

martyrs marks the steps of zealous priests, brothers and nuns, who, indifferent to worldly comfort, or to life itself, have labored for the conversion of that great country. In good report and evil report, with no popular acclaim or personal exploitation, these men and women have forsaken all to carry the good tidings of Redemption and salvation to the teeming hordes, who have for so many centuries lain under the incubus of pagan superstitions, and who are only now awakening to a knowledge of their own dignity and power as human beings.

AT THE BEGINNING of the present century (we quote in substance from the League leaflet) there were about 700,000 Catholics in China. These were the result of the labors of the missionaries, who were ever handicapped by the difficulties of language and pagan customs in the work of bringing souls to God. The Boxer Movement of 1900 inflicted great suffering upon the struggling Church and (it is perhaps difficult for us to realize it) no less than five bishops, fifty-seven priests, twenty-one brothers, eleven nuns, and twenty-five thousand native Catholics were martyred for the Faith. As in the first ages, however, the blood of these has become the seed of the Church. Catholics to-day in China number 1,800,000 souls, and in the very centres of persecution Catholic communities have sprung up under the leadership of the persecutors themselves, or their descendants.

THE WORLD WAR has, we are further reminded, greatly affected the missions in China. France which, despite the apostasy of its Government, has always been the great mainstay of the cause, has drawn heavily upon the ranks of the missionaries, and many zealous laborers, obedient to the call of country, have returned to Europe to take their place as chaplains and as soldiers in the trenches. The decreased funds, too, owing to the inevitable falling-off of contributions to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, to which France has given so generously in the past, has been a serious setback to the zealous laborers in this vast field. Hence the appeal from our Holy Father for earnest prayers during this month of November that the work of conversion may go on with increasing success.

AMONG THE SAINTS on the calendar for the present month, St. John of the Cross occupies a high place. A Carmelite, and an associate of Saint Teresa in the work of reform of that great Order of which the latter was the divinely-chosen instrument, St. John shares with her the veneration of the whole Catholic world. Born in Spain in the year 1542, his early life was spent in the service of the sick in the hospitals. He entered the Carmelite Order in his twentieth year, and it was because of the eminent holiness of his life as a religious that St. Teresa chose him as her collaborator in the work of reform upon which she had embarked. He endured much persecution even from his own brethren, and to his extraordinary austerities were joined great interior trials of the spirit, so that his life throughout was characterized by entire sacrifice of self. He died in 1591. His writings, "The Ascent of Carmel," and the "Dark Night of the Soul," are of the highest order of ascetical theology, and he one of the glories of the Church in Spain.

IT HAS BEEN remarked that one reason why some politicians fail is because they accept too standards of truth and honor, known respectively as Political Morality and Private Morality. This code has held sway in varying degrees since the days of Machiavelli, when there was no public press, and intrigue was rife among the nations. To Machiavelli is attributed the maxim that a ruler need never hesitate to dissemble, and that in given circumstances an act of fraud, cruelty or breach of faith is not only necessary, but statesmanlike. Frederick the Great, the real founder of the modern German Empire, was also an adept in this code, and we see the results in the Germany of today. Devoutly let it be hoped that the outcome of the present conflict may be its abolition forever from the realms of statecraft.

The oldest peal of bells anywhere in the United States hangs in the Moorish belfry of the Spanish cathedral of St. Augustine, Florida, and bears the date of 1682.

ON THE BATTLE LINE

ITALY'S DISASTER

Berlin and Rome announce an Italian defeat of magnitude, the full effects of which are not yet calculable. The former claims the capture of 100,000 prisoners and 700 guns, the retreat of the Second and Third Italian Armies, and the advance of the Teutonic forces on a line from the mountains to the sea.—Globe Oct. 29.

These figures were later increased to 180,000 prisoners and 1,500 guns.

WASHINGTON VIEW

Italy's greatest industrial centres are in the north, and the ability of the German invaders to spread their tentacles over any wide stretch of that region would prove a blow from which it would be difficult, if not impossible, for the country to recover. It would not only cripple Italy industrially, but the possession of these centres would be almost as important for Germany as is that country's possession of those of Belgium and the French coal mines east of Verdun.

The exigencies of the Italian situation are regarded by some observers here as disclosing and emphasizing the importance of the creation by the Entente Allies of some central form of international General Staff for the rest of the War. Much has been said about the appeals of Italy to the Entente and to this country for assistance during the past few months, and there is some chagrin in Entente military circles here that the dangers lurking in the upper valleys of the Isonzo were not detected and guarded against sufficiently before this invasion began.—N. Y. Times.

THE WEST FRONT

Berlin hastens to announce a voluntary withdrawal on the Aisne Front in these words: "Unnoticed and undisturbed by the enemy, we systematically withdrew our lines from the hilly front of the Chemin des Dames last night (Thursday)." This announcement follows quickly upon the statement published in a London Times cable to The Globe yesterday, in which General Ardenne, a noted German critic, was quoted as preparing the mind of the people for such a step. The General chided in advance "pessimists" who might find fault with the retirements on the Western front, and argued that such measures could "well arise from the intention to entice the enemy forward." The fact is that this retirement was inevitable in view of the recent victories gained by the French along the Aisne and the victories of the British on the Ypres front.

ARMY CHAPLAINS' FUND

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Enclosed is copy of account of Chaplains' Service Fund in detail from its inception to Oct. 1st, 1917. I propose to send a report home in this way from time to time. You will notice that the Chapel Tents for the Front are not mentioned. This is because the bill has not been sent us, though the tents have been despatched.

Looking at the account in a general way, the great help the Fund has assured us, is quite obvious. Mass and Sacraments have been provided in many instances to scattered Units through the offices of civilian or officiating clergymen. Various Huts have been outfitted as Chapels, which means the bringing of a little church into the midst of the men in their camps. Prayer Books and Bibles have been issued in large numbers. So far, in fact, apart from the item for a billiard table in the Catholic Hut at Bramshott and the building of a small annex to this same Hut, all monies have gone towards providing means and helps for the spiritual well-being of our men. We have been pioneers in the matter of furnishing certificates of "Reception of the Sacraments" to the men. (See item.) These are often sent home for the consolation of parents, and again are often found on the glorious dead, and then also sent home.

We, too, have instituted the system of putting a tag on all dangerously wounded who have been administered by the Chaplain in the Line, so that Chaplains in Clearing Stations and Hospitals know what has been done, and can devote time to those not tagged, etc. (See item.)

Of course the item about which we are most pleased "Chapel Tents for the Front" will not appear till next month. I am sure you will let the Knights and the Catholic public know what a "God send" their help has been to our men.

LT. COL. (REV.) W. T. WORKMAN, M.C., Office of Director Chaplain Services, Overseas Military Forces of Canada, Oxford Circus House, 245 Oxford St., London, W.1.

CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS' FUND ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS

	By cheque	£ s d
June 7	By cheque	10 7 5
" 9	"	21 18
" 9	"	62 12 11
July 13	"	21 18
Aug. 13	By cheque	1041 13 3
	(\$5,000)	95 3
Sept. 19	By cheque	52 11 5
		1233 14 8

DISBURSEMENTS

	By cheque	£ s d
June 18	Cheque Book	2 1
" 20	Western Union	

Cable Co. (Cable for Chplns.)

June 26 Rev. J. Symior, (Officiating clgy. Svcs. Folkestone) 14

June 27 Capt. J. Knox, (chapel furnishings Bramshott) 17

July 5 Rev. T. White, (Officiating clgy. Svcs. Bagshot) 20

Rev. P. Curtin (Officiating clgy. Svcs. Taplow, Expenses incurred 1915-6.) 110

Miss Orwin, Sec. C. W. L. (Towards Billiard Table, Bramshott, Hut Cath. Women's League) 12

Rev. Fr. French, (310 francs) (Beads and Tags for wounded) 10

Western Union Cable Co. (To Bp. Fallon for Chplns.) 11 6 7

July 8 R. & T. Washbourne, Ltd., (5 gr. beads & 7 doz. medals) 14

July 11 St. Clements Press, (Printing Cards for Dominion Day Service.) 9 15 5

July 13 Rev. J. Symior, (Officiating clgy. Svcs. Folkestone) 14 6

July 17 Rev. Fr. French, (altar-stone) 1

Rev. Fr. French, (60 francs) (Communion Certificates) 11 10

H. J. Ryman (Rubber Stamp, Cath. Chaplain's Fund) 2 8 8

Western Union Cable Coy. (Cable to Bp. Fallon.) 1 6

Aug. 9 Capt. F. P. White, for altar requisites 16

Capt. T. P. Hussey, for altar requisites 14 7

Capt. C. A. Fallon, for altar requisites 14 7

Capt. E. Hawks, for altar requisites 14 7

Aug. 15 Major W. H. Hingston, for Brighton chapel: stipend to priest, taxi for priest supplying and Capt. R. McDonald to Mitchell 14 7

Capt. T. O'Sullivan, for enlarging Cath. chapel at No. 2 Can. Gen. Hosp. Le Treport 9 17 6

Aug. 17 R. & T. Washbourne Ltd., R. C. Prayer Books for Capt. Fallon and McPherson 50

Burns & Oates, for prayer books 8

Aug. 20 Cheque book 1 4

Capt. Crochetiere, altar furnishings, Witely 2 1

Sept. 6 A. W. Gammage, Ltd., flags & decorations for Church Hut, Shoreham 13

Sept. 8 R. & T. Washbourne Ltd., Church furnishings, Purfleet 3 1

J. G. Ford & Son Ltd., Altar wine for Purfleet 4 11 7

Burns & Oates Ltd., Missal for Ontario Mil. Hosp., Orpington 6 10

R. & T. Washbourne, Ltd., 50 prayer books for Esher 15

Rev. J. Connolly, Officiating clgy. Svcs. Bearwood 5 6

Sept. 10 Capt. J. P. Fallon, repairs Sandling church 5

Sept. 12 Miss Mahoney, enlargement Bramshott C. W. L. Hut 2 2

Rev. F. O'Farrell, Expenses Bldg. Fund, Bramshott Chapel 50

Sept. 13 Rev. J. Symior, prayer books & services, Folkestone 5 9

Major Casgrain, Services at Esher 7 10

Capt. R. MacDonald, Bldg. & Furnishings Cath. Hut, Witely 9 9

Sept. 25 R. & T. Washbourne Ltd., rosaries, altar requisites & directory 56 13

Selfridges Ltd., curtains, purfleet church 4 13 8

Sept. 27 Burns & Oates, catechisms 3 6 8

Sept. 29 Rev. J. Symior, Polish prayer books & Expenses for services at Folkestone 2 7

Credit Balance 944 5 2

1233 14 8

Bank Pass Book Cr. 1306 1 3

Dr. 288 14 11

Outstanding chs. 1017 6 4

73 1 2

944 5 2

Total Receipts 1306 1 3

Total Expenses to date 361 16 1

Balance 944 5 2

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH EXTENSION SOCIETY OF CANADA

THE RUTHENIANS

A Convention of Presbyterian Ruthenians (fallen away for lack of priests) was held not long since, in Saskatoon, Sask. From the Convention the following conclusions were reached by the Presbyterian Church:

"1. That the Presbyterian Church, despite all obstacles, has gathered a substantial body of Ruthenian people and has at least been able to set their faces toward the gateway of spiritual freedom."

"2. That a very large body of these people recognize no church affiliation, but are as sheep without a shepherd AND AFFORD TO THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH THE GREATEST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY TO MISSIONARY ENTERPRISE."

"3. That there is an insistent demand by the people themselves for the education of their children and they are determined to take advantage of the best educational institu-

tions that the State provides."

The Catholic Church Extension Society is aiding Rev. Bishop Budka to keep his flock within the Fold.

We are giving substantial financial help for his School Home in Winnipeg, where young Ruthenians, the hope of the Church, are guarded from the enemy while attending the Jesuit College. Many of these youths will be Priests.

We have enabled the Bishop to buy seven lots in Saskatoon, on which will be erected with our help, A CHURCH, PRIMARY SCHOOL and SCHOOL HOME.

Another School Home is required at Canora. This will be commenced with God's help, next year.

This is the work of the Extension Society for which we ask your help. Without the generous contributions of the Catholic people of Canada we cannot do the impossible.

Send your contributions therefore for this holy work and be assured you are investing your money in a noble cause—the salvation of souls and here and hereafter your reward from God is assured.

REV. T. O'DONNELL, PRESIDENT, Catholic Church Extension, 67 Bond St., Toronto.

Let us look up and smile. If we can do this, we have reached with a bound the heart of Christian philosophy. I honor the soul that can and does smile through suffering; it seems to me that this is about the most sublime sight imaginable, for it takes a spirit refined and strengthened to struggle up to this grand height. And yet the world is full of such: Perhaps they are not about you; perhaps they are not about me. But our circles are circumscribed, and we do not know of the nobleness and sacrifice which is daily taking place. —Edwin Carlisle Litsey.

FATHER FRASER'S CHINESE MISSION

Taichowfu, China, Nov. 26, 1916.

Dear Readers of CATHOLIC RECORD: That your charity towards my mission is approved by the highest ecclesiastical authorities of Canada let me quote from a letter from His Excellency, The Most Rev. Peregrina F. Stagni, O. S. M., D. D., Apostolic Delegate, Ottawa: "I have been watching with much interest the contributions to the Fund opened on behalf of your missions by the CATHOLIC RECORD. The success has been very gratifying and shows the deep

interest which our Catholic people take in the work of the missionary in foreign lands. . . I bless you most cordially and all your labors, as a pledge my earnest wishes for your greatest success in all your undertakings." I entreat you to continue the support of my struggling mission, assuring you a remembrance in my prayers and Masses. Yours faithfully in Jesus and Mary J. M. FRASER

Previously acknowledged... \$11,858 70

Thos. Johnston, Northern Bay..... 1 00

Mrs. H. Donohue, St. Mary's Ferry..... 50

C. R. Agt..... 2 00

Subscriber, Fishburn.....	2 00
A. L., Ontario.....	3 00
R. C., Ontario.....	1 00
J. J. Schumacher, Walkerton.....	5 00
E. G. Mahon, Howick Stn.....	10 00
Anonymous, (E. I.).....	4 86
A Friend of the Sacred Heart.....	2 00
Alms for Deceased Parents	1 00
A Friend, Venosta.....	1 00
A Friend, Mabon.....	1 00
Two Friends, St. John's	5 00
M. Y., F. X., and A. M. M.	50
J. J. C., Winnipeg.....	20 00
Subscriber, Verdun, Que.	2 00
D. and F., Toronto.....	10 00
West Monkton, Ont.....	20 00

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"Shall Your Brethren Go to War and Shall Ye Sit Here?"

Numbers 32, 6.

So spake Moses to the children of Gad and of Reuben, when they pleaded to remain with their cattle, instead of going with the children of Israel, across the Jordan, to fight the battles of the Lord.

Moses was too much of a patriot and too astute a general to let their selfish interests interfere with the plans of the Lord, in taking the promised land for all the twelve tribes.

Moses knew what we realize to-day, that when the nation is at war all the people are at war; and all must do their share, fighting, or otherwise helping the nation to win.

What the people of Israel did to win the promised land—we in Canada must do to preserve Freedom, for the War has resolved itself into a life or death struggle between autocracy and the Freedom-Loving peoples of the earth.

The duty of every citizen at this moment, therefore, is to buy Canada's Victory Bonds, so that sufficient money to feed, clothe and equip and protect our fighting forces will be available.

By the efforts of each of us in buying Canada's Victory Bonds we steel their arms and nerve their hearts.

And when you buy Canada's Victory Bonds to the full extent of your ability and your self-denial—and not till then—will you have each discharged in this regard your full duty to yourself and to your country.

Be One of the First to Buy Canada's Victory Bonds when Offered in November

Issued by Canada's Victory Loan Committee in co-operation with the Minister of Finance of the Dominion of Canada