

## Persons and Facts

The Red River ice began to run out at 6 p.m. last Tuesday, April 14. This is three days before the average date for the last thirty years, viz., April 17. The water was not particularly high for this season and the ice was at most six inches thick and all in needles, running in small cakes.

Mr. John Joseph Atherton, just arrived from Walthamstow, London, E., has accepted a position with the Moore Printing Co.

A sea serpent, between forty and sixty feet long, with a big horse-like head, was seen by Mr. Godson, an officer of the cable station at Bamfield Creek, near Victoria, B. C., last week. An Indian, who also saw the sea serpent on April 10th, says its body was the size of a barrel.

Mrs. McIntyre and her son "Jim," with Mrs. and Miss Monchamp are shortly to return from their European trip. They stayed over in Rome for the Easter solemnities.

The University examinations for the faculties of arts and law begin next Monday and will continue till the Thursday of the following week.

The second quarterly meeting of the Belgische Vereeniging took place last week at St. Boniface. Dr. Dubuc was chosen as the official physician of this flourishing Belgian association, which immediately began to pay out sick benefit to one of its members who is ill at St. Boniface Hospital. The chaplain of the association submitted the draft of a petition, to be presented officially to His Grace Archbishop Langevin by the administrative council on the 26th inst., praying that a Flemish priest be appointed to the spiritual direction of the Flemish Catholics who now number two hundred. We have reason to know that His Grace favors this petition, and that the priest will probably reside at the Archbishop's House. How well known this Belgian association already is in Belgium may be gathered from the fact that the forty Flemish immigrants who arrived the other day in Winnipeg immediately inquired for the efficient secretary of the Vereeniging, Mr. Charles Menu, in order to get information from him as to their future location.

Mr. Cecil Wotherspoon, son of Mr. I. T. Wotherspoon, and grandson of the late Mr. Charles Duchesnay, was received into the Catholic Church in Montreal on Easter Sunday.

The new editor of the Catholic World, Father Burke, endeavored in the March number to undo the harm caused by the slur cast by his predecessor on the patriotism of U. S. Catholic schools. But, as the Review (of St. Louis) remarks, although he affirmed that "the parish schools are far more patriotic and more in accord with American ideas than the public schools," he did not mention Father Doyle's unfortunate article, nor the change of editor.

"Mrs. Margaret Lisle Shepherd, the notorious anti-Catholic lecturer who falsely claimed to be an escaped nun, died last month in Harper's Hospital, Detroit, during an operation for malignant cancer of the bowels. Though she knew she was going to die, she did not ask for a priest or spiritual consolation of any kind. Nor did she reveal the mystery of her life. Her last wish was that her body be cremated, which could not be fulfilled, because she did not leave enough money to pay the costs. Mrs. Shepherd was a gifted woman, but she prostituted her talents to the service of the Devil. Her lectures were not only anti-religious but immoral as well. We have always thought that she pandered to the lowest instincts of the masses out of pure greed for money. If that was the case, she failed, for it appears that she died penniless."—The Review (St. Louis), n. 12.

The nurses of St. Boniface Hospital have now a white uniform sprinkled over with blue maple leaves through which is interwoven the monogram, S.B.H. As this design covers the entire dress, the material being made in England, it will henceforth be impossible for any other nurses to pass themselves off as S.B.H. nurses without really having any claim to that coveted title.

The Carnduff Gazette man, who has an eye for art and fun, relates that, at a party in that neighborhood, out of 24 men present more than half took turns at playing the fiddle, and "most of them were good fiddlers too." This shows the all-round excellence of our settlers.

At a meeting of the city School Board last Tuesday evening Mr. Scroggie moved, seconded by Mr. Carman, that the Catholic school committee's request through Mr. F. W. Russell be referred to the school management committee, and that this committee meet such committee of the Catholic schools as may be detailed, to discuss the matter and report to the board at the next meeting, or as soon as possible. Mr. Haggart having suggested that the entire School Board be the committee appointed, this was seconded by Mr. Hubbard and adopted, Messrs. Scroggie and Carman withdrawing their motion.

All those who were present on Maundy Thursday evening in the cathedral agree that His Grace's sermon on the Blessed Eucharist was one of his most eloquent discourses. In a series of vivid pictures he pointed out the contrasts of Our Lord's sacramental life: sneered at as idolatry by ignorant aliens, adored and loved, by the best of men; neglected by unbelievers, misbelievers and careless Catholics, but the centre of the Church's liturgy, the final cause of all those majestic cathedrals of Europe, which, without the Real Presence, would never have been built; on the one hand, senseless gibes from witless men, on the other, the masterpieces of sacred eloquence and literature inspired by that mystery of faith and love.

A letter just received from Mrs. Monchamp by one of her relatives says that Mrs. McIntyre and Jim may be expected home about the 10th of May. They left Paris for London on April 1. Mrs. and Miss Monchamp will remain in Paris till April 25. Mrs. Monchamp reverts lovingly to their long private interview—25 minutes—with the Pope. She attributes the Holy Father's kindness to his wish to manifest his warm sympathy with Mgr. Langevin in his struggle for Catholic schools, of which Leo XIII. spoke to her. Our Archbishop had given her a letter for the Superior of the Canadian College in Rome, and it was through the latter's influence that the private audience was obtained under such favorable circumstances. While the venerable Pontiff's hand rested on Miss Monchamp's head he noticed that her voice was tearful, and he said, "Come now, my dear child, tell me if there is anything else I can do for you." She answered, "Holy Father, my own father is dead; do, please, remember him in your prayers, which are so powerful with God." "Yes, yes, my dear child, I promise you; for your papa, and also for your mamma. To both of them I give a special blessing and a double one to you both."

## Regina Notes

Holy Week and Easter Sunday were observed this year by Regina Catholics in a truly Catholic manner, judging by the crowds which attended every service. One very noticeable feature of every gathering those days is the large percentage of strangers who literally "through our gates." We are happy to state that our church is getting more than its usual percentage of adherents from amongst those new comers. Some are settling close to town and investing largely in farm land.

The largest price paid for a section (\$30 per acre) was given by Mr. D. McCusker, of Prescott, Ont.,

for the improved farm of Mr. D. D. McDonald, 2 miles north of Regina. Mr. McCusker knew he could get cheaper land, but considered the interests of his family in being near church and Catholic school, and we are glad that he chose as he did. His family (including grandchildren) number 15. Another new comer near by is Mr. Creagan, who has a family of 7 and as many quarter sections.

Last week there arrived from Minnesota Mr. Batz and family, sturdy Americo-Germans. They too have bought land close to town and have shown their faith to be a very practical one since their arrival. We can safely number in our Regina parish at the moment 1,000 souls and our old church building holds at a pinch 200, so that imagination can picture the comfort 300 people had in it at High Mass on Easter Sunday.

Steps to remove the old church and to excavate for the new are said to be under way, and it is the only decent excuse which can be given to late arrivals who have to turn away from the door for want of room.

On Sunday morning over twenty members of the C.M.B.A. received Holy Communion, this being the first assemblage of men for such a purpose in the history of Regina.

Mrs. Thos. Malone, of Peuhold, and her fine baby boy, John, were guests of Mrs. E. McCarthy over Easter, on their way home after a winter spent East. Mrs. Malone, as Miss McMillan, laid the groundwork of Gratton school's success, and for two years from its establishment did heroic service amidst many difficulties.

The angel of death has once again snatched from Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Bennet of their 6-year-old child, Flora. Dandy, as she was playfully known, had just started to school, where she was a special favorite, when scarlet fever gained a foothold in the family and after a few short hours of illness she was the one chosen—the favorite as ever. The quarantine card prevents willing hands assisting the sorely tried mother in her affliction, but her true mother's will prevents her wasting her strength in grief whilst so much depends on her ability to nurse the children left to her care.

## Brandon Notes.

Mr. Harry Barclay, of the Imperial Bank, Winnipeg, spent the Easter holidays with his parents here.

The beautiful and impressive services of Holy Week were so well attended at St. Augustine's church that the need of a more spacious edifice has indeed become a pressing reality. Rev. Father Godts preached at High Mass and Benediction on Easter Sunday.

Mr. H. M. McGeough, of the C. P. R. Superintendent's Office, has been transferred to Yorkton, Assa.

Mr. A. V. Benoit, of Wapella, passed through the city on Friday en route for Oakville, where he has accepted a position with the C. N. R.

Mr. John McAtee, of Guelph, Ontario, arrived in the city on Friday.

Mr. J. G. Philion, of Prince Albert was in the city on Monday en route from Winnipeg, where he has been on a business trip. Mr. Philion, who is one of Prince Albert's most prosperous merchants, says that the West has certainly wonderful prospects for the future and that the present influx of well-to-do settlers cannot do otherwise than benefit a country so rich in resources.

Master Bert Bertrand is visiting friends in Winnipeg.

It would be difficult to find more beautiful plants and flowers than those which adorned St. Augustine's church on Sunday. Brother Isabald is to be congratulated on his success as a florist.

## STE. ANNE DES CHENES.

Dame Rumor has it that the railway company is about to change the station here. That is remove it from the place where it now stands and set it up near the village. If it is true it will be a great advantage to everyone here; besides

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doing away with an eye-sore that appeals to every right minded person who sees it. Who ever heard of deliberately putting the station a mile from everywhere, and at the same time choosing a wet place for it.

The municipality has promised to build side walks from the new station (when they are sure of its being built) to the Church and post-office. It will be a great improvement, especially in rainy weather, as St. Ann mud is very sticky.

Tuesday afternoon there was a slight accident to a freight train half way between St. Ann and Steinbach. Three flat cars were thrown off the track by a defective rail. Happily they were all empty, but two of them received serious damage. We have heard of several accidents on this part of the road, during the winter, and we are consequently led to the conclusion that the road must be in bad repair.

The river has risen considerably this week, but the ice is still hugging the bottom in most places. The river was low when the water froze so that in some places the ice is frozen on the river bed and it requires more time for the water to dislodge it.

We have been having very variable weather of late, snow, rain and sunshine, with continuous high winds. We hope to begin seeding about the 20th. We do not often begin before Low Sunday.

The roads are in such a bad state that very few people from a distance are able to attend the Holy Week services. Last Sunday Father Dufoy preached a short sermon on Our Saviour's sepulchre. It was very interesting and instructive.

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