## The Catholic Record

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## THE BIBLE AS A CLASS-BOOK

very unsympathetic Hodgins exonerates his friend Dr. us in a chapter entitled "The schools were based. Bible as a Class Book," "as I It is interesting, too, to compare years before his appointment to carefully worded memorial. office. It was owing principally, as the time, to make the Bible a classbook in the Common schools."

Dr. Hodgins here refers to the "Bible be prescribed as a classbook." Diverse in their character in His Word."

Dr. Ryerson says in one of his principal opposition which, in 1846, and for several years afterwards. I encountered was that I did not make the Bible compulsory in the Schools, but simply recognized the right of Protestants to use it in teach us how to read but to teach us the way to Heaven,) as a book of religious instruction without the right, or the power, of compelling any one to use it."

The Hon. Peter D. Blacquiere, though a Protestant, saw clearly how utterly offensive to Catholics and subversive of the professed Common school ideal, this would be. "To attempt," he said in the Legislative Council, "the introduction of the Holy Scriptures, as received by Protestants as a class-book in the Common Schools when Roman Catholics were to be educated in the same School, was worse than useless; it was oppressive; it was dangerous; and it must arrest all progress in education."

So in the early stages of the development of our school system it was recognized that to make the Protestant version and canon of the Scriptures a school text-book was to make the schools distinctively Protestant and sectarian.

A recent judicial decision in San Francisco declared that the Pro- discussion that should precede any of directors. testant version of the Bible is such radical modification of the sectarian and barred it from use in principle professedly governing the arise the Public schools.

Last week a denutation of clergy. men of several denominations interviewed the Ontario Minister of Education on this same subject. At the request of the deputation the press were excluded. So presumably the press accounts were furnished by some of those who were present. The London Free Press Catholics of comment generally

gress had been made.

This morning's session was chiefly a report on the progress made in connection with drafting some drafting some

The Globe is a little more explicit. giving the full text of the resolution presented to the Minister:

At the meeting, which by request of the clergymen was held privately in the Minister's office, the follow
The clause row reads:

At the meeting, which by request the authority that man lawfully and decide such "claim" on behalf icance for Canada of his becoming of the Public school.

The clause row reads:

When Cathelies pointed out that the other time.

ing memorial was presented:

"At a meeting of duly appointed representatives of the legislative bodies of the Anglican, Congrega-tionalist, Methodist and Presbyterian Communions, holding jurisdiction in the Province of Ontario, held on Wednesday, November 15, 1922, in the Board Room of the Continental Life Building, Toronto, and presided over by His Grace the Archbishop of Algoma, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted for submission to the Minister of Education:

"(1) That it is the sense of this eeting, that some additional prosion should be made in the public hool curriculum of the Province, or such systematic reading of the bible as will present a comprehensive view of its contents to the pupils in the public schools of the Province; for the memorization of the great literary masterpieces of the Bible; and for instruction in morals and good citizenship drawn from carefully selected Scripture passages.

That, to this end, a scheme of Scripture passages, suited to each grade in the schools, should be prepared and issued by the Depart-ment, of Education for the Prov-

It is worth while examining this resolution closely; for here is a movement strikingly similar to that which in 1841 Dr. Hodgins declares was responsible for the history of Separate schools Dr. incorporation of the Separate school principle into our school Ryerson from the charge of having system; and which, moreover, goes introduced the Separate school prin- much further than Dr. Ryerson ciple into our Common school deemed compatible with the fundasystem. "That was done," he tells mental principles on which Common

have shown, in 1841, three the Free Press summary with the

While Catholics will sympathize pointed out, to the well-intentioned, fully with the object the Protestbut misdirected zeal of those who ant clergymen have in view and sought to influence the newly welcome their conversion to the elected and mixed Legislature of principle to which we have always declared and sanctioned by one of held, yet there are considerations that must be taken into account.

1. Catholics believe in the Holy numerous petitions praying that the | Scriptures and revere them as the Word of God. They are encouraged by the Church to read them. they generally agreed "that knowl- To deny their inspiration is, by that edge, to be productive of any real very fact, to cease to be a Catholic. benefit, or substantial good, to the Yet there are fundamental and people must be guided by the un- irreconcilable differences between erring wisdom of God, as revealed the Catholic and the Protestant of their authority, children released position with regard to the Bible. from the duty of obedience, in In the matter even of reading the order that the very purpose for letters (Story of My Life): "The Scriptures our disagreement is which authority is given be not MR. BONAR LAW, FOREIGN radical. But of this at another defeated. time.

2. In all discussion of this quesit is openly assumed that "the duties and obligations of parental Bible" is the Protestant version and authority. the School (not as an ordinary read- | the Protestant canon of Holy Scriping book as it was not given us to tures. That is an assumption to affairs. which no Catholic can subscribe.

8. That the Bible, privately interpreted, is the sole rule of faith and morals is as distinctly and dis- recognition of the divine origin of tinctively a Protestant doctrine as all authority the corner-stone of that the Pope is the divinely con- her new Constitution. stituted Head of the Church is distinctively Catholic.

4. In the proposed series of text books "for instruction in morals and good citizenship" the Protestant doctrine is expressly or implicitly assumed. These considerations- | Canada Flour Mills of one-thirand we might add many others- teenth of the school tax on their are put forth not with the object of Goderich property to the Separate hindering the attainment of the laud- school. The amount involved was able desire of our Protestant friends \$200.00. The assessor at Goderich to give religious instruction to their claimed that all the taxes on this children, but that the Catholic posi- property should go to the public tion should be clearly known and school unless and until it is shown fairly considered by those who that a corresponding proportion of advocate such instruction as part the stock is held by Catholics. of the Public school curriculum.

If the Public schools are to and interests of all citizens receiv-Public school system.

## THE AFFAIRS OF MEN

That the name of God was excluded from the Versailles Treaty was made the subject of widespread comment, and amongst unfavorable, often caustic or Suggestions for the standardization of religious teaching in Public schools were discussed. The clergymen stated they would be willing to likewise to have ignored all recognized to the standardization of the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the standardization of the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the standardization of religious teaching in Public published draft of the Constitution of the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the standardization of the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored all recognized to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored to the Irish Free State was found likewise to have ignored to the Irish Free S contemptuous. When the first of the Irish Free State was found misleading impression was conveyed have publicity when further pro- nition of the authority of God, even to have omitted all mention of His name, the Catholic religious sense was deeply wounded, and attention standard religious text-book for uni- was promptly called to the omission.

The clause now reads: "Dail Eireann, sitting as a Convisional Parliament, acknowledging that all lawful authority comes from God to the people, and in the and unity of Ireland shall thus be restored, hereby proclaims the establishment of Saorstat Eireann and in the exercise of undoubted right decrees and enacts as follows."

As we have had occasion recently to point out, it is of Catholic faith that all lawful authority comes from God; but whether directly to those chosen by the people to rule them in any civil capacity, or to the people as a whole society and by them delegated to those whom they elect to exercise it, is an open question amongst theologians. As an Irish bishop recently pointed out it is a question of little practical importance. What admits of no doubt or controversy, what is of Catholic faith. is that, whether directly or indirectly, all authority is God-given. Whether exercised by Catholics or Protestants, by Jews or Mohammedans or infidels, matters not; all authority is of God.

This does not mean if authority be abused, if it be perverted to defeat the end for which it is given, that there is no relief. The divine right of Kings is a perversion of Catholic teaching, an invention of absolute monarchs and their sycophants. in conflict with Catholic theology throughout the Christian centuries But that is another aspect of the question. Suffice it to make the point clear by an illustration every one

will understand. The authority of parents, no one will deny, is from God .- It is the Ten Commandments. It is necessary for the continued existence, not to speak of the welfare, of human society. Yet who does not know that parental authority is sometimes so grossly abused, so perverted to evil ends, that this most intimate of human relationships, the family, must be broken up, parents deprived of the exercise

These exceptional cases, however, affect not in the slightest degree tion, so far as schools are concerned, our belief in the divinely imposed

So, mutatis mutandis, in civi

Throughout the wide world the sea-divided Gael will rejoice that the motherland has made the

THE GODERICH SEPA RATE SCHOOL CASE

This case arose out of the allocaon by the directors of the Western

Mr. Justice Middleton decided that the action of the directors is become distinctively Protestant to be presumed to be valid until it schools let the change be made is shown that it is not. That is, that openly and above board, the rights the burden of proof rests naturally on those who attack the validity or ing due consideration in the public legality of the action of the board

Several interesting considerations

In the daily paper before us the two-column heading to this news THE AUTHORITY OF GOD IN item reads: "Goderich Separate School Demands \$200 in Taxes." And the opening sentence of the Toronto despatch is this: "The Roman Catholic Separate School at Goderich claims to be entitled to \$200 of the school taxes payable by the Western Canada Flour Mills."

malice prepense that this grossly to readers. But the text shows that it was the Public school resenting and impugning the action of the directors of the company that "demanded" and "claimed" every cent of the school tax including the Responding to universal public fraction allocated to the Separate Canada, and is not fairly to be sentiment the opening clause was school. It was the Separate school

When Catholics pointed out that there were many companies the stituent Assembly in this Pro- religion of whose stock-holders was unknown and unascertainable, would secure an equitable division from God to the people, and in the confidence that the National life of the taxes of the property Canada does not know to-day what forbidding the game because it clamorously told that the present legal provision was ample and adequate for the purpose. That there was any difficulty or even hardship in determining the religion of stockholders was heatedly denied.

Now when Mr. Justice Middleton decides that those who attack the decision of the Flour Mills directorate must show that the allocation of taxes to the Separate school exceeds the proportion of stock held by Catholics, the boot is on the other foot. Mr. Garrow, K. C., throwing up the sponge, said: "I don't know how it is ever to be shown what proportion of the stock is held by Roman Catholics."

Precisely. It is the impossibility of accurately or even approximately determining the religion of stockholders in many companies that is the ground for our request for such reasonable legislation on the subject as will not impose impossible tasks on Separate school boards.

Another important consideration is this: Directors of Companies. and local managers have often expressed surprise, even indignation, that though the full proportionate share of all the burdens due to exemption, to increased school accommodation, etc., due to the location and favorable treatment of manufacturing plants, fall on Catholics equally with Protestants, Separate schools are deprived of their proportionate share of the taxes on the property concerned.

It would appear from Justice Middleton's decision that such companies through their directorates even under the existing law may divide their taxes equitably between Public and Separate schools even when the proportion of Catholic stock-holders is unknown. On those attacking such action rests the burden of proof that the allocation of taxes to Separate schools exceeds the proportion of stock held by Catholics.

POLICY, AND CANADA BY THE OBSERVER

Last week the papers carried an of England, in the course of the eign policy is such obvious nonsense election campaign in that country, in which he referred to the Domin-Britain. He is reported to have conditions? Last week the people spoken as follows:

foreign policy must have the support | the opinion of the people who have Prime Minister, "that in the War there any other way? Is there any manhood in their relations with the | Canadian people? should be Prime Minister."

Well. Canada has not vet found occasion for any great excitement over the men born in Canada who what we shall do to you.' have become prominent in English politics. With the exception of Edward Blake they have not by their English career made any Canadian hearts burst with pride. Mr. Blake was a respectable figure wherever he was; for his talents were more for law than for statesmanship. Mr. MacMaster and Mr. Joseph Martin have added nothing We don't suppose that it was with Greenwood and Mr. Max Aitken could not do so : though Mr. Aitken has convinced some Canadians that he must be a great man; for, they naively point out, did not the King

that proof enough? spent only his very early years in faith in God from whom comes all assessor to make such "demand" We don't see, therefore, the signif-

other time.

The Prime Minister says the body-are apt to regard the game foreign policy of Great Britain must as a modern institution. It has, have the support of the Dominions. however, a history of many centurand asked for legislation that But, how does he intend to find out ies. As early as 1349, in the reign whether it has that support or not ? of Edward III., an edict was issued of such companies, they were the foreign policy of Great Britain diverted attention from "more is. We see enough of it to know martial and patriotic exercises," that it is pursued along intricate such as archery and wrestling. It and tortuous lines from starting had evidently not yet developed points of which we know nothing. into the strenuous pastime familiar All that we can see of it leads us to to this twentieth century. think that it is framed, and from time to time changed, without reference to anything but the interests of Great Britain.

Canadians who are perfectly satisfied VIII. legislated against football as with that, and think that that is the harmful to their "dear peepul," best of all possible arrangements: who regard our system of self- forbidden under penalty of imwhich the Government of England it among "other rough and violent into a big mess, our sub-government ought to put aside its own ideas and without question.

which, by the way, is pretty nearly | thereby. correct from a strict constitutional point of view. The Parliament of Great Britain can unquestionably pass an act at any time repealing is justly called the "Working Man's any or all of our laws, and putting Pope," and Pius X. is for sufficient any or all of the laws of Great reasons the "Children's Pope," so Britain in their place. Our Consti- Pius XI. may come to be called the tution is an act of the British Parliament and as such could be repealed at any time by the same a theoretical not a practical possibility. Mr. Bonar Law as well as all other English statesmen realize that it could not be done without their losing this Dominion

forever.

recognize that Canada has at least ers. And-yes, I see that you must a theoretical independence, they have subscribers. You have a large are now trying to make themselves number? Well, then, I send a think that they are giving us some special blessing to all who have paid say in that part of the management up their subscription." of the Empire which is the most vital and far-reaching of all, that is to say, the foreign policy of Great Britain. There is no such thing as an imperial policy in this empire; and there cannot be under present conditions. The statement account of a speech made by Mr. that the English Government con-Bonar Law, the new Prime Minister | sults Canadian opinion on its forthat no one who reads it can fail to see how foolish it is. How can that ions and the foreign policy of Great opinion be collected, under present of Great Britain went to the polls "Prime Minister Bonar Law and exercised their right to vote dealt with the foreign policy of his for or against a government which the great Dominions sprang to other way which would satisfy the

Mother Country, and there were How does Mr. Bonar Law propose changes in that hour. They will to consult the public opinion of the never be the same again. As Lord people of Canada? By subscribing Curzon said yesterday, in all our to a clipping bureau and treasuring policy we have to think not only of up the editorials of the Montreal public opinion at home, but have to Star? There is no way of finding use every means in our power to out, with any color of constitutional make certain that we have the sup- practice, the opinions of a people port of public opinion throughout who have no constitutional means the Empire. I think also it is no of making that opinion known. Of disadvantage - not to put it any course, the people of England do higher—that just at the time when not always have a chance to express these Dominions have reached man- in the constitutional manner their hood a man born in one of them opinion of a policy before they get into a mess, but in that case they can say to the men who got them into the mess, "Wait and see

But Canadians have no such right and no such opportunity.

Note.-The foreign policy of no country is, or can be, under the direct control of its people. All Canadians are represented at his long imprisonment. Ottawa, and through their Government and Parliament can exercise to Canada's prestige. Mr. Hamar a very real influence on imperial Sacrament last Feast of Corpus it pleasant ?-I'll do it. Is it retains the right-hitherto undisputed-to decide whether or not she make him a noble Lord? Is not foreign wars. It is, we think, a a large number of field officers, all course. "Why did God give me the Mr. Bonar Law, we understand, British Premier openly recognizes They had gone specially to Versailles wish me to use it?"-like the the necessity of consulting Cana- for the purpose as a testimony of had prescribed strychnine, marked called a Canadian at all. All his dian opinion in matters of interest their youth. One need not despair "Poison," to aid the heart action. amended to include a confession of that denied the authority of the life has been spent in Great Britain. to all the constituent parts of the of a country that can produce testi-

NOTES AND COMMENTS ADMIRERS OF Rugby-and they include a large part of the student

It would appear, however, to have made some progress in that direction by the time of Henry IV., There are, of course, some for both that sovereign and Henry and in the reign of Elizabeth it was government as a sort of license by prisonment. James I. also debarred permits a sub-government in this exercises." Notwithstanding these country to make laws and regula- prohibitory enactments the game tions here with the constitutional seems to have held its own. Lonreservation that when Great Britain don apprentices, we are told, were deals with big questions and gets not to be kept from their favorite pastime by mere prohibitions, for even while these laws were in force get into the big mess at once and the streets of the city in winter were "full of foote-balles." Oppon-Mr. Bonar Law does not insist on ents in our day of another kind of this interpretation of our status; Prohibition may surely take heart

Just as Leo XIII. by reason of his weighty encyclicals on the subject 'Editors' Pope." Himself a man of letters, he has practical knowledge also of the craft. When the power that made it. But that is editor of the Westminster Cathedral Chronicle was recently in Rome he had private audience with the Holy Father, of whom he asked a blessing on his journal and its readers. "Certainly," replied the Pope, "but first of all I bless the editor. Then Being forced by circumstances to I send my blessing to all your read-

made to Pius XI. since his election as Supreme Pontiff, none has given him greater pleasure than that of the Mount Everest Expedition. This offering consisted of a fragment of rock from the highest point reached on the mountain, and the highest point on the earth's surface. yet attained by man. The piece of rock, mounted on an ebony stand, decorated with silver bars, and bearing an inscription to the Pope as Alpinist, stands on the Holy Father's writing table. His Holiness has written General Bruce as so yearn for us that they have to Government, and laid special had taken a certain line in foreign leader of the expedition, an autoemphasis on the fact that British policy. That is the way to gather graph letter, recalling the pleasure it gave him to receive from them Instinctively Harry likes that, and of the Dominions throughout the to back up a foreign policy with during the course of their climb, a he isn't all wrong, either, in liking Empire. The fact is," said the their lives and their money. Is telegram of congratulation on his election. Accompanying this letter was a gold medal, coupled with his good wishes for complete success in finger in his mouth. the next effort to reach the Mount's

> medium of the Roman Journal, minute he wants to see something. Osservatore Romano, comes a testi- | See it he will, at any cost. Another mony to the inviolability of the confessional. The Vatican periodical Hear it he will, no matter what announces that a French priest has reason says against it. He must just returned to his parish after associate with a certain boy, a having served thirty-three years in certain crowd, no matter how prison for an offence of which he dangerous to him. He must play a was innocent and whose perpetrator certain game, and throw everything was known to him. In 1889 the aside for that. Instinct dominates priest had been sentenced to life him, owns him, drives him along imprisonment for the murder of ahead of it. a woman. A few months ago his Finally, after a continuous surformer verger died, after acknowl- render to the impulse of pleasure edging himself that he was the from without, he begins to surmurderer. He had confessed this render to the baser instincts from to the priest at the time, who when within, until his whole life is himself accused took the sentence possessed with the single idea of in silence and rather than defame pleasure. Is a thought tempting? the sacrament went cheerfully to He admits it. Is a desire alluring?

IN THE Procession of the Blessed | He has only one rule of life: "Is foreign policy so long as Canada Christi, in the park of St. Genevieve unpleasant ?-I'll not do it." College, Versailles, walked twelve generals and one admiral of the and this boy has become set in, Army and Navy of France. The imbedded in, enslaved to, this sort will participate in Great Britain's crowd of the faithful also included of life, we find him defending his good thing all round that the of whom were alumni of the college. instinct," he says, "if He did not mony like this

THERE HAS recently been discovered in Ireland the ruins of a monastery sknown to have been in existence before 699 A. D. It is situated on Mabee Island, Strangford Lough, near Belfast. It is mentioned in Muircha's Life of St. Patrick, and Bede's Ecclesiastical History, where it is recorded that in 634 Pope Honorius wrote to bishops of the Irish Church about the Paschal controversy and the Pelagian heresy, one of the bishops mentioned being Cromous, Bishop of Nendrum. The island was subsequently named Mabee, after a bishop of that monastery. The Belfast Natural History Society have unearthed valuable relics, including some stones bearing written characters, the exact meaning of which has not yet been determined. Some of the writings are said to be of Danish origin.

## BOY LIFE

"Talks to Boys ' By Rev. J. P. Conroy, S. J Published by permission of the Queen's Work
Press

FOLLOWING THE MULE CONTINUED

We must keep a sharp eye on instinct, therefore, draw a boundary line for it and see that it never oversteps that line. And where shall we draw that line? Right at the edge of reason, and as soon as instinct starts to get across that edge push it back. Remember, we are not mere animals. Animals act entirely by instinct, automatically. God depends upon us and gives us His grace precisely to enable us to regulate our instincts by our reason and our will power. And just as soon as we fail to do this a foolish or a sinful error is the result.

This is where Dick made his mistake in the classroom. He had his little joke, and had a barrel of fun out of it. Not so awful a matter. after all. A good joke, even out of season, has its bright side. But untimely jokes call for timely punishment, and Dick knew it. Nevertheless he sends up a loud wail of agony. Why the agony? Not because the punishment was unfair. Dick's reason told him that it was fair. But because Dick was hurt, and anybody that hurts little Richard is absolutely naughty. It is said that of the offerings Dick's instinct wins over his reason.

So with Bill. No one objects if Bill turn three handsprings when a man on his team sends the ball over the back fence with the bases full That's legitimate instinct. But when the umpire calls Bill out at first a moment later, why give an imitation of a hungry Bengal tiger looking for raw meat? Bill's feelings are jarred, that's all. And nobody should jar Willie.

The same with Harry. It is lovely, no doubt, to have our gang moan and shriek outside the house till they win us to them once again. it. But what about reason holding him to his duty at the books

"Reason!" says Harry, with his heard of it."

Watch any boy who travels along the road of mere feeling, instinct, and you will see a boy who is going FROM FRANCE, through the to hurt himself terribly. One minute he wants to hear something.

He follows it. Is an action satisfying to the senses? He does it.

And then, when manhood comes "Why did he give me this if I am not to use it?" says the patient,