

The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

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Register of the Week.

If the Toronto public are not thoroughly vested upon the due observance of Sunday it is not through lack of instruction. The continued agitation of the Sunday Street Cars has developed the religious, the moral, the economical and the physical views of the seventh day of rest, not to speak of the legal points as to the coming vote. On the 20th instant the City Council held a special meeting to reconsider the date of voting. A large number of citizens, representing both sides, were present, some of whom addressed the members upon the subject. The ball was opened by the reading of a pledge from the Street Railway Company binding itself not only not to require its employees to work seven days, but not permitting them to do so. Thereupon Ald. Carlyle put the following motion: "That the resolution adopted by this Council of the 6th instant, authorizing the taking of a vote on the question of running Sunday street cars, be rescinded in so far as relates to the date of taking said vote, and that the City Clerk be instructed to submit the question to a vote of the citizens at the next municipal election on the conditions set forth in the said resolution, and that the deposit made by the company to the City Treasurer to defray the expense of taking such a vote be refunded forthwith."

When the vote was announced it stood eleven for the postponement and eleven against it. As a motion for reconsideration requires a two-thirds majority, it was declared lost. And thus the City Council took what the Rev. James Coburn calls the tremendous responsibility of allowing the vote at this time. In fact the gentleman says he is going to vote himself, although under protest; but threatens to do all he can against the aldermen next January. How very political ministers are when it suits them! Whether it is a Jesuits' Estates Bill or Street Car Vote they are all into it. If a Catholic priest interfered as much in these matters there would be a howl through the length and breadth of the country.

Circumstances have lately developed no friendly feeling between England and France. The principal cause of friction is the Kingdom of Siam, which Henry Norman in the *Contemporary Review* points out as the richest market now open to colonization and imperial extension. "It is bigger than France; it will certainly be one of the gold and gem-producing places of the earth; cattle and rice can be raised in it in infinite quantities; half the teak of the world grows there; it is the real and the only key to the gates which enclose southern

China." The French, whose relations with these Eastern countries date from last century, and indeed from the time of St. Francis Xavier, have not been satisfied with their narrow strip of Annam, which is the eastern neighbor of Siam. The French claim the left bank of Mekong River as their boundary, and do so even at two western turns of the River which would cut off two large slices of Siam. It furthermore cuts the line of communication with China, and brings the tri-color to the British northern frontier.

It looked last week as if France would bombard Bangkok, the capital of the kingdom; but this has been averted by the concessions Siam has made. An ultimatum was presented to Siam as follows: First, a recognition of the rights of Annam and Cambodia, on the left or eastern bank of the Mekong River; second, the evacuation of the forts held there by the Siamese within a month; third, full satisfaction for various aggressions against French ships and French sailors on the Meiam River; fourth, the punishment of the culprits and provision for the pecuniary indemnity of the victims; fifth, an indemnity of 2,000,000 francs for various damages sustained by French subjects; and sixth, the immediate deposit of 3,000,000 francs to guarantee the payment of the fourth and fifth claims, or the assignment of the taxes in certain districts in lieu of the deposit of 3,000,000 francs.

Great Britain informed Siam that she could not recognize any obligation to assist her. In the territorial arrangements, however, England will take a hand. She cannot have another Afghanistan on the East if she wishes to keep the supremacy of India.

The court martial upon the ill fated *Victoria* elicited the fact that a manoeuvre was attempted in six cables length which required eight, and that Vice-Admiral Tryon took upon himself all responsibility for the collision, saying to one of the officers immediately afterwards, "It was entirely my fault."

Despatches dated from London, July 20, announced the following clearance of the Home Rule Bill.

The last eleven clauses of the home rule bill were brought through the committee stage this evening. On Thursday evening of last week the work of the House in committee had been pushed forward to clause 27. This clause, concerning judges and other persons having salaries charged on the consolidated fund, was carried on Monday. Clause 28, concerning persons in the civil service, and clause 19, concerning pensions, were passed last evening.

Ten o'clock this evening was the time fixed in the Government schedule for closing the debate on the other eleven clauses. At that hour the committee was discussing Mr. Gladstone's amendment, which provided that the acts relating to the Royal Constabulary be repealed at the end of six years, and none but civil police be created

under an Irish act. This amendment concerned clause 30, which deals with the Irish Royal Constabulary and Dublin Metropolitan Police. The debate was cut short as the clock struck, and under the closure the amendment was carried by a vote of 537 to 49.

Clauses 30-36 were then passed in rapid succession by majorities varying between 24 and 34. The subjects of these clauses are: Police, Irish Exchequer, law applicable to both Houses of the Irish Legislature, supplemental provisions as to the powers of the Irish Legislature, limitation of borrowing by the local authorities temporary restriction on powers of the Irish Legislature and Executive with regard to land, and transitory provisions.

Clause 37, concerning the continuance or existing laws, courts, officers, etc., was carried without division.

Clause 38, concerning the appointed day for the purpose of the bill, was carried by a vote of 259 to 261.

Clause 39, concerning the significance or terms used in the bill, was lost.

Clause 40, concerning title of the act, was carried without division.

The Committee then rose.

There was a total lack of excitement throughout the evening. The next work in committee will be the consideration of the postponed financial clauses, 11, 15 and 16; of the new Government clauses on finance and postoffice; of the schedule, and of the preamble. The debate on these subjects, according to the Government programme will be closed one week from to-night.

On Friday last the House went into Committee to discuss the financial clauses, when the following debate took place:

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the Liberal Unionist leader, objected to the provision that a certain surplus of money should be given to Ireland. That country, he declared, ought not to receive any surplus. Ireland was called upon to pay too little and Great Britain too much. The estimates being based upon a year's returns could not be regarded as equitable.

The Right Hon. Henry Fowler, president of the Local Government Board, said that, in fixing the future charges to be paid by Ireland, it was essential to regard the subject from the point of the common interests of the two countries. Since Ireland would not cease to be an integral part of the United Kingdom, Ireland's contribution would amount to one thirty-seventh part of the Imperial expenditures. Suppose the home rule bill should be defeated, Great Britain would still have to grant subsidies to railways and other public works which would cost quite as much as the proposed surplus that was to go to Ireland.

Mr. John Redmond, Parnellite member for Waterford city, said he regretted that the scheme was not more liberal and more just. It was humiliating to Ireland to be deprived of all control of the collection of taxes for six years. Ireland's contribution in that period ought not to be more than one quarter of her income. She did not want in the future, as in the past, to be robbed because of her connection with Great Britain. Experience would show that the scheme was unjust. A royal commission had been promised and it ought to be appointed forthwith. It would doubtless show that the proposals needed great modifications.

Full accounts are at hand of the celebration in Rome of the great feast of Sts. Peter and Paul. And if we may judge by the *consensus populi*, there comes a glorious testimony to the chief of the Apostles from the centre of Christianity. During the long hot day streams of people poured into the great Basilica to testify their faith, and pour forth their prayers at the beautiful Confessional which enshrines the tomb standing beneath the grandest dome on earth. The bronze statue, which dates from the fifth century, was arrayed in cope and tiara; while before it stood a carved

candelabra ten feet high. We copy elsewhere Professor Marucchi, the archaeologist, on the two Apostles and their associations at Rome, as given by the Roman correspondent of the *Boston Pilot*.

Just as day was sinking into night, when the doors of St. Peter's had been closed, the Holy Father, attended by his noble Guard and various prelates, descended to pray at the tomb. The great darkness of the vast church was broken by the wax lights here and there; and the silence was interrupted by the walk of the prelates and the march of the Guards. With the usual ceremony his Holiness blessed the Palliums, after which the Rosary was recited. He then remained in meditation until half past ten o'clock, when he returned to his apartments in the Vatican.

The Pope received in audience the Colleges of the various Oriental Rites, numbering altogether 800 persons. The Greek Bishop of Sidone, Mgr. Haggiar, read an address congratulating the Holy Father on behalf of the Maronite Order, and expressing fidelity and devotion to the Holy See. The Pope answered with words of encouragement to them, and expressed his high pleasure at seeing them. To show the interest he takes in the Maronites his Holiness intends erecting a new college for them in Rome, and until that is built he has had a suitable place prepared for them in the College of the Propaganda.

Concerning the Summer School at Plattsburg, N. Y., a correspondent of the *Courier of Ogdensburg*, writes thus of the scene and the opening day.

It is surrounded by scenery which vies in grandeur and magnificence with nature's proudest handiwork in the old world; it is lapped by the waters of Champlain and traversed by the winding Saranac river; across the lake a bold ridge of the green mountains of old Vermont cuts the horizon; but a half hour's ride on the New York side of the lake, brings one to the most beautiful spot in the Adirondacks, the lake abounds in fish, and the brooks outside the city will repay the angler's visit. The social side of the Summer School finds every inducement for development. There are wide roads rolling over hills and through valleys for those who wish to ride; the opera house is fitted for those who wish a hop or reception, and then the lake.

And such a lake! Whose Catholic heart is not stirred by historical proud memories as he gazes upon it. It was discovered by that intrepid Frenchman, Samuel De Champlain, he who sailed under the lilies of France and also for the greater glory of his church, and on his barque were those noble Jesuit missionaries, as zealous as their Master, and as warlike for Christ as their founder, Loyola had once been for Castile, they who planted the cross and preached the gospel of Christ upon the shores of this lake; and it is not far from here on the other side of the lake where lie the ruins of Fort Ticonderoga, which meekly but so eloquently tell the story of the days when Ethan Allan won an undying name.

On Sunday morning and evening elaborate services were held at the beautiful church of St. Johns, of which Very Rev. T. E. Walsh, the Vicar-General of this diocese is pastor. In the morning at 10:30 solemn high mass was celebrated with Bishop Gabriels as celebrant. The sermon of the day was preached by Very Rev. Dr. Byrne of Boston, his theme being "Conscience." It was a scholarly discourse.