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Recent Elections and the duty of Catholic Electors in the Future

To the Editor Catholic Register:

Sir,—It is truly to be lamented that in formulating a policy on which to fight the Dominion bye-elections in London city and Oxford the managers of the Conservative party relied entirely on anti-Catholic cries. True, it was called by Mr. Borden, the leader of the Conservative party, a fight for "Provincial rights," but no one who read the speeches of the Conservative newspaper editorials, or who listened to the "arguments" of the Conservative canvassers, could mistake the issue as put by the recognized opponents of the Government. The issue, they asserted, was one of Laurier and the Pope on one side and the Conservative candidate and King Edward on the other! Indeed, Mr. Borden's whole plea was that the Government candidates ought to be defeated in order that separate schools might be made possible in the Northwest Territories.

All through the constituencies, the principles that Catholics hold dear were sneered at, and those who favored the Catholic view that no school should be without religious teaching were denounced as traitors to their country.

In practice, indeed, the Conservative leaders plainly told the Roman Catholics in the constituency that they had no use for them in this contest—that they hoped to make more votes for their candidate by misrepresenting Catholic aspirations and appealing to the worst passions and prejudices of another section of the community.

This is not the first nor the second occasion that the leaders of the Conservative party in Ontario have chosen to assume this attitude towards the Roman Catholic population. More than once, in recent years, they have attempted to gain political advantage by these unpatriotic appeals to race and religious prejudices.

There was, for example, the anti-Separate School campaign of the Ontario Conservatives, when a most determined attempt was made to drive the late Sir Oliver Mowat from public life because his Government had endeavored to have the separate schools in the Province brought to the highest state of efficiency possible. Who in Ontario does not remember the dastardly tactics resorted to by the Conservative leaders in those campaigns—when wholesale lying and flagrant misrepresentation were resorted to in order to incite the Protestant section of the population to vote against the then Liberal Government because of its alleged undue kindness to the Catholic population? Even that notorious woman, Margaret L. Shepherd, was taken to the bosom of the official heads of the Conservative party in London and elsewhere, and though she was utterly discredited, they welcomed her assistance in fomenting religious fanaticism and prejudice in the community.

Then came the P.P.A. movement, which was a direct outcome of the Conservative determination that schools in which the Catholics had confidence should not be made efficient, but should be discredited. It was during this unpatriotic agitation on the part of the Conservative party that the Scriptural Selections for the use in schools which had met with the approval of the heads of both the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches, were denounced by the Conservative leaders from one end of the Province to the other as a concession to the "Church of Rome," simply because the Archbishop of Toronto was asked by the Minister of Education to approve of the selections, and the fanatics in more than one locality publicly burned this book of selections from the Bible, as if it were an immoral work!

The P.P.A. was, indeed, but a donkey engine for the Conservative party, and it was worked for all that it was worth to aid in the election of Conservative candidates in such constituencies as were known for narrow and sectarian prejudices. But the Liberal party to their credit, be it said, combated the views of these intolerant spirits as unworthy of reception by any free people. They

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maintained that Liberalism would never countenance these unpatriotic attempts to stir up bad blood among the Canadian people, composed as they are of mixed races and varied religious convictions.

Have our people fully comprehended the debt of gratitude that they owe to the Liberals of this country? Sometimes I hardly think that they do. If they do, surely they will never again support the men who in the recent contests in London and Oxford so industriously endeavored to make political capital by appealing to race and religious prejudices through denunciation of principles held in esteem by Roman Catholics.

The subscriptions for the building fund of the new Catholic church now being built in the east end, are rapidly coming in and Rev. Chas. E. McGehe, P.P., pastor of St. Joseph's church, is meeting with good success and liberal subscriptions in his canvass throughout the city and surrounding country.

At the regular meeting of the local branch of the C.M.B.A. held last Wednesday resolutions of condolence were adopted to Mrs. Terence J. O'Brien in the death of her late husband, a member of the C.M.B.A., and to Mr. Patrick Dwyer, the death of whom took place at Buffalo, N.Y., of his son Thomas.

Operations have commenced in the paving of Ontario street. The Bell Telephone Co. of Canada are laying underground their wires Wellington streets.

The Grand Trunk and no prospects are in sight for any immediate settlement. The C.P.R. and city officials are busy going over new grounds for entrance to the city of the C.P.R.

The death is announced of Mr. Edward McAleer, tobacconist, of this city. Mr. McAleer is well known, having been a long resident of Stratford.

Miss Annie Robb of Lowell, Mass., is home on a visit to her mother on Huron street.

The city engineer's salary has been increased to \$1,500. Mr. Smith is a painstaking and popular engineer and his increase in pay is well merited.

Builders and contractors report many buildings being erected and lack of material and skilled labor scarce.

During the months of July and August the clerks in the different stores have arranged a half holiday Wednesday afternoons.

Penetanguishene A party of young men went out on a game yacht on Saturday evening as far as "Minicog," and after remaining some little time on the island they embarked for home. On the way in D'Alton Dusome, who was sitting on the rail or upper part of the boat with his feet on the seat, accidentally tumbled overboard, and before the boat could be stopped and turned about he had disappeared. A search for some time without avail, the party resumed their homeward trip, and on Sunday morning a small flotilla of launches and other boats went out to search for the boat, but it has not yet been recovered.

The deceased was about twenty-five years of age, was the eldest son of Mr. Joseph Dusome, of the Northern Hotel, and much sympathy is felt for the parents and family—Penetanguishene Herald.

Child Immigration to Canada At the Catholic Truth Society Conference in England last week His Lordship the Bishop of Shrewsbury presiding, a paper was read by Mr. A. Chilton Thomas, barrister-at-law, non-manager of Father Berry's Homes, Shaw street, Liverpool, on the advantage of child immigration within the bounds of the Empire.

First of all, emigration was an advantage to the Empire. We were burdened with the disposal of a large quantity of child labor for which there was no home market, for which good use. The land of the country was going out of cultivation, the village was shrinking, the city swelling. Now, while here in England child labor was too plentiful, and therefore cheap, in Canada it was not plentiful, and so was valued. A second advantage was that emigration to Canada benefited the child itself. At home there were friars and relatives who, like wages round a live plundered if of its wages, stripped it of its clothing, and left it naked and destitute on their hands, to be dealt with and cared for by them once more, or to go to swell the ever-increasing number of the corner-boys and hoodlums. Why not remove the child to where the earnings of its labor were its own? Let the destitute child go to Canada, where he would be adopted into a good, sober, virtuous household. When he had begun work, if he had no father or mother to lean on, he was not able to resist the many dangers of English city life, with all its temptations. These temptations were the sober, hard-working and God-fearing people of Canada. A third advantage—emigration benefited the Canadian farmers. They had large farms, and boys, even of school age, are useful. The speaker then discussed possible objections, and said in conclusion that the emigration of destitute children would lessen the strain on charitable works; it would diminish the heavy burden of rates and taxes; it would secure spread, consolidate imperial interests and influence in the colonies; it would open the door of prosperity for such children as remained at home, and close the door of adversity on those who went to start life abroad.

France and the Holy Father In the current issue of the "Annals of the Propagation of the Faith" the editor makes an appeal to the priests and Catholic people of this country to give increased support to the Association which specially devotes itself to the work of promoting the Faith. The clergy should, he suggests, aid by sermons and by enrolling lay members of both sexes who are willing to form societies or "circles" in their parishes for the purpose of collecting funds, and the laity can help in the attainment of the desired end by displaying greater generosity. From the list of contributions for the past year which is just published, we notice that France is still easily at the head of all other countries. Her contribution for 1904 amounted to 3,510,943 francs. The next highest comes from the United States, the sum being 784,714 francs. Belgium holds third place with the liberal gift of 366,735 francs. Alsace and Lorraine sent 335,540 francs. The sum sent from the British Isles was only 129,151 francs. At all times since the formation of the Association in 1822 France has been its mainstay and the French Catholics gave the larger portion of the fourteen million pounds collected in that time. But France it is feared, cannot continue to make such noble donations. It therefore behooves other nations to endeavor to make good the inevitable deficiency—Catholic Times.

STRATFORD

Prof. T. J. Palmer left last Monday for England on a two months' holiday trip to his parents' home. Bon voyage.

Miss Josephine Byrne Sullivan of the "Michigan Catholic," Detroit, returned home last Saturday after a month's vacation at the home of her parents on Foreman avenue.

The death took place on Wednesday last, at his home on Wellington street, of Mr. Terence J. O'Brien, a well-known and highly respected resident of this city, who had been ill for some time. Mr. O'Brien was a devoted Catholic, a generous giver, a loving husband and kind father. He was a prominent member of the C.M.B.A. and well known business man. His funeral took place on Friday last from his late residence and was largely attended by his many friends. The funeral was held under the auspices of the C.M.B.A.

The Herald excursion to Detroit on Saturday was attended by over 500 citizens. The excursion was by way of rail to Sarnia, thence by that beautiful steamer, the Greyhound, down Sarnia down the St. Clair river to Detroit. It is the intention of the Herald proprietors to have another excursion over the same route next month.

The Sisters of St. Joseph are on a collecting tour through this parish this week. The good sisters always receive a hearty welcome from Protestants as well as Catholics.

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Foresters in Convention at Perth

The seventh session of the Provincial Convention, Catholic Order of Foresters, met in Perth on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, June 13, 14, and 15, and about 110 delegates and members of Prov. Court were present.

The officers of Provincial Court met the day previous to arrange the business of the session. These officers were present:

Prov. Chief Ranger, C. S. O. Boudreau, Ottawa; Prov. Vice-Chief Ranger, Rev. D. R. Macdonald, Crystalline; Prov. Secy., Vincent Webb, Ottawa; Prov. Treas., G. W. Seguin, Ottawa; Prov. Trustees, Rev. J. J. Feeney, Acton; G. A. Rocque, Orlean; D. Staley, Kingston; Dr. B. G. Connolly, Renfrew; M. F. Mogan, Toronto.

On Tuesday morning the delegates attended divine service at St. John's church. Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father McDonagh, and the sermon preached by Rev. Father Hogan.

The delegates presented an imposing appearance, as they paraded from the church, led by St. Edward's Court, Perth, and the only Juvenile Court in the province, to the number of 50 boys, between the age of 11 and 14.

After the convention was got under way a deputation from the county council, headed by Mayor Foy, was presented, and in a stirring speech, brimming over with Irish wit and Catholic sentiment, the Mayor gave the freedom of the town to the delegates.

Deputations from the C.M.B.A., Canadian Foresters, A.O.H., and the local courts were introduced and extended felicitous greetings.

Prof. Chief Ranger Boudreau responded to each, in his usual fluent manner. On Wednesday morning the delegates enjoyed a treat of Irish oratory, when Rev. Dr. O'Boyle of Ottawa College, made an appeal on behalf of the college for the assistance of the members of the Order, to place it again in its proper sphere, for the higher education of the Catholic youth, and the binding of the ties of the English and French speaking Catholics of the Province.

Responses favorable to the movement were made by Revs. P. J. McGehe, D. R. Macdonald, J. J. Feeney and Messrs. L. V. McBrady, J. High Trustees, W. T. J. Lee, Dr. Connolly and others, after which a committee composed of Rev. D. R. Macdonald, O. A. Rocque, Dr. Connolly and M. F. Mogan, were appointed to prepare and submit a plan to meet the exigencies of the case.

Wednesday afternoon the delegates were treated to a sail on Rideau Lake, which was enjoyed very much. On the return to Convention Hall the delegates settled down to hard work, and during the afternoon and evening important recommendations were carried.

Bro. L. V. McBrady, K.C., representing High Court, was introduced in his familiar and characteristic manner demonstrated to the delegates that the interests of Ontario Foresters were in proper hands. If the applause High Trustee McBrady received at the close of his report is any criterion of his popularity and his zeal for the good of the Order, then we may rest assured that he will again represent Ontario as High Trustee or any position to which he might aspire on High Court.

Past Prov. Chief Ranger W. T. J. Lee and Prov. Solicitor John A. Chisholm, also merited much applause from the delegates, who thereby recognized the work that had been done by them in the interests of the Order.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Prov. Chief Ranger—Dr. B. G. Connolly, Renfrew; Prov. Vice-Chief Ranger—A. T. Montreuil, Walkerville; Prov. Treas.—G. W. Seguin, Ottawa; Prov. Treas.—G. W. Seguin, Ottawa; Prov. Trustees—Rev. J. J. Feeney, Acton; J. F. Strickland, Toronto; J. G. Foley, Ottawa; Dr. W. B. Cavanagh, Cornwall, and H. T. Noonan, Perth.

Delegates to International Convention in Boston—Rev. D. R. Macdonald, G. W. Seguin, C. S. O. Boudreau, Vincent Webb, J. A. Chisholm, M. F. Mogan, J. J. Gultard, Rev. P. J. McGuire, Rev. A. Newman, O. A. Rocque, M. Quinn, J. G. Foley and L. Gignac.

Chatham was decided upon for next Convention.

The Eucharistic Congress at Rome Rome, June 3rd.—When Lord Macaulay visited Rome considerably over a century ago, and went to St. Peter's, he wrote that he was fairly stunned by the magnificence and harmony of the interior. "I never in my life saw, and never, I suppose, shall again see, anything so astonishingly beautiful. I really could have cried with pleasure." On Thursday, 1st June, St. Peter's presented a spectacle that brought tears to many eyes, and that far surpassed anything that Macaulay saw during his stay at Rome. On that day His Holiness Pope Pius X. inaugurated the great and important International Eucharistic Congress that is now being held in Rome, by the celebration of Mass in St. Peter's. The grandeur and magnificent surroundings of a Papal Mass in St. Peter's increased the profound impressions felt by the forty or fifty thousand persons present on that occasion.

The thousands of pilgrims and strangers who came to Rome for this occasion gathered in St. Peter's on this morning. Some of them had been at the gates at six o'clock in the morning, and when the church was opened at seven they took their places in the divisions allotted to them. The walls were hung with red damask, lightened up by broad stripes of gold lace. Seven tall candles stood on the high altar, and here also were placed the statuettes of the bronze of St. Peter and Paul. In the apex beneath the great bronze casing within which is the Chair of

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