

## PASTORAL LETTER

OF HIS LORDSHIP, MSGR. A. PASCAL, O. M. I., D. D.,  
BISHOP OF PRINCE ALBERT.

*Albert, by the Grace of God and the Authority of the Holy  
Apostolic See, Bishop of Prince Albert.*

*To the Clergy and the Faithful of our diocese, greeting and bene-  
diction in the Lord.*

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN:

Before leaving our diocese to pay our official and filial respects to the Supreme Father of Christendom, we wish to bring to your attention and enlist your hearty and generous co-operation in its solution, a problem which is of the greatest importance for the welfare of the Church in our diocese, and which has, for a long time occupied our earliest and prayerful thought. It is the problem of providing for the education of thoroughly Catholic teachers for our schools and of enabling our Catholic young men to fit themselves for their future careers by a course in higher education without any danger of compromising their Holy Faith or the integrity of their Christian morals.

The awful war just ended demonstrates, better than any words of ours, the dangers of merely secular education when not guided by truly Christian principles. It shows that intellectual development and modern inventions may be either a great blessing or great curse to mankind. It proves also the truth of the old claim of the Church that science fails to save and civilize the world, when divorced from religion and morality.

Never has there been a greater need of truly educated men than there is to-day. Never has there been a greater desire for, and appreciation of learning. Never have there been offered so many and so great opportunities for learning. Catholics have never been behind in the search for learning. In fact the Church has been, for ages, and is still the champion and custodian of secular knowledge, as well as of revealed truth. She has founded by far the greater number of universities in Europe. Out of one hundred and forty-eight universities in Europe, Catholics have founded one hundred and seventeen.

The words of Bishop O'Dwyer of Limerick apply to Canada as well as to Ireland: "What we want at the head of our popular movements are a few men of intellect and high culture, and throughout the country a large body of really educated men." What the country needs, and what the Church needs during these troubled times is able and sane leaders. What gives great leaders to a country? What develops great minds for great problems? It is higher education.