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THURSDAY, AUG. 4, 1904.

FRATERNAL ASSESSMENT RATES.

The Canadian, official organ of the C.M.B.A., publishes this month, over the signature of Grand Secretary Behan, an urgent plea for an increase of rates.

The A.O.H. in our columns a few weeks ago published the results of similar comparisons for the benefit of Canadian members of that organization.

The Canadian has an editorial in addition to Mr. Behan's report; and it appears to us that several unfortunate admissions are made in both columns.

The Grand Secretary declares as follows: "I never heretofore approved an increase in rates, believing that our present system was fair and equitable and capable of meeting all emergencies."

Then, in the editorial column, we find these words of wisdom: "The necessity for some change can hardly be denied by anyone who will give that consideration to the question that it deserves."

The conclusion, therefore, is obvious that Grand Secretary Behan has not heretofore given "that consideration to the question that it deserves"; nor has Grand President Hackett, because we find the Grand Secretary confessing that it was he who brought the revelation to the notice of the Grand President.

In a word, the grand officers of the C.M.B.A. have been conducting a business concerning which they know little or nothing.

They say, of course, that they are in the same boat with other fraternal companies; and this, in truth, is the base of all fraternal insurance.

New companies are springing into existence every hour, all competing for cheap, so-called, insurance.

The Order of Modern Antics and the Paleolithic Guild of Hoo Hoos are equally up to date with the Twentieth Century Fakirs of Freedom in offering bargain day insurance to the honest working man.

And their one and only boast all round is their increase of membership—secured, confessedly, either upon false pretences or ignorance of the most elementary principles of life insurance.

Heaven help the poor!

Brother Behan in his great though belated awakening raises his voice to remark that the interests of nearly 20,000 members and their families depend upon the correction of his "heretofore very much mistaken ideas."

The moral of the whole issue appeals to the conscience of all delegates to the forthcoming convention who pledge their religion along with their reputation for honesty and intelligence when they undertake to elect competent grand officers to manage the insurance of 20,000 families.

GOVERNMENT BY THE PRESS.

Within the week the Russian armies in Manchuria have been hard pressed by their numerically much stronger foes, and have had to yield valuable and well-fortified positions.

Mr. Plehve, the Czar's Minister of Interior, has been assassinated by a Hebrew anarchist; and in connection with both events a song of gladness has gone up—or perhaps down—from the press.

Von Plehve possibly was not a progressive statesman; and the Russian armies appear to be able to take the heavy blows they are receiving without unseemly groans or grins.

Good and bad statesmen have fallen victims to the infernal machines of anarchy before now, and armies fighting for and against justice have suffered defeat.

But the Press of England and America has never until now made itself the avowed apologist of that international organization of assassins, described when McKinley fell, and King Edward's life was attempted, as a wild beast crouching on the pathway of our civilization.

An English philosopher was asked a short time ago what, in his opinion, was the great danger of modern society, and he answered that it is government by newspapers.

may be exaggeration, but it does not far overshoot the truth. The great papers of London, Paris, New York and other cities controlled by unknown financiers, govern the spaller fry of the world-wide press by their syndicate schemes which color not only the news published in papers like the Toronto Globe, but also the editorial opinions. This is a considerable approach to absolute government by the press.

FRANCE AND CATHOLICITY.

Events are hurrying to a crisis in France faster than we had anticipated. The Register, in all its articles upon the persecution of the Church by recent French Governments, looked for little in the way of opposition to the leaders of the anti-religious movement. We have said that the Concordat would possibly go after it had been made to serve the immediate ends of M. Combes. But the present outlook is more lamentable than anyone could have foreseen who merely looked for open war, however relentlessly conducted, by the state against the Church.

WHY THIS WAR SCARE?

Conservative journals are endeavoring to convince the people of Canada that they are suffering from military fever and that they should be proud to acknowledge the malady. Now these Conservative journals are wholly wrong. You might count on the fingers of one hand the complete muster of our war-struck Canadians. Seymour Gourley easily ranks first. This fire-eating M.P. is a freak whom no one takes seriously, not even Colonel Sam Hughes, though in a sense they are a pair. The colonel has at least shown all whom it may concern that he has a real taste for the tented field; but so far we have only Gourley's own word for it that the dream of his life is to lie in a ditch shooting Yankees.

It involves too great an effort of the imagination to think of Dr. Sproule in the role of Hotspur on any other day of the year than the 12th July. Where, then, are our dangerous spirits of war? From the tone of the debate in the House of Commons on Monday last the conclusion might be jumped at that the country is full of conquest-thirsty, chafing chieftains, impatient of these piping times of peace.

The Minister of Militia had moved to insert a clause in the Militia Bill to the effect that whenever the Governor-in-Council, that is to say the government of the day, places the militia on active service, parliament not being in session, a proclamation shall be issued for the meeting of parliament within fifteen days. The motion mentioned, as the Militia Act expresses, the cause of so placing the militia on active service to be the defence of Canada. But the Conservative framers of the Militia Act, who were good British subjects of the type of Sir John A. Macdonald, never knew, as do their degenerate heirs, what it was to "think imperially" and not as Canadians. Seymour Gourley, Sam Hughes, Sam Barker of Hamilton, and a few others, hesitated not to accuse the government of treasonable design in not changing the Militia Act so as to empower the Governor-in-Council to call out the Canadian militia for the "defence of the empire" without the mandate of parliament and without supposing even the necessity of calling an early meeting of parliament.

If these gentlemen had a free hand Canada not only could, but would involve the empire in war without consulting the Canadian people or their elected representatives. They would send the militia into Manchuria of their own sweet will should England and Russia quarrel over the right of search on the high seas. And straight jackets could not restrain them from offering war to the helpless American republic to the South. So sanguinary is their turn of mind that they dream of blood when wide awake.

The parliamentary reports do not imply that Seymour Gourley had been snoring immediately preceding the utterance by him of the following dire words: "I have no fear that Canada will be torn from the empire. No power on earth can tear her away. Every drop of British blood will flow on the streets of Canada before that can be accomplished."

Barker from Hamilton had a nightmare almost as bad as Gourley's. "In fifteen days Newfoundland might become the state of a foreign nation" he called out. These crazy heresies it appears, not only libel the French-Canadians, but take equal liberties with the loyalty of Newfoundland, which may be quite as good as their own. But suppose all that Barker says should happen. Would a Canadian Government in such event order an immediate invasion of the United States by the Canadian militia, without waiting for the Imperial authorities to take the initiative? Does the mandate to think imperially imply that each colony is to usurp the functions of the king, lord and commons of Great Britain

and Ireland? That is what it amounts to.

The Dundonald incident is responsible for most of the January rashly attributed to the Canadian people by the Conservative press. Lord Dundonald had little trouble in getting a crowd together in Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal to cheer his departure. In the last mentioned city he talked like a fool, when with the gratuitous vehemence of a cheap demagogue, he appealed to the crowd to "keep their hands on the Union Jack." This sort of talk is truculent balderdash. There is not the shadow of a real or imaginary excuse for it. No faction, party or group in Canada can be named or indicated in connection with any difficulty over the Union Jack, either in the way of keeping their hands on or off it; and the Imperial officer who passed through the streets of Montreal giving such a cry to a partisan crowd in which French-Canadians were conspicuous by their absence, must have suffered sunstroke or some other degrading affliction in South Africa. If the Union Jack is ever to get into trouble in North America the most probable cause thereof will be that the crack-brained patriots of the Conservative party will not keep their hands off it. Lord Dundonald gave them the advice of a brother lunatic when he adjured them to keep their hands on the Union Jack. The Union Jack is safest in the hands of people who respect it as the emblem of peace. And the Canadian people, or at least the overwhelming majority of them, take the dispassionate, practical view of a peace-loving people of this Dundonald business. This is the true state of feeling both in Toronto and Montreal, although the Mail and Empire is silly enough to begin a long editorial with the following words: "Lord Dundonald has gone, execrated and hated by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his coteries, but honored by the Canadian people."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Mr. Louis Laguesse, the father of Madame Albani, died at Chambly, Que., on Monday.

A new book, by Mr. Goldwin Smith, entitled "My Memory of Gladstone," is about to issue from the press.

July 22 was the anniversary of the birth in 1823 of Coventry Patmore, the Catholic poet. One of the London dailies, referring to the event, says the object of Patmore's poetry is to unite religion and the hearth.

Monsignor Sbarretti, the Apostolic Delegate, was interviewed by St. John, N.B., by The New Freeman, and amongst other things, said: "This splendid welcome to the Apostolic Delegate shows the loyalty and devotion which Maritime Province Catholics have for the Holy Father. Throughout Canada it is the same. The people are good and holy and attend well to their religious duties. I was in Halifax just at the conclusion of a mission conducted by Redemptorist Fathers. It was really grand to see the crowds of men that thronged the church."

When asked about the idea, which is sometimes suggested, that a Catholic cannot be loyal to the Pope and at the same time loyal to his country, His Excellency, smiled. "Such nonsense," said he. "In almost every country we find most zealous Catholics taking first rank in the state, and highly jealous of their country's honor. We see it plainly in Canada, in the United States, in Spain and even in France. The same is true of South America, where men having the greatest love and devotion to the Holy Father are of the best type of citizen. There is nothing whatever in that foolish idea, as we easily see by considering facts."

"The crisis in France your excellency," "Well that is surely lamentable. It is terrible to think of. We in this country can hardly realize how such tyranny and oppression could be exercised in a civilized country. But in France they are not free as we are here. They have no idea of liberty as we understand it. We could not imagine in our country religious men and women who would do so much for education and morality as the religious orders have done in France, being driven from their homes. The condition there is cruel indeed." When questioned about Church music His Excellency said that there is nothing beyond what is contained in the Holy Father's Motu Proprio. It expresses everything that has been decided upon concerning changes in Church music, and no definite time for an absolute change to Gregorian Chant has been announced.

Upright, Brave and Gentle

New York, July 18.—President Roosevelt has just presented his photograph to the Society of Sentinels of the Blessed Sacrament of St. Jean Baptiste Church, in East Seventy-sixth street, where the relic of St. Ann is. On the bottom of the photograph is the following inscription, written and signed in the President's own handwriting: "For the Sentinels of the Blessed Sacrament: 'I wish you all success as a society in your efforts to make our young upright and brave and gentle, never flinching from the strong, never wronging the weak.'"

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

The photograph is dated June 22, 1904. It was received by the society a few days ago through their moderator, who had the interview with the President. It is now hanging in a handsome frame upon the walls of the society's conference room at 185 East Seventy-sixth street.

The society is composed of just forty-two young men selected upon the strictest moral and religious lines.

PARKER'S IRISH CHAIRMAN

Thomas Taggart, of Waterford, will Control the Democratic Hosts.

The meeting of the Democratic National Committee, at the Hoffman House, brought together a larger and more interested crowd of Democratic leaders from all parts of the country than any that has been seen here since the Cleveland campaigns of 1884, 1888 and 1892. The lobby was crowded, and the leaders, scattered about in groups, discussed the political situation in a way that showed that they were hopeful of a splendid victory. Committeemen from states that have been strangely Republican since 1896, talked about carrying them for Parker and Davis this year; and every member of the committee spoke of the national ticket as a winner.

Thomas Taggart, of Indiana, was unanimously chosen Chairman of the National Committee. Urey Woodson, of Kentucky, was elected Secretary, John I. Martin, of Missouri, was elected Sergeant-at-Arms, and Samuel Donelson, of Tennessee, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms. The committee did not select a Treasurer, and this will be attended to later. August Belmont may decide not to accept the place, and it was thought wise to allow sentiment on this matter to develop.

When notified of his selection Mr. Taggart thanked the committee for the high honor it had paid him. He realized to the fullest extent, he said, the responsibility of the position, but he felt that with the ticket and platform upon which the candidates stood the Democrats would win the next election. In order to do so they must have the full and cordial support and co-operation of every member of the Committee and every Democrat in the country. He promised to discharge the duties of the position faithfully and intelligently.

Thomas Taggart has had a picturesque career. He was born in the County Waterford, Ireland, in 1856, and, coming to this country in his youth, settled in Xenia, O. Later he moved to Richmond, and then to Garrett, Ind., and in 1877 proceeded to Indianapolis. His start in life was at a livery counter in a railway station. Next he secured a restaurant of his own, from which he earned enough to lease a small hotel. Still prospering, he took a large house, and in course of time, became owner of the Grand Hotel, in Indianapolis, and of a controlling interest in another popular establishment at French Lick.

Mr. Taggart made an early start in politics, working with the Democrats even in the luncheon-counter days, and his services earned him the offer of a nomination for the trusteeship of Centre Township, which he declined. Two years later the Democrats of Marion County, which had been Republican for many years, asked him to run for County Auditor. He did so, and was elected by a majority of 1,800. Then in 1888, he was elected County Chairman in the Harrison-Cleveland campaign. Up to that time Marion County had never gone Democratic in a Presidential election but this year, and in spite of the fact that it was Mr. Harrison's home, Mr. Taggart carried it for Cleveland, although the State went to the Republicans.

In 1895 he was nominated for Mayor of Indianapolis. In 1893, Denn, a Republican, had been elected to this office, by a majority of 2,800. This time Mr. Taggart won, with a majority of 3,200. In 1896 Indianapolis gave William McKinley 6,000 majority, but in 1897 Mayor Taggart was re-elected by a majority of 4,700, which included many Republican votes. In 1899 he was elected Mayor for the third time, but not without a hard fight, and the following year he declined to be a candidate.

Galt Catholic Separate School

(Galt Reporter of March 31, 1904.)

Four pupils were sent to write at the Entrance Examination this last June and all were successful. I enclose their names and the marks they made which I obtained from the teacher of the school, who is a friend of mine. The Catholics of Galt are not in a position to employ more than one teacher nor to pay a good salary even, yet their school has been very successful.

The following pupils from the Galt Separate School wrote at the recent Entrance Examination in June and were successful: Marguerite Wallace .....682 Earl Westline .....682 Bert Radigan .....640 Charles Grassele .....550 The Galt Reporter says: Mr. Power, M.A., Inspector of Separate Schools for Western Ontario, made his official visit to the Galt school on March 10th, 1904, and the following details are taken from his special report to the Trustees: Attendance—Pupils enrolled, 60; pupils present, 42; pupils who passed Entrance Examination, 4.

1. Organization, very good; discipline, excellent. 2. Proficiency of classes in subjects examined: (a) Reading, Spelling, Grammar, Composition, good; (b) Arithmetic, Drawing, Writing, good and middling. 3. Accommodation—School grounds separated for sexes, good size; water supply, on premises; class rooms, quite cheerful; lighting and heating, ample. 4. Equipments—Seats and desks, double; blackboards, fair; one or two new maps are much needed. 5. Remarks—I was exceptionally well pleased with the work being done in this school. I consider Miss McCowell an excellent teacher.

PERSONAL

Mr. J. J. Seitz and his son Ernie left for Winnipeg Monday last. Mr. Seitz will be away for about two weeks.

Barrie Correspondence

This is Saint Anne's Day, the 26th of July, and a glorious summer day. We are on the gay little steamer Islay, which has a party of excursionists on board, bound for Big Bay Point. While seated on deck, Allan-dale is seen a mile away, which is the sixth ward of Barrie, but learn that the boat is not going to call there, as the severe frost and ice of the past winter destroyed its fine wharf. At 1.30 the Islay pulls in her moorings, waiters around, meets

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

The Illustrated Catholic Missions for July gives the following summary of present conditions and of the future outlook for missionary work in the Eastern countries, now devastated by the war. The present age is certainly great, but it is hard to forecast the result of the many great events now following in rapid succession. Experience changes the disposition of nations as well as of individuals, and, as the writer of this interesting article concludes, the future must be left in the hands of God.

Before the present war between Russia and Japan had actually broken out, Bishop Mutel, vicar apostolic of Korea, sounded a note of alarm, re-echoed by the whole Catholic press, as to the dangers threatening his mission. Since the dogs of war have been let loose, the same bishop, in a letter addressed to the Semaine Religieuse de Seer, once more urges Catholics to raise their voices in fervent supplication to Heaven to implore the protection of God upon his afflicted mission.

A SERIOUS CRISIS.

Our readers, we hope, will heed the appeal of the zealous bishop; for the missions in the Far East, generally, are passing through a serious crisis. Owing to preparations for war, and on account of the turmoil of battles, the minds of the people in the regions affected by the present conflict, are so turned away from religion that the work of evangelization, which was progressing so rapidly, is now seriously arrested, if not brought to a standstill. Mission property is not only in jeopardy as a natural contingent of the war, but is furthermore in danger of being pillaged, damaged or destroyed by those organized bands of robbers that infest Korea and Manchuria.

And the future of these missions looks anything but bright, no matter which of the two combatants ultimately gains the victory. Everybody knows the way in which Russia thwarts the work of evangelization within her realm; and, as to the Japanese, if they were to carry away the trophies of victory, "they would look down on the European missionaries as being too low for them to condescend to enquire into their doctrine."

LETTERS FROM THE BISHOPS.

Nearly all the bishops and missionaries in the countries affected by the war—and who is better able than they to judge of its probable consequences throughout the missions?—view the situation with alarm. Bishop Mutel, in the letter mentioned above, writes: "In fourteen years' time, our members have increased from 18,000 to 60,000. In our last report we could chronicle 8,000 baptisms of adults. Shall we ever have such results again?" Bishop Geurts, vicar apostolic of Eastern Chili, in the neighborhood of the seat of war, writes: "China remains neutral. She has lined the frontiers around our Vicariate with thousands of soldiers, to keep off (?) the Russians and to maintain order among the inhabitants. "Such is the official purpose. Europeans, however, put very little trust in this, her declaration; they fear lest sooner or later she may throw in her lot with Japan... and then, we should find ourselves here in a very awkward position. For our own sakes, then, and the sake of our holy religion, we do not wish to come under any other rule but that of China; otherwise our liberty, and consequently our progress, might be greatly restrained."

The Rev. Father Steichen, of Tokio, in recommending his book, "Les Daimyo Chretiens," says: "If you will kindly turn to the last pages of my book, you will thence gather what are the aspirations of the Japanese. They will, one day, be the leaders of the whole yellow race, and drive out all the white people, no matter to what nationality they belong. The Chinese, Tonkinese and Siamese rejoice over their victories and are only awaiting a favorable opportunity to join them. After all, the Japanese, daring, brave, well-disciplined and frugal as they are, make probably the best soldiers of the world. They work and study whilst the Russians dance and drink absynth."

A BRIGHTER SIDE.

On the other hand, there are certain bright spots on the horizon, which afford us a glimmer of hope that the dark clouds may yet pass away. Japan has given her assurance that the missionaries shall be protected. So has China. Though the Japanese know full well the part France has played in the occupation of Manchuria by Russia, yet they respect the French missionaries, on account of the powerful civilizing influence they exercise upon their followers; and several Catholics trained by them have been appointed to posts of authority, especially in the Diocese of Nagasaki. "I believe, also," says Father Steichen, "that God has His own designs on the Japanese, and will make use of them to bring about the conversion and civilization of Asia."

The missionaries of Manchuria speak favorably of the conduct of the Russian officials towards them. Whilst in Europe they indeed put all kinds of obstacles in the way of Catholic progress, they have protected the missionaries in Manchuria and left them full liberty. Perhaps Russia would still follow the same policy in case victory should be hers.

We cannot do better than leave the future in the hands of God. Who can draw good out of evil, in the meantime, redoubling our prayers both for the missionaries and their flocks, that God may protect them during these harassing times; as also for the speedy conclusion of the present unhappy strife.

Dr. Kelly Returned

Dr. Kelly of Orillia, who was in the city for the purpose of acting as groomsmen at his sister's wedding, has returned to the scene of his labors.

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the cooling breezes of Kempenfeldt Bay, and heads for its next port, which is the quaint and romantic hamlet of Shanty Bay, where our party intend spending the afternoon. The boat keeps close to the north shore, giving us a good view of the surrounding hills, which are dotted by many pretty homes of our townspeople. We are passing Fisherman's Point, where a sad fatality took place two years ago, when Norma, the beloved and only daughter of Mr. D. W. LeRoy and Mrs. LeRoy, lost her life by drowning while in bathing with some young companions. Now, we sight on the plateau the stately homes of the Messrs. Raikes. Shortly after rounding their promontory we view the Powers' grand old home known as "Woodlands," resting in its park of primeval forest at present occupied for the summer by people from Toronto. This time we are attracted by the fortified looking light-house of Mr. Nichols (also of Toronto) and are in view of his artistic grounds and magnificent summer residence. All make up a scene which is a pleasure to look upon. The boat steams on by pastoral scenes, with its herds of cattle grazing in their easy manner. Then we see the home of Colonel O'Brien, a lovely and sequestered place which the winds of time cannot easily disturb, it being so well guarded by its native forest. In a few moments the Islay arrives at Shanty Bay wharf, which is a substantial structure. We go on shore and see many pretty summer cottages, recently built, then we end our way to pay a visit to the old Anglican church, which for many years was presided over by the late Rector Ardash. On the wall to the right hangs a tablet on which is inscribed, "To the Glory of God, and to the beloved memory of Lucius Richard O'Brien, first president of Royal Canadian Academy, second son of Colonel Edward O'Brien and Mary Sophia, his wife, founders of this parish, born August 15th, 1832, died December 13th, 1899. Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God." We are now strolling in the adjoining cemetery, where quietly sleep many past worshippers of this sacred little church, waiting for the sound of the last trumpet on the great resurrection day, when all must appear before the judgment seat of Christ.

Mr. Alexander McDonald of San Francisco is visiting his parents, Mr. J. D. McDonald and Mrs. McDonald, Peel street.

Miss Marie Carpenter of Chicago came home to attend her sister's funeral (Mrs. Rogers) and is staying with her mother, Mrs. L. Carpenter, Penetanguishene street.

Miss M. Murphy, Farley avenue, Toronto, is a guest at the Queen's.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Coffey, Miss Hannah Coffey, Miss Kearns, Miss McCabe and Miss Long were among the visitors to St. Ann's, Quebec, last week. Mr. and Mrs. Coffey returned on Sunday; the other members of the party remained a few days longer.

The funeral of Mrs. Thomas O'Rourke took place this morning from her late home, 184 Blake street, to St. Mary's Church and cemetery.

Miss Mahoney, Hamilton, is a guest at Mrs. Small's.

The house occupied by Mr. Frank Dalton on Cumberland street, has been sold by Mr. George Wilson to Mr. Friel of Pelphinst. It was formerly owned by Mr. Robt. Moore of Niagara Falls. Mr. Friel has purchased this property as an investment. There is a big demand for real estate in this ward, particularly for houses of the cheaper class. Shrewd investors are buying in every available house and when the new machine shops and other contemplated changes are made, there will likely be a house famine.

Dr. Kelly Returned

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