

"At the back of the agitation is the whole of the great problem of the minds of the day. Has to say to it? be so made the daily discussion haps this omis Christian speak attributable to is no mention of Bible and that not to be disco dance. But this Christianity, ma dealing with the shadowy things is with that al eteual. The representative go local institution springs of time rights and out to man—these They are reali truths. In regu anity is not sil the rights of w lation of the se olitic.

MAGNA CHA LIB

"And first it tion of woman's commencement 'Magna Charta' ties; and the CH ever since contin tion of her right freedom was a "One is your Ma ren." And the Christian liberty peat it, and ev mess of its mean woman. Writing iii: 25; St. Paul an enslaved wo neither bond no male nor fe one man in Chr new teaching at the beginning and liberty wh recognize artifi cial amongst sources of ineq derived from t and accordingly free or liberty. Gospel was gra the writers and Church, who im remedy to the f men."

Father Day re fence of woman's lost to the Holy of Him who re invested it with nity, sacrificed man to satisfy of her royal hus sacrificed her sex crificed society. Christianity tow tion of woman. Its teaching, di favored the meti the fullest possi dom. But the should be limite and nature, and who possessed i preacher said:

SHOULD WA

"Now, as regu of these eteal ciples of Christie lem of female su say 'Judge in y ally you should u to apply them. I can point out, cial position of be for the most satisfactory, yet dition is not all ed. Woman und considered as wi sen, is the subje disabilities which old feudal system no reason any lo tined existence. receive the frat standpoint of C can see no rea women who pos not be granted t guard to married different. They husband, and t sufficiently indep them to use the bestowing of the ried women wou fering two vove else the bringi cause of frictio and wife, and of and bitterness. raised of the nat women to vote. I to be an objectio id foundation. W ly not lacking in and in spiritual may not be as st nor as powerfu men. But their s and their instinc

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**IN vain will you build churches, give missions, found schools—all your works, all your efforts will be destroyed if you are not able to wield the defensive and offensive weapon of a loyal and sincere Catholic press.**

—Pope Pius X.

## Episcopal Approbation.

If the English Speaking Catholics of Montreal and of this Province consulted their best interests, they would make of the TRUE WITNESS one of the most prosperous and powerful Catholic papers in this country.

I heartily bless those who encourage this excellent work.

† PAUL,  
Archbishop of Montreal.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1909.

## Beware of Fakirs.

It has been reported to canvassers for advertising for the St. Patrick's Day number of the True Witness that a number of people are visiting business establishments in this city, and private individuals as well, soliciting advertising for an Irish Catholic souvenir number in connection with the True Witness. These people have, in certain cases, gone so far as to exhibit copies of the souvenir numbers of the True Witness in previous years. The canvassers authorized to receive subscriptions for the Souvenir Number of this paper, and by the way the True Witness is the only Irish Catholic paper in Montreal, are each provided with the colored souvenir copy for this year, which is an attractive piece of work and sufficiently striking to commend itself to the attention of any one who has artistic taste.

### INCREASED SCHOOL TAXES.

Mr. Justice Lafontaine, in a report presented at the last meeting of the Catholic Board of school commissioners advocates the imposition of a tax of one tenth per cent. for school purposes. This tax, it is proposed to devote to the interest and sinking fund to meet the expenses necessitated by the establishment of new schools.

Schools are a crying necessity in the city of Montreal. The various Catholic communities. It is true, give us an opportunity to secure education at a moderate cost. The fact remains, however, that there is not a single Catholic school to which a parent can send his child without paying fees. The schools under the Catholic board are by no means numerous enough to meet the requirements. In fact there are hardly any board schools for girls, those that exist being the property of the various communities who receive but a pittance from the Catholic board.

The Catholics of the United States give us a noble example in this respect. In every city of the United States, our people, besides contributing the sums fixed by law—and the richest tax there is much higher than it is in Montreal—also provide their children with a well equipped system of Catholic parochial schools. These parochial schools compare favorably with the public schools, and they are absolutely free. Not only are no fees charged, but, books are

supplied free to the pupils just as they are in the public schools.

Montreal is the metropolis of a country larger in extent than the United States. The Catholics comprise the greater majority, and they are not called upon to contribute to any other than their own schools. Why, therefore, should we not have a right to expect—nay, to demand—a system of schools absolutely free to the children of all Catholic parents. The proposed special tax should therefore be adopted as it will allow the abolition of the vexatious fee system and besides allow the establishment of a number of new schools.

### SCIENCE, LITERATURE AND ART

A society for the advancement of Science, Literature and Art has lately been established in Montreal, under the presidency of Dr. Joseph Edmond Dube. The society, which includes some of the leading citizens among our French Canadian fellow-citizens is one well worthy of the encouragement and active support of all Catholics, especially those who understand the French language.

Of late years, we have been led to believe that all the brains in France are enlisted on the side of irreligion, and that the great architects, artists, sculptors and writers are impregnated with the ideas which seem to prevail in the government of the French Republic. That this is an entirely erroneous idea is shown by the list of membership of the Society for the advancement of Science, Literature and Art in France of which the new society established in Montreal is an offshoot. The French society counts among its members the leading sculptor in France, several of the higher lights among the painters, the great literary critics, and some of the most learned professors of literature in Europe, as well as a number of the brigade and most interesting writers of the day.

Several lectures have already been delivered at Laval University under the auspices of the new society. The first was by M. Marcel Dubois, a professor at Sorbonne, for the last twenty-five years, who, despite the fact that he holds his office from the government, is a practical Catholic, who has never hidden his convictions or his views. Mr. Max Doumic, who is considered in France one of the most gifted architects of the day, is at present a resident in Montreal. He was for a number of years the architect in charge of all the church buildings of France. Upon the denunciation of the Concordat, this office was abolished. As he is well to do, and his niece was coming to Canada, he decided to come too, and consented to take charge of the architectural course of the Polytechnic School of Laval University. He delivered the second of the course of lectures on "Architecture as a mark of civilization," and won the admiration of all who heard him.

At an early date M. Rene Bazin, the celebrated French writer, whose works have been translated into several languages, will be heard at Laval University, and several more distinguished writers and artists have signified their intention to come and do their share towards arousing interest among the young men of Canada, and at the same time show them that the Catholic idea is still very much alive in old France.

Besides, the society has secured from the Ecole des Beaux Arts the privilege of obtaining at staple prices the models of all the great sculptural works exhibited. An attempt is being made to secure a similar privilege from the British Museum. This will allow of the establishment in Montreal of an exhibit of art where the youth of the city will have an opportunity to form their artistic tastes from the best samples of modern art, and at the same time in an atmosphere of Catholicity.

Such a society therefore deserves the encouragement of our people, for whatever contributes to the elevation and refinement of the French Canadians must also contribute to the advancement of Catholicity.

we cannot fail to reap our share of benefits.

### THE NATIONAL CONVENTION IN IRELAND.

On the 9th and 10th of February will take place in Dublin a gathering that should go far to show the whole world that Ireland is ripe for self-government. The reproach to the Irish Nationalists that they would persecute the minority should they ever secure power to do so must be weakened, if not entirely removed by the action of the organizers of the national convention. All creeds and creeds will be represented, as may be seen by the following

list of those invited to the deliberations:

1. Prelates and clergymen of all denominations.
2. All members of the Irish Parliamentary Party.
3. All members of the National Directory of the United Irish League and the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary of each Divisional Executive of the League.
4. Three delegates from each branch of the United Irish League, duly affiliated with the National Directory.
5. Two delegates from each branch of the United Irish League of Great Britain.
6. Three delegates from each branch of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.
7. Three delegates from each branch of the Irish National Foresters.
8. Three delegates from each branch of the Land and Labor Association duly affiliated.
9. Six delegates from each County Council.
10. Eight delegates from each County Borough.
11. Other towns electing Mayors, six delegates each.
12. Two delegates from each Rural District Council.
13. Two delegates from each Urban District Council.
14. Town Commissioners (other than Urban Councils), two delegates each.
15. Boards of Guardians, not identical with Rural District Councils, two delegates each.
16. Three delegates from each Trade and Labor Council.

The views of such a representative gathering must have their effect on the rulers of the country. The main issue, outside that of Home Rule, on which the vast majority insists, will be that of the Land Purchase Bills. While the bills are acceptable, there are certain portions which demand amendments, and these will be suggested by a body of men representing the whole of Ireland. The methods adopted in discussion and the conclusions reached by the great national convention will be watched with attention by Irishmen the world over, and it is to be hoped that the gathering will be productive of the best and most lasting effects.

### REGULATING DISORDERLY HOUSES.

As a result of the active and effective campaign being waged in the city by Rev. Arthur French and the various societies and individuals who have joined him, a motion has been proposed before the Legislation Committee at the City Hall, to provide for the regulation of the dens of vice in the city.

This proposal, the people of St. Gabriel may be surprised to have heard from their representative. If the proposal means anything it means that the people of St. Gabriel are anxious to have such places established in their midst. Surely Dr. Dagenais, speaking as he does for the people of St. Gabriel, would not propose to place in some other ward a class of houses which he was not ready to have established in his own neighborhood. Some of the women who have been chased out of other sections of the city will therefore be likely to set up their nefarious business in the heart of St. Gabriel and St. Charles' parish. This doubtless will be quite agreeable to Dr. Dagenais, and the people of St. Gabriel's ward and those living nearby in St. Ann's will also be quite rejoiced at having a new class of residents in their midst.

The very contemplation of such a contingency is sufficient to show the ridiculous nature of Dr. Dagenais' proposal. If these places are licensed and regulated, they must be allowed to establish themselves wherever they feel best able to secure their own interests. Moreover, they must be allowed to recruit for their business. The presence of such a place in the neighborhood where a number of families have young daughters would doubtless be highly appreciated by Ald. Dagenais and his electors. Yet that is what they must expect if the proposal of the alderman for St. Gabriel's were to go through.

Fortunately, however, as Chief Justice Sir Henri T. Taschereau has pointed out, the law of the land, the Criminal Code of Canada, provides against the existence of such places, and any legislation which the occult influences which Dr. Dagenais may force upon the Christian people of this province and city cannot stand in face of the stern prohibition of the Federal statutes.

The moral issue is therefore not to be overcome, even by Ald. Dagenais and his friends in the City Council or even in the Legislature. The war upon vice will go on, as it has been going on despite the inter-

cession of certain aldermen in favor of the unfortunate women who carry on the white slave traffic. Rev. Arthur French's campaign still goes on, backed by every Catholic and Protestant association in the city. The police are forced to move, and they have moved in several cases. There are still, however, any number of disorderly houses running full blast. Most, if not all of these are known to the police. Some of them are provided with telephones, and each night dozens of sleighs are drawn up before their too hospitable doors, yet the police have done nothing to stop the trade in these places, which are considered "high-class" of their kind. A raid on these "high-class" places, a stiff fine for the keeper and inmates, as well as for the proprietors of the houses, and the imprisonment of the men found in the place would quickly bring about the closing up of the establishments.

### SUPPORT A CATHOLIC PAPER.

Every day the importance of the Catholic press is being more highly appreciated. The great movements in the Church are being supported and carried forward by aid of the newspapers established to aid the work of the Church, and the Holy Father himself has pronounced in no uncertain terms his approval of the Catholic press.

Speaking recently to one of the editors of La Croix, of Limoges, Pope Pius X. said:

"Ah, the press; its importance is not yet sufficiently understood. Neither the faithful nor clergy patronize it as they should. Sometimes, I know, it is argued that the press is something new, and that formerly souls were saved without it. Formerly, that's soon said. There is no question of 'formerly,' but of 'to-day.' Formerly the poison of the bad press was not spreading everywhere as it is now, and consequently the antidote of the good press was not so much required. It is a fact that to-day Christian people are deceived and poisoned in their minds by impious newspapers. In vain would you build churches, preach missions, found schools. All your good works, all your efforts would be destroyed if you did not know how to handle at the same time, the defensive and offensive weapon of a Catholic, loyal and truthful press."

The Catholic press is: An eternal bond of unity. A channel of communication between the bishops and clergy and the faithful people.

The builder of Catholic thought and Catholic opinion on every question affecting Catholic interests. An organ of appeal and defence. The readiest exponent and defender of the Church's doctrines and practices.

The medium of warnings against danger to faith and morals.

The voice that summons the Catholic people to protect their rights. The mirror of Catholic life. The powerful auxiliary of the pulpit and the complement of the school.

The consecration of the great modern invention to the service of the Church.

The antidote to the poison of the secular press.

The destroyer of non-Catholic calumnies and prejudices.

The blessing of clean, wholesome, Christian reading for the home.

The Catholic press is strong in Germany and the Church is strong there also; it is weak in France and the Church is helpless and persecuted. Nowhere is the Catholic press more necessary at the present time than in Canada. Our society is being contaminated by the divorce systems of the United States, and by the infusion of ideas of modern France, which are supported here by various organizations which work in the dark, but none the less effectively. Our schools are the present object of attack of these hypocritical sectaries who veil their real objects under the specious name of school reform. At any moment we may be called upon to fight for our institutions, and unless our press is firmly established, the result must be disastrous, as it has been in France.

In France to-day the Catholics outnumber the infidels by a large proportion, but the enemies of the church are united in their various societies and fraternities of divers kinds, the Catholics are divided into various political groups which have no coherency and are bound to meet with defeat after defeat. So it will be here in Canada with the Catholics unless they are vigilant guardians to support among the laity the efforts of the clergy in the churches.

Material aids must be afforded to carry on the battle. When the representatives of our paper call on you, therefore, give them your support, not only by subscribing, but give the names of as many friends as you can think of who are not already subscribers and who should join the ranks in order that when the danger arises we may be a united body with a means of diffusing the work of defence throughout our population.

## A Few Days Left In January.

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## Truth About Prince Rupert

British Newspaper Speaks of the New City of the North—Will Recover Trade.

(Vancouver Daily News Advertiser, January 1st, 1909.)

Mr. E. B. Osborn, special commissioner of "Canada," the London illustrated journal, who was in Vancouver not long ago, gave a Winnipeg Free Press reporter some information concerning Prince Rupert. He said:

"I should think more lies have been told about Prince Rupert than about any new city ever yet sprung up in the west. For example, I was warned not to go there until the spring unless I wished to walk 70 miles over the ice-floes to get in and out. Another Ananias (with modern improvements) told me that it rained there all day and all night all the year round. But, why repeat these lies? Prince Rupert is in the latitude of London, England, and everybody who knows the British Columbia coast knows very well that it is an ice-free port. As for the rainfall (which is said on good authority to be virtually the same as that of Vancouver, and similarly distributed throughout the year), all I can vouch for is that the weather was fine and mild there during the week I was there.

The harbor is the finest in Canada. It is formed by a perfectly protected curved inlet 16 miles long, a mile broad and 26 fathoms deep on an average. The bottom has good holding for anchors, and there is 30 feet of water at the lowest tide, by the temporary wharves. The nature of the approach from seaward has been criticised in certain quarters. But all such criticisms have been finally disposed of by Captain J. F. Parry, R.N., of H.M.S. Egria, which is making the Admiralty survey of the entrance. He says: 'It is no breach of etiquette on my part to state that the result of the survey is entirely satisfactory in so far as the approach to Prince Rupert from seaward is concerned.' That ought to be enough for the political variant of the modern Ananias.

Of course, the real Prince Rupert is not yet in being. Until the town site is sold—probably in May—permanent buildings cannot go up. Nearly everything there now will be swept away when the plans of the engineers are carried out. Prince Rupert is not to be a checker-board city. To my mind, that is a great point. You can't get a picturesque city on the rectangular plan. Those who know Detroit with its radiating avenues know how pleasant it is to get away from that particular form of the square deal. Prince Rupert is to have places and parks which will prevent a fire running far—and radiating avenues and hills crowned with white edifices. It will not be one of those dull, decorous cities where a boy and a girl can't lose themselves in case of necessity. I climbed up one of the hills—probably it was what is called the Acropolis on the plan—and the view across the harbor was charming. Three years ago the site was virgin forest; and though it was cleared, the stumps remain here and there.

The soil, which overlies solid rock, is made of decayed vegetation, and is damp and peaty. Many of the present temporary buildings are set on piles; they look like packing cases on sticks. There are two really good hotels, and a number of dollar-a-day proportions, where they give the guest "good, square meals," and ask them to sleep in bunks as in French-Canadian shanties. At present it is a dry town, the sale of liquor being forbidden in view of the railway construction work going on there. It is said they make a kind of cider for the use of citizens suffering from a chronic thirst. But nobody offered us any. Whoever wishes to get "full" must go to Port Essington, several hours' voyage, where a perpendicular person is regarded with suspicion. When I was there I asked a man with a face like a tombstone, who was reclining on the wharf, why the whole population was celebrating the occasion. "That's so," was his only reply. Port Essington, a miniature Seattle, will be put out of action when Prince Rupert makes its real start.

Of course, Prince Rupert is bound to become a great seaport. It will be served by the shortest and by far the easiest freight route on the continent, and the sea journey from Prince Rupert to Yokohama is 400 miles shorter than the Vancouver route and 600 miles shorter than the distance between San Francisco and the Japanese port. Naturally, Prince Rupert will be the distributing point for all Northern British

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Columbia—a country richer in mineral resources than the more developed southern part—for the Yukon Territory and for all the Alaskan shoreline. It will eventually recover for Canada all the trade with the north that was lost to Seattle, a live city, whatever its faults, during the Klondike boom. Also, it must become a great centre of lumbering, canning and the manufacturing of fishery products. Just outside the harbor is the finest halibut fishery in the world—an asset which has not yet been realized to any great extent. Good progress has been made with the grading of the first 100 miles eastward of the G.T.P., and next summer the tracklayers should be at work.

There will be a record rush to Prince Rupert when the townsite is sold. Everywhere across the Rockies the interest in the new city is extraordinary keen—as keen as was the interest in Dawson more than ten years ago. Anybody who can buy a good lot there will be making a good investment if he buys to hold and not to sell again. If he does it for speculative purposes, he will be taking a hand in a game such as was seen in Winnipeg in 1881-2, though there will be more at the back of Prince Rupert than there was at the back of this city 25 years ago. I should like to see British and Canadian investors get the lion's share of the profits of Prince Rupert's development. As for the opportunities there for workers, not capitalists, I do not care to express an opinion. There is much unemployment on the coast, more even than on the prairies at the present time. Anybody who has a job in Winnipeg ought not to throw it up on the chance of doing better in Prince Rupert, or any other city on the Coast. For the present at any rate a job in hand—even if it be not exactly a "bird"—is worth two in the British Columbia bush.