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# The Catholic Register.

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## Parliamentary Notes

On the order paper of Thursday was a notice to the effect that on Friday Sir Wilfrid Laurier would move "that when this House adjourns on Wednesday next (26th March), it will stand adjourned until Tuesday, the 1st of April next." This means that almost the entire week of Easter Holidays will be taken, and that the affairs of the session will be retarded by at least three days. What effect the adjournment will have upon the ultimate date of prorogation is more than can now be well foretold. But, considering what has been done, and what remains to be done, it is quite apparent that the 8th or 15th of May will witness the closing scenes.

The past week has been occupied with the debate on the Budget— which simply means with a couple of scores of speeches more or less remotely connected with the subject of the Hon. Mr. Fielding's budget speech. There are two occasions during every session when members who have no special topics upon which to speak, have an opportunity of talking about everything and anything they like— one is debate upon the address, the other the debate upon the budget. It is well that these occasions should arise, for they afford a species of safety valve for those who are bursting with political steam, and who wish to fill up a few pages of "Hansard," for the very laudable purpose of distributing their "speeches in the House" amongst their respective constituencies. Yet it must not be forgotten that amongst the speeches delivered, even when the House barely contains a quorum, and the hour is very late, there are some of the best and most useful pronouncements of the session made. Nothing could be more amusing than to sometimes find two old-time political opponents seize upon such an opportunity to repeat for Parliament the stump speeches that they had made years before against each other in some out of the way constituencies. They have all the vim and heat and vigor of regular campaign speeches, and are appreciated proportionately. Still, I repeat, many fine points are made on both sides of the House, and frequently arguments of a really novel character are advanced. But it would be wearisome for me to analyze or give a synopsis of all that the "Hansard" reporters had to take down during these days of disjointed debate. I will, therefore, turn to the more generally and immediately interesting subject of Easter.

There will be a lull in the affairs of the House during these days of sacred commemoration; there will be an absence of businesslike rush, of political hustling, of the fever of excitement that comes with anxieties, ambitions and the varied phases of human self-interest as manifested in the race for every temporal advancement. And, in a Christian country, where the name of God heads the legislative enactments of men, and where the faith that alone sustains and protects the people from the abyss that the hands of infidelity dig in the pathway of other nations, it is eminently fitting that those days set aside for the commemoration of the most stupendous series of events in the world's history should be given

over to something higher and more lasting than the ephemeral concerns and concerns of time. Hence it is that silence prevails in the halls of legislation and men are free to go unimpeded and draw inspiration in the shrines where the closing scenes in the earthly life of the One Great and Eternal Legislator are celebrated.

It is well for the world that there are such stated periods—such as Christmas and Easter—when the affairs of commerce, of professional activity, of politics, of labor, in its every phase and branch—are brought, by the grand central power of Christianity's influence upon civilization, to a standstill. Apart from the religious aspect of the subject, which is outside my domain at present, there is that general need of the human race for repose, recuperation, repair. The wisdom of the Church, in her wonderful and miraculous system of discipline and practice, of legislation and administration, is apparent in every form in which it affects the human family. Her Lenten fasts are conducive to temporal or bodily well-being, as well as to spiritual improvement; her rejoicings and celebrations of such cardinal events as Christmas and Easter, are necessities for the preservation of human strength and activity, as well as for the perpetuation of that spirit of Faith which has safeguarded man ever since the dawn of Redemption, the first glorious Easter that flush with promise the wills of Judea. Hence we welcome this great festival and we appropriate the spirit of our rulers that dictates rest during that period.

## Death of Mr. John Ryan

Another worthy and much respected citizen has been called away from the diminishing number of Ontario Catholics of the elder generation. It is no exaggeration to say that by the death of Mr. John Ryan, Toronto loses one of her public-spirited and useful men of affairs and the Catholic body a loyal and generous member. Though Mr. Ryan had for a couple of years been aware of a weak heart, his appearance quite recently seemed to indicate an improvement in his health. He had taken a year's holiday in Europe and had found himself so much benefited that he spent the winter in Toronto, apparently to his advantage. The news of his death was received on Saturday last with unmitigated sorrow by the public at large. Mr. Ryan had been confined to the house for a couple of weeks, and he felt prepared for the end. He died fortified by the rites of the Church.

The late John Ryan was in the 68th year of his age. He was born on Christmas Day, in the parish of Doon, Limerick, Ireland. He was one of the sons of Patrick Ryan, who formed a large holding in the Golden Vale, and who came out to Canada in May, 1844, with his family. The family settled first in Quebec, and the two boys, Hugh and John, as soon as they were through school-days entered upon railway work. With brains and energy they rapidly made their way to the front and both amassed considerable wealth. Generosity was characteristic of the brothers. Hugh Ryan, who died some few years ago, left a monument to his name in the new wing of St. Michael's Hospital.

Hugh and John Ryan's first railway contract was on the Canada Central, from Brockville north. They then took up work in the United States, in Illinois, Kentucky and Michigan, and also built in partnership the European and North American railroad in New Brunswick in 1868. Other works in that and the following year were the piece of road from Sherbrooke into Vermont, and the Massachusetts line. The brothers also did a considerable amount of work on the Toronto, Grey and Bruce road in 1871-2; whilst under the title of Ryan, Booth & Goodwin, John Ryan was engaged in the construction of the Ottawa water works in 1872. In 1873 he had the contract on the Moncton to Miramichi section of the Intercolonial and in 1876 built one hundred miles of the Government road west from Winnipeg. He was interested with his brother Hugh in the construction of the Sault Canal, and as a member of the firm of Ryan & Macdonnell was carrying forward the Soulanges Canal contract.

These works are some of the features of Canadian development in which the late Mr. Ryan played a creditable part. He was vice-president of St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, and director of the Home Savings & Loan Co. He was married in 1863 to Margaret Isabelle McSweeney, daughter of Capt. Hodrick McSweeney, a member of a Highland Scotch family that had settled in Brockville. There were three sons and two daughters born of the marriage. One of the sons is still engaged in South Africa, where he has distinguished himself in the present campaign. The funeral took place from the

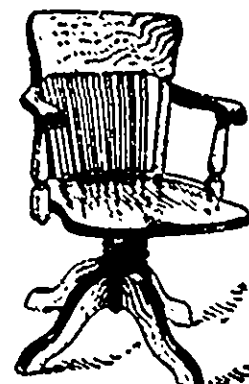


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into residence, 621 Jarvis street, early on Monday morning to the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, thence to the Union Station, and by G. T. H. to Brockville, where the interment occurred the same afternoon. Rev. Father Cruise officiated at the Church. The pall-bearers were Mr. John Morrison, Mr. J. J. Foy, K. C., Col. Mason, Mr. M. J. Haney, Hon. S. O. Wood and Mr. Thomas Flynn. Dr. O'Reilly, Messrs. Roderick Ryan, M. P. Ryan, M. J. Haney, A. R. McDonald, Montreal, and John Mullin, Amherstburg, accompanied the remains on the journey east. Archbishop Dru-



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**Queenstown Cathedral**  
The magnificent Cathedral of the Diocese of Cloyne which, even in its present unfinished condition, has been highly described as one of the glories of Catholic Ireland is fast approaching completion, and there is every indication that the consecration of the public edifice will not now be long delayed, says The Dublin Freeman's Journal since the autumn day in 1868, when the first stone of St. Colman's Cathedral was laid, the growth of the sacred building has been watched with a tender and zealous care by three successive prelates, the last of whom, the present Bishop of the diocese, the Most Rev. Dr. Browne, has already bestowed heroic efforts on the work of getting the cathedral completed. When he assumed the crozier of the ancient diocese of Cloyne the cathedral was burdened with a debt of £13,000, but this did not deter him from proceeding with the completion of the great work that was left to him. He was nobly assisted in the undertaking by faithful Irish Catholics in all parts of the world, and during the past seven years £27,000 has been spent on the work of completing and embellishing the cathedral. There is still a debt of £14,000 to be wiped off before the church can be consecrated. For the purpose of meeting this liability His Lordship is organizing a great national fête to be held in Queenstown next autumn, and the amount of support which he has already secured justifies the anticipation that it cannot be long till the consecration ceremony will be celebrated. His Eminence Cardinal Logue was the first to contribute to the success of the undertaking, and his noble example has since been followed by many others.

## Death of a Religious

It is with deep regret that we record the death of the Rev. Mother Emmanuel Russell (Sarah), only surviving sister of the late Lord Russell of Killowen, which occurred at the Convent of Mercy, Catherine street, Newry, Ireland, last week. The sad event has occasioned feelings of the keenest sorrow in Newry and district, where the deceased lady was well known, revered and beloved. The good nun had only been a couple of days ill, but pneumonia unfortunately supervened and carried her off, her only surviving brother, the Rev. Matthew Russell, S. J., being present at her bedside during her last moments. Born at Queen street, Newry, about 71 years ago, the deceased lady was a daughter of the late Mr. Arthur Russell, of that town. Her early years were spent in Newry and district, and a vivid picture of those days from her own pen appears in Mr. Barry O'Brien's book on the life of her late brother, Lord Russell of Killowen, who was a couple of years her junior. She received a splendid education. Being at all times piously inclined, she entered the convent of Mercy, Newry, in the year 1858, and became a great favorite. She was afterwards placed in charge of the Lurgan Convent of Mercy, which was founded about the year 1868, but subsequently returned to Newry, where she was appointed Rev. Mother in the year 1878. She had the gratification of seeing branches of the order established at Bessbrook, Warrenpoint, and Rostevor, and the present successful schools established. The Home for the Aged Poor and Orphans in Newry was also erected while she was Superioress, and in the matter of the recent introduction of nuns as nurses in the Newry Workhouse her services were sought after and freely given. Her death is a great loss to the Community, and to the poor especially. Her two sisters, Kate and Elizabeth, were also nuns, but pre-deceased her by some years.

## Peterborough Diocese

**Forty Hours Devotions at Bracebridge.**  
The grand exercises of forty hours devotions opened at St. Joseph's Church, Bracebridge, on Monday of last week, with High Mass of exposition, which was sung by the pastor, Rev. Father Collins, who chanted the Litanies and carried the Most Blessed Sacrament in procession in which the sanctuary boys and members of the junior choir participated.

At the evening service, after the recitation of the Rosary, Rev. Father Scollard, P. P., North Bay, ascended the pulpit and delivered a powerful and instructive discourse in French and English, on the "Salvation of Immortal Souls." Father Scollard has mastered the French language so efficiently that he speaks it fluently and with ease.

The Mass Pro-Pace Tuesday at 10 a. m. was celebrated by Father Scollard, assisted by Father Kelly, P. P., Trout Creek, as deacon, and Father O'Sullivan, P. P. Kirkfield, as sub-deacon, who preached "Christ's Eucharistic Presence." Father O'Sullivan is an eloquent speaker, has a magnificent command of English and holds an audience in closest attention while he speaks.

At Tuesday-evening devotions Father Kelly preached on the "Sacrament of Penance." The sermon showed careful preparation and did ample justice to the subject the Rev. Father had much at heart. The good father spoke in the spirit of St. John the Baptist and with words full ofunction called many a soul to prepare the way of the Lord.

Wednesday morning the services closed with Solemn High Mass of reposition. Father O'Sullivan was celebrant, Father Collins deacon, and Father Kelly as sub-deacon, who, after the Gospel was sung, addressed the vast congregation present on "perseverance." Mass being ended, the Litanies were chanted; there was a procession of the Blessed Sacrament similar to that of Monday.

Solemn benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given by Father O'Sullivan, assisted by Fathers Collins and Kelly.

The attendance at the different exercises was excellent, and the great number of communicants expressed the piety that is found in the people of St. Joseph's.

## The President Wore the Green

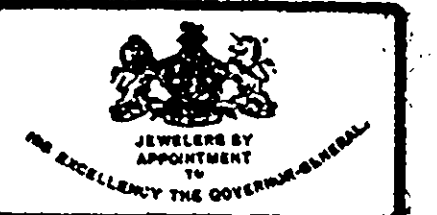
Washington, March 17. — President Roosevelt had occasion to tell many of his callers to-day that he has a strain of Irish blood in his veins, and that he is quite as proud of it as he is of his Dutch extraction. He had made substantially the remark many times before to-day, but there was a special significance in his words on this occasion, for he wore in his coat a bunch of green lily leaves in honor of St. Patrick's Day. The lily leaves were as good a substitute for the shamrock as the White House conservatories afford. The President laughed and joked all day about his Irish blood and the wearing of the green. He rallied several of his visitors who wore no green on the disregard for the proper observance of the day.

## Condolence

At the regular meeting of St. Joseph's Court 370, Catholic Order of Foresters, held on the 13th instant, the following resolution was passed: Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God to remove from our midst Rev. Father Ryan, one of the ablest, most eloquent and most devout priests in the Catholic Church;

And whereas, the death of such a distinguished Father is necessarily a great loss to the community as well as to the Archdiocese;

Be it, therefore, resolved, that this Court express to His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto its sincere and heartfelt sympathy in the loss sustained by this Archdiocese through the death of the Reverend Father Ryan.



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