsignor Fretz, rose immediately to the need, and made a national appeal which saved hundreds of missions from ruin. The British director declared that the English Mill Hill Society was able to carry on during the War chiefly owing to the assistance of American Catholics who subscribed forty-seven thousand dollars to the work.

#### AMERICA'S GENEROUS HELP

Out of two millions distributed by the Propagation of the Faith, American Catholics subscribed more than eight hundred thousand. The Catholics of America, said the director, have given a lead to the Catholics of the world; and England gladly and willingly pays tribute to America's immense services to the missions of the Church.

#### ROME CABLE

Pope Benedict conferred the red hat on Most Rev. Dennis J. Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia, Wednesday, March 9; and on Thursday His Grace received the red hat at the public consistory. Archbishop Dougherty was received by the Holy Father with the warmest greeting, and later met important officials of the Vatican. His nomination as cardinal was given to Monsignor Dougherty at the American College on Monday. He has already been the recipient of visits and congratulations from many notable ecclesiastics.

#### CARDINAL BOURNE IN ROME

Cardinal Bourne has arrived in Rome, announcing that he has come to attend the consistory, to meet and exchange fraternal greetings with the two German archbishops who are to be elevated to the cardinalate. Most Rev. Karl Joseph Schuler, of Cologne, and Most Rev. Michael Faulhaber, of Munich. Both these German metropolitans are here. It is known that the Holy Father expects this consistory to be the occasion of intercourse and conciliation between the ecclesiastical leaders of the various belligerent countries.

#### RUTHENIAN METROPOLITAN

Most Rev. Andrew Szptycki, Ruthenian Metropolitan of Lvov, has left Rome on his way to Belgium and England and subsequently will visit the United States. He took with him from the Holy Father a letter expressing the Holy See's benevolence toward the Ruthenian people, and informing them of the re-opening of the Ruthenian College at Rome. Before the War this college was supported by the Austro-Hungarian Government, but now the Pope will contribute the funds necessary to its existence.

#### WILSON CRITICIZED

In the Osservatore Romano appears an article sharply censuring the work of former President Wilson, recalling his opposition to the Pope's pacific proposals, and declaring that the present peace proves the failure of his own fourteen points, and the insufficiency of the peace defended by him.

## THE NEW SESSION

### NOT PROMISING FOR IRELAND

Prudence has got the better of valour, and it is pretty plain that whatever perilous and controversial issues the Government may face during the coming session the reconstruction of the House of Lords will not be one of them. This measure has been so loudly proclaimed and so insistently demanded in a large part of the Unionist press that the reference to it in the King's Speech must come as a sad damper to all this enthusiasm for putting the House of Commons in its proper place. Well might Mr. Asquith be sarcastic on the subject: "A more modest aspiration couched in more diffident terms and suffused with a more pronounced tinge of ultimate distrust I think has never been put into the mouth of the Sovereign." We should wait, he justly observed, but we should not see. He raised no lament, and certainly neither shall we. It is otherwise with the question of Ireland. There inaction is ruinous, and the need of a constructive and healing policy is overwhelming. Nothing of the kind is foreshadowed in the Speech, which laments the continuance of violence, as we all profoundly lament it, but omits to note that lawlessness is not the monopoly of those who are rebelling against constituted authority, but is equally and more disastrously shared by the agents of

authority themselves. It is plain from the subsequent debate that whatever leanings Mr. Lloyd George may at any time have indulged towards a policy of pacification otherwise than by martial law and the gentle persuasion of the Black and Tans he has now completely abandoned. He laid down the impossible condition that the surrender of arms must precede any sort of negotiation, and repeated the well-worn assurance that force was in fact proving to be quite a satisfactory remedy, and that only a little patience was needed in order that we might see the end of all the trouble without more ado. Meanwhile, by way of showing the impatience of the Government, he definitely declines to publish the Strickland Report on the burning of Cork. It is a sorry business, and Mr. George has only to go on long enough in his toleration of Black and Tan infamies and his refusal of all real redress in order to make reconciliation impossible in our generation. Ireland, it would seem, no longer interests him. His thoughts range nearer home—on Cardigan perhaps, on the terms of his compact with the Tory side of the Coalition. That is an agreement which will certainly have to be honoured. Whatever else may fail this session, the Anti-Dumping and Key Industries Bill cannot be allowed to fail. The whole session, indeed, looks as though it might be mainly employed in dealing with one aspect or another of the economic problem.—Manchester Guardian.

## MOTHER MACHREE

There's a spot in me heart which no colleen may own,  
There's a depth in me soul never sounded or known;  
There's a place in my mem'ry, my life that you fill,  
No other can take it, no one over will.  
Sure, I love the dear silver that shines in your hair,  
And the brow that's all furrowed and wrinkled with care.  
I kiss the dear fingers so tollwren for me,  
Oh, God bless you and keep you Mother Machree!  
Ev'ry sorrow or care in the dear days gone by  
Was made bright by the light of the smile in your eye.  
Like a candle that's set in a window at night,  
Your fond love has cheered and guided me right.  
—RITA JOHNSON YOUNG

## FATHER FRASER'S CHINA MISSION FUND

There are four hundred million pagans in China. If they were to pass in review at the rate of a thousand a minute, it would take nine months for them all to go by. Thirty-three thousand of them die daily un baptized! Missionaries are urgently needed to go to their rescue.  
China Mission College, Almonte Ontario, Canada, is for the education of priests for China. It has already twenty-two students, and many more are applying for admittance. Unfortunately funds are lacking to accept them all. China is crying out for missionaries. They are ready to go. Will you send them? The salvation of millions of souls depends on your answer to this urgent appeal. His Holiness the Pope blesses benefactors, and the students pray for them daily.  
A Bursar of \$5,000 will support a student in perpetuity. Help to complete the Burses.  
Gratefully yours in Jesus and Mary  
J. M. FRASER.

## QUEEN OF APOTHEOSIS BURSAR

Previously acknowledged \$1,983 47  
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A Friend, Halifax, N. S..... 2 00

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