

The Catholic Register

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THURSDAY, JAN. 26, 1905.

A SIGNIFICANT ARTICLE.

We publish to-day in another column the complete text of an editorial from The Gazette, of Montreal, upon the school question in the North-west Territories. This is the first authoritative warning we have had that political advantage may be taken of the introduction of the autonomy measure to raise the school question.

"In the Territories at present separate schools are established wherever the minority desires. There seems to be no objection to this and no demand for a change."

What more need be said? Is not this conclusive? Separate schools are established in the Territories by the Act of 1875 passed by the Mackenzie Government and supported by Sir John Macdonald and the Conservative party in the House of Commons.

"There seems to be no objection to this and no demand for a change." Exactly. In the parliament that passed the North-West Territories Act there sat a group of statesmen representing both sides of the House, who understood the Canadian Constitution and the principles of confederation thoroughly.

They said in 1875, that if the North-West Territories were to successfully attract settlers freedom of religious education must be guaranteed by the Dominion authority. The Act of 1875 fully guaranteed minority rights and the settlers went in under these guarantees.

Now as The Gazette admits: "There seems to be no objection to this and no demand for a change."

Why, then, does The Gazette advise and advocate a change, indeed the most radical change, when it declared as follows:

"The lesson of the situation is that a parliamentary effort to fix a separate school system on a province cannot prevail against the will of the province itself."

And further on: "The teaching of the unfortunate results of past experience is that parliament will do best in this school question by observing the spirit of the British North America Act which puts education among the matters the provinces control and by trusting to the good will and intelligence of the people of the West to deal liberally with those who for conscience sake ask that they shall be permitted to control the education of their children and in the process use the taxes they pay to the state for the special service of the schools."

In other words The Gazette says to, or perhaps on behalf of the element it speaks for in the parliament of Canada, remove at the first plausible opportunity the guarantees of minority rights placed upon the statute book in 1875, by Mackenzie and Blake and Macdonald, and the other great sons of Canada and students of her constitution.

Why? Because of the election of 1896, forsooth. That, by the way, was the election in which the Conservative party in Quebec pledged itself to stand or fall by the minority, guarantees in the constitution, in which the Conservative party in Ontario played a totally different tune. Indeed since 1896 we have heard followers of Mr. R. L. Borden in Quebec reiterating that gentleman's determination at all times to stand by the letter of the constitution.

But to and behold, one of the chief organs of Mr. Borden's party, without provocation or excuse, and in face of its own admission that "there is no demand for a change" from the existing conditions guaranteed by the parliament of Canada, now advocates the removal of the guarantees given to the Territories, and throwing the education question anew into the field of provincial politics upon the assumption that the good will and intelligence of the peo-

ple of the west will deal more liberally with the minority. What does The Gazette desire? The minority is satisfied and does not ask to be more liberally dealt with. There is no demand for a change from any quarter. Let us hope still that The Gazette does not speak for any element in parliament that desires another school case.

REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA.

A week ago saw the civilized world watching for the sunrise of government reform in Russia. Whether with Prince Mirsky or M. de Witte to the fore, little doubt was entertained but that the introduction of more constitutional and popular methods had been decided upon by the Czar and his advisers. In a few days a frightful change has taken place. The streets of the capital at the very gates of the imperial palace have been dyed with the blood of the discontented subjects of the czar. He refused to receive a popular petition, and his guards shot the disappointed leaders of the mob at half a dozen different points of assembly. These volleys have been accepted by the revolutionists, who are now facing the soldiery with bombs.

What irony of fate it is, to be sure, that the Emperor of Russia, the advocate of international peace, confronted by a powerful enemy on his border, should have to witness civil war at the heart of the nation. But it seems that he had to face revolt either of the nobles who command the army, or revolution of the people who recruit it. The popular uprising may have been precipitated by the military authorities in order to hold the Czar on the side of the old order of things. If this be so the effect upon the spirit of the Russian troops cannot be good, and an army rent by dissension must place at a terrible disadvantage the banner of Russia in the Manchurian battle-field.

THE ONTARIO ELECTIONS.

After a campaign conducted with a good deal more than the ordinary amount of party heat, the Liberal party virtually for the first time in its history, met with an overwhelming defeat in the provincial general elections on Wednesday. A Conservative victory was not unexpected, but a majority of 40 in an assembly of 98 members must have been a surprise even to the most sanguine followers of Mr. J. P. Whitney.

It would be ungenerous in the hour of his overthrow not to acknowledge the pluck and vigor with which Mr. Ross conducted a losing fight. When his Cabinet went to pieces a few weeks ago he must have known that the electorate could place but one construction upon the fact. Suffering in health himself, he rallied those who had courage for the encounter around him, and as it has happened, they have almost to a man fallen by his side. Messrs. Gibson, Dryden, Charlton, Latchford and Evariantur have gone down. Mr. Latchford deserves a special word, not in sympathy, but by way of tribute. He, as a member of the Ross Cabinet, never had act or participation in any corrupt transaction charged against him by the Opposition. He was willing for more than a year to retire from politics, but in the last test of the Cabinet timber he was found firm beside his leader.

As to the causes of the overturn it is not necessary to go into any long recital. The broad question that presents itself in face of the returns of Wednesday is this: Has Ontario forgotten her heroic traditions of Liberalism? In the old days when the Liberal party was weak in every other quarter of the Dominion Liberalism flourished in Ontario like a young bay tree. The Blakes, Mackenzie, Mowat, Ross, Fraser, Mills and many others were leaders not only of their party, but of the people of this province. The ins and outs of party did not matter; Ontario was proud of her sons and of their principles. To-day the Liberal party experiences the vigor of strong life in the other provinces of Canada. To-day the Liberal party was never so weak, so enervated in Ontario. Though the people acknowledge that good government reigns at Ottawa, though Sir Wilfrid Laurier has fulfilled tenfold the hopes and promises of his party, it is a fact that both in the federal and provincial fields the former power of Liberalism in this province is being worn down. Mr. Ross is not to blame. After all he is one of the old Liberals, nor has he forgotten the lessons of the past. Where the cause rests is with the group of persons who have slowly and steadily for almost a decade been getting into their own hands the machinery of the Liberal organization. These persons centred to a degree in Toronto stand without popularity or public confidence. By them have been suppressed the young men of energy, eloquence and brains who have been attracted in the past ten years to the Liberal party. They want only their own kind and that kind wherever tested, both in Toronto and outside, while they may have done their special creatures good, have been a hindrance, if not a reproach, to Liberalism.

On the Conservative side the campaign has been fairly fought. The opposites had a right to make the most out of the charges and rumors

of electoral corruption that filled the air, though it is deplorable that the discussion of bribery and pollution of the ballot box should be so continuous in our provincial politics, as it only poisons the minds of our young men. Sectarian issues were kept down and where the Conservative press tried a flyer of that sort, as in the case of the restoration grant to Ottawa University, the Conservative candidates reaped no resultant gain. The Liberal victory in Ottawa is also to be attributed in some extent to certain memories of Mr. P. D. Ross for no man can be excited by sectarianism one day and a tolerant and broad minded upholder of public amity another. Mr. Denis Murphy went down with his ill-assorted running mate, against whom the Liberal candidate had been wisely chosen. The Catholics who were defeated on both sides of the House are replaced by Catholics, a circumstance which shows that both parties selected their men with a view to fair play in the matter of Catholic representation in the new assembly.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Right Rev. Dr. Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster, has addressed to his clergy and flock a pastoral letter on the subject of his coming canonical visitation of his archdiocese. In it he reviews the present position of Westminster Cathedral from a religious and financial point of view. As regards the former Archbishop Bourne asserts that the work done "has far surpassed in its extent and far-reaching effects all that was expected, even by the most hopeful." From a financial point of view there is room for improvement. The capital debt is some £7,000, and since the death of Cardinal Vaughan—June, 1903—but £605 has been added to the building fund.

The London Saturday Review has an exceedingly sympathetic comment on the beatification of the Cure of Ars. "The beatification," it says, "is a popular one in the Catholic world, and would be popular all the world over if the life of this charming, humble, saintly priest were more widely known. It is popular, too, with the secular clergy. Popes, cardinals, bishops, kings, and queens, religious in plenty, nobles, peasants, and even beggars, have all been declared confessors of the Faith, but so far as we can recall, only two secular priests—St. John Cantius and St. John Baptist Rossi—have been canonized; while we believe that not a single parish priest has been raised to the full honors of the altar. The last step in the canonization of the Cure of Ars can only be a question of time. Except for one or two abortive attempts to retire into solitude, he never went outside his parish. He never said or did a single thing to attract attention to himself, and yet thousands of people—as many as 80,000 in the year, they say—flocked to the insignificant South Burgundian village, just as earlier Christians had flocked to some holy man of the desert, simply to see him and hear him and take counsel with him concerning the welfare of their souls. One must admit that it is one of the secrets of the strength of the Roman Catholic Church that she can point to a recent confessor of the type of the new Blessed. The subjugating force of sanctity is as old as the hills and as enduring."

Conservative Party Wins

In the Ontario general elections on Wednesday the Conservatives carried 69 seats, and the Liberals 29. The Liberals gained Glangarry and the two Ottawas, and lost N. Brant, S. Bruce, W. Durham, Fort William and Lake of the Woods, Halton, E. Kent, E. Lambton, N. Lanark, E. Middlesex, E. Nipissing, S. Norfolk, S. Ontario, N. Perth, S. Perth, W. Peterborough, Port Arthur and Rainy River, S. Renfrew, C. Simcoe, Stormont, Welland, E. Wellington, N. York, E. York. The members of the new assembly are:

CONSERVATIVES—W. I. Paull, W. R. Smyth, J. H. Fisher, Dr. R. E. Clapp, Major Hugh Clark, E. A. Little, G. N. Kidd, Dr. Lewis, J. P. Whitney, J. J. Preston, J. H. Devitt, C. A. Brower, C. G. Macdarmid, Dr. J. O. Reaume, Dr. Smellie, G. S. Gallagher, Howard Ferguson, I. B. Lucas, Dr. Jamieson, Dr. A. W. Nixon, John S. Hendrie, J. H. Carscallen, M. B. Morrison, J. W. Pearce, H. Eilber, P. H. Bowyer, Hugh Montgomery, M. J. Hanna, Dr. Preston, Lieut.-Col. A. J. Matheson, J. D. Dargavil, T. G. Carscallen, Dr. Jessop, Adam Beck, R. R. Ganev, Geo. W. Neely, C. C. Hodgins, A. A. Mahaffey, C. Lamarche, O. Aubin, Arthur C. Pratt, Dr. Willoughby, W. H. Hoyle, Chas. Calder, D. Sutherland, John Torrance, N. Monteleith, T. E. Bradburn, W. A. Preston, T. W. McGarry, E. A. Dunlop, James Duff, A. B. Thompson, Geo. Kerr, Thomas Crawford, Dr. R. A. Payne, Dr. Beattie Neshitt, J. J. Foy, J. H. Carnegie, Sam J. Fox, H. J. Lackner, George Pattinson, M. Fraser, J. P. Downey, Major J. J. Craig, James Tucker, Alex. McCowan, J. W. St. John, T. H. Lennox. LIBERALS—T. H. Preston, Hor G. P. Graham, C. M. Bowman, J. A. Auld, John A. McMillan, Hon. A. G. MacKay, Jacob Kohler, E. W. Rathbun (independent), A. Hislop, M. G. McCoig, E. J. B. Pense, Hon. Geo. W. Ross, Hon. R. Harcourt, Col. Atkinson, Samuel Clarke, Geo. S. May, D. J. McDougall, Col. James Meuro, Milton Carr, John Smith, Wm. Anderson, L. B. Labrosse, Dr. Currie, Dumais Racine, C. N. Smith, J. A. Dufosse, R. A. Thompson, Daniel Reid, Arch. B. Cameron.

OBITUARY

MRS. JOHN KANE.

On Dec. 31st the death occurred of Ann Cayley, beloved wife of Mr. John Kane, 38 Dufresne street, Montreal. It was with painful suddenness that the end came, for deceased had only been ill about ten days. Her kindness of heart, her charity, in short, her many noble qualities endeared her to all with whom she came in contact. Besides her husband, Mrs. Kane leaves two daughters to mourn the loss of a devoted wife and loving mother. The service took place at St. Ann's Church.

Rev. Father Strubbs received the body. He also sang the solemn Requiem Mass, with the Rev. Fathers Reivelt and Trudel as deacon and sub-deacon respectively.

MR. JAMES HUGHES.

At his late residence, 54 Wilson avenue, Toronto, on the 13th inst., James Hughes departed this life at the age of 76 years.

Mr. Hughes was one of the oldest and most respected residents of Parkdale. He was born in Neury, Ireland, but removed to the city of London, Eng., where he enlisted in the 30th Regiment. From there he went to the Isle of Wight, where he served as civil engineer, erecting the rifle ranges and squares of Parkhurst Barracks, also acting Orderly to Her Late Majesty Queen Victoria. He was sergeant of his guard of honor at our present king's wedding, escorting him to Osborne House, Isle of Wight. Mr. Hughes was drafted to Canada in 1865, where he took part in the Fenian Raids of 1866. On his return from Cornwall he was sent to Quebec to keep the canteen and from there to Levis to serve the same purpose while the troops were building the forts. On returning to Quebec he bought his discharge, then coming to Toronto, where he has been a resident since the year of confederation, 1867.

Mr. Hughes had been a resident of Parkdale for the last 33 years, and was a well-known employee at the office of the Toronto Street Railway Company, having served with that company for the past 19 years, and retiring about 4 years ago owing to delicate health. Full of years and enjoying the respect of the community in which he lived, he passed away peacefully, fortified by the last sacraments of the Holy Mother the Church. The funeral took place from the Church of the Holy Family to St. Michael's Cemetery. May he rest in peace.

BARRIE CORRESPONDENCE

On Wednesday evening, January 18th, the members of the Barrie Branch of the Catholic Mutual Benevolent Association assembled in the large dining-room of the Simcoe Hotel. The object was to do honor to Mr. T. F. O'Meara, who has recently recovered from a severe attack of typhoid fever. Mr. O'Meara has been a most energetic member of the association, being financial secretary for the local branch during the last seventeen years. About thirty guests sat to a splendid banquet, which was enlivened by many bright and witty speeches. The assemblage also took this occasion of presenting the "guest of the evening" with an address, accompanied by a well filled purse of gold.

Reverend Father Hart was a guest at the Deaneary last Friday. Mr. Thomas Kennedy attended the annual meeting of the Canadian Architects Association, which was held in Toronto last week. A collection for the Sunnyside orphanage, Toronto, will be taken in St. Mary's church next Sunday.

Many of our townspersons enjoy the healthful exercise of snowshoeing during this winter.

Barrie the "Beautiful and Busy" appears quite as beautiful in winter with its snow-clad hills. As in summer with its foliage of many shades of green.

Master John Coffey of this town is now a student at St. Michael's College, Toronto.

Pius X. to Roosevelt

Rome, Jan. 14.—Owing to the suspension of diplomatic relations between the French Government and the Holy See, the Cardinals de Curia abstained this year for the first time from sending personal letters of congratulation on the occasion of the new year to President Loubet. The canons of St. John at the Lateran of which chapter the French President is honorary member, also omitted their usual congratulations.

As an innovation, it is stated on good authority that Pius X. this year forwarded an autograph letter of greeting to President Roosevelt, through the Apostolic delegation at Washington, and that similar letters have been sent to the American President by Cardinals Gibbons, Satolli and Martinelli, at the express desire of the Pope.

Pius X. has also sent personal letters of greeting to all the European sovereigns whose countries are in diplomatic intercourse with the Holy See, and has received a large number of congratulatory messages from the courts of the various countries of the world.

Pope's Neice at Quirinal

Rome, Jan. 14.—Arrangements have been made for the two sisters of Pope Pius X., and his niece, Miss Gilda Parolin, to be received in private audience by the Dowager Queen Margherita. This is another step toward complete reconciliation between the Vatican and the royal family. Cardinal Respighi, the Vicar-General, acted at the special request of the Pope in the matter, and charged Mgr. Ferrini, the parish priest of the Quirinal, to sound the authorities of the Royal Court. Information was received that Queen Margherita would be delighted.

There is strong probability now that the relatives of the Pope will also be received by the King and Queen, thus returning in some way the recent visit paid to the Pope by the Duke and Duchess of Genoa, the brother and sister-in-law of the Dowager Queen.

A well-governed appetite is a great part of liberty.

Schools in the West

(Montreal Gazette, Jan. '20.)

Already, in the Senate, as in the House of Commons, there has been given intimation that when the bill providing for the provincial organization of the territories comes to be dealt with there will be an earnest discussion as to how the school question shall be dealt with. There are evidently in Parliament those who desire that the privilege of the religious minority to control the expenditure of its school taxes shall be made constitutional, as it is in Ontario and Quebec, and as it was sought to be made in Manitoba. The fact that in the parliamentary elections of 1896 so many Protestants gave their votes to candidates pledged to maintain the Manitoba Roman Catholics in what the Privy Council declared were their legal privileges would indicate that the division of opinion on the new issue need not be on creed lines. There will always be among Protestants those who will be ready to concede to Catholics what they ask for conscience sake, as there will be among Catholics some who think the national or public better than the separate school. With such Protestants, as with the majority of Roman Catholics, the question now to be decided is whether the object one desires and the other is willing to concede can best be secured by legislation at Ottawa.

The story of the Manitoba school question is not encouraging to those who think as Mr. David spoke in the Senate. Separate schools were provided for in the act constituting the province of Manitoba as effectively as they can be in any legislation to be passed for the erection of new provinces further west. A prominent Government, supported by a majority in the Legislature, was able, however, to nullify Parliament's intention, to take away from the religious minority the privileges they were thought to be secure in, and incidentally to disturb the politics of the whole country. The election result of 1896 was a verdict in favor of the public school, and a declaration that it would therefore be useless for Parliament to undertake to force on a province an educational system it does not desire. Events since 1896 have made this even more emphatic. The Catholic clergy of Manitoba have from time to time protested against the conditions that election fastened upon them, but what they said fell upon deaf ears, even among their compatriots and co-religionists. The lesson of the situation is that a parliamentary effort to fix a separate school system upon a province cannot prevail against the will of the province itself. The New Brunswick case is to the point as well as that of Manitoba. In the territories at present separate schools are established wherever the minority desires. There seems to be no objection to this and no demand for a change. The inference is that when the territories become provinces the existing conditions will continue. They will be more secure existing by the consent of the people who are directly concerned in them than if it is sought to establish them by exercise of the will of people from other parts of the federation. By leaving the matter to the good will of the new provinces also there may be less danger of some demagogic "Joe" Martin or Greenway seeking to make votes among the majority by assailing the privileges of the minority. The teaching of the unfortunate results of past experience is that Parliament will do best in this school question by observing the spirit of the British North America Act, which puts education among the matters the provinces control, and by trusting to the good will and intelligence of the people of the West to deal liberally with those who for conscience sake ask that they shall be permitted to control the education of their children, and in the process use the taxes they pay to the state for the special service of the schools.

The Oldest Bk'p

The Pope, on Jan. 4, received in private audience the Right Rev. Michael Howley, Archbishop of St. John's, Newfoundland, accompanied by his nephew, Father Howley, and inquired most cordially as to the condition of Newfoundland and the progress of Catholicism there. His Holiness sent his blessing to the island.

The Pontiff afterwards received Father Feean, of Hobart, Tasmania, who presented greetings to his Holiness from the Most Rev. Daniel Murphy, the Archbishop. The Pope said that he was most pleased to hear directly about the oldest member of the Catholic Episcopacy, and recalled the fact that Archbishop Murphy was the only survivor of the bishops who were present at the promulgation of the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. The Pontiff charged Father Feean to take to Archbishop Murphy his special salutations and also his own photograph, on which his Holiness wrote the Apostolic Benediction.

Priests Choir Formed in New York

New York, Jan. 15.—Under the auspices of the Commission on Music a meeting of priests was held the other day in Cathedral College Hall for the purpose of forming a priests' choir. Invitations were sent to about thirty priests, all of whom are the possessors of excellent voices. About twenty responded and were present at the meeting. Professor Edmund G. Hurley, the director of the Paulists' choir, was selected to be the leader of the new choir. Most of the time of the meeting was devoted to practicing the chants. It is intended that the priests' choir sing the Gregorian music at all the Requiem Masses for priests and at the Office of the Dead.

MARRIAGE

SKELLY—ROBITAILLE—At St. Joseph's church, Ottawa, on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 1905, by Rev. Father Murphy, Addie, daughter of Geo. Robitaille, of Nicholas street, to John J. Skelly, of the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

Save thy soul from sandy barrenness. Let it blossom with roses, and gleam with living waters.

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A GERMAN MODEL

Catholics of Italy Invited to Study Unity in a Volksverein.

A modern example put before the Catholics of Italy is the "Volksverein fur dar Katholische Deutschland," or Popular Association of Catholic Germany, established by Ludwig Windthorst, the O'Connell of Germany. The vehicle for these expressions of opinion, indicating the great change which has taken place in the policy of the Pope, is the celebrated, able, and learned review of the Jesuits, the "Civita Cattolica." It might be rash to say that the Pope's thoughts and opinions are wholly and completely expressed in the leading articles of this great periodical, but it is safe to say that, on such an important question as this the "Civita Cattolica" expresses at least the direction of his policy, and with informed accuracy.

"The Testament of Ludwig Windthorst to His People" is the title of a very remarkable article in that review on the 17th December last. It opens in a startling manner, recalling the visit which the Emperor William II. made to the Pontiff Leo XIII. on the 3rd of May, 1893, when the Roman people, on the route between the Quirinal Palace in the Corso and the Vatican, enthusiastically cheered the stranger monarch, who displayed all the pomp of his sovereign majesty on the occasion, as if to emphasize the high political importance of that visit.

Before that superb carriage in which the Emperor rode, says the "Civita," "the carriage with the crowned eagles on it, which brought the potent monarch to the Vatican, with that pomp which accompanied him, there was a man, or rather a people, which derived its political force from the physical and moral strength of the instructed and organized peasant."

The stating of this fact is sufficient—it carries its own evidence with it. The forces of a united Parliamentary party are most effective. Other countries besides Germany have experienced this. The Catholics of France have bitter reason to bewail their want of unity. This is the model held up to the Catholics of Italy—a model "made in Germany," like so many other able and useful productions. It is not to be hoped for that the Italians will all at once arrange their forces in such a wise and intelligent mode as the Germans have done. It was the sorrows and sufferings of the Kulturkampf—or religious persecution in Germany from 1872 to 1879—that taught them the necessity of unity; since they have learned the power of union.

What the future of this new policy in Italy may be, no man can now predict. One thing is certain: that if the Catholics of Italy unite in a Volksverein, such as that of Germany—the members of which now surpass 400,000—they will be able to control the Italian Parliament so that legislation will become impossible unless their legitimate demands be acknowledged and granted.

If It Were Only the End

The "Patria" states that Cardinal Merry del Val on Tuesday, January 3, entered the Pope's study, where His Holiness was conversing with some Cardinals, and communicated a telegram announcing the surrender of Port Arthur. The Pope requested all particulars, and then exclaimed, "if it were only the end!"

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