

ITEMS OF INTEREST

ANNIVERSARY SERVICE.

An anniversary service was chanted in the dear old Church of St. Columban on the 27th of January for the repose of the soul of Rev. Sister Mary St. Patrick, who by her life work and example was and is still, we hope, the angel of our parish. May her soul rest in peace.

CHAPEL OF BLESSED SACRAMENT TO BE RENOVATED.

To the many who daily frequent the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament the news of its renovation will be a pleasure. We are told that all that cleaning and painting will do to make the little oratory even more inviting than it was is being done.

ST. LAURENT COLLEGE AND CONVENT VISITED BY HIS GRACE.

On Tuesday morning His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi visited St. Laurent College. The distinguished prelate was received by the Father Superior, who conducted him to the reception hall. After an address of welcome had been read, the Archbishop spoke a few words to the students in his customary style, and then granted them a holiday.

In the afternoon His Grace visited the convent in charge of the Sisters of the Holy Cross. After dinner a reception was tendered by the teachers and pupils. Canon Cousineau accompanied His Grace.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOME.

On Tuesday evening a very successful eucra was given in aid of St. Joseph's Home. This Home, which is under the direction of Father Holland, is doing a quiet noble work, and one which claims the sympathy of our people; but the good Father cannot accomplish much without funds, so those who have no matter how small a contribution could make a better use of it than to forward it to Father Holland, who will find immediate use for it in the urgent demands which are constantly made upon him. Tuesday night's entertainment was well patronized, every one being thoroughly satisfied with the result. It is to be hoped that the day is not far distant when St. Joseph's Home will be self-supporting, made so by the generosity of the people who in so doing expressed their appreciation of a work so dear to the heart of the devoted founder.

LECTURE IN AID OF O'CONNELL MEMORIAL CHURCH.

Rev. Father Harty, of Killarney, Ireland, is at present in the city and intends to lecture at the new Stanley Hall, 96 Stanley street, on Thursday evening, March 8, on the life and times of Daniel O'Connell.

The proceeds of the lecture will be devoted to the completion of the O'Connell Memorial Church at Cahirciveen, Ireland, the birthplace of the Liberator.

Father Harty has lectured with success in several places in the United States and the Irish in Toronto filled Association Hall on January 18th to pay a tribute to the memory of Ireland's most illustrious son, Daniel O'Connell.

The Memorial Church was inaugurated twenty years ago as a gift to Ireland from the Irish race to perpetuate in stone the successful struggle of the Irish Catholics for "happy homes and altars free," and also to honor the great hero of Catholic Emancipation, O'Connell.

The Memorial Church is not yet finished, but it is expected that the co-operation of the Irish people who still cling to the old ideals of Irish faith and nationality will bring the work to a close within the next two years.

TEMPERANCE CAMPAIGN OPENED.

Before a large gathering at Laval University, comprising leading members of the Bar and clergy, Rev. Father Sullivan, of St. Albans, on Tuesday night delivered an address on the subject of temperance. The speaker was introduced by Mr. Eugene Lafontaine, K.C. At the opening of his remarks he observed that men could not be rendered sober by the sheer strength of the law, no more than they could be made virtuous by being deprived of their temptations and responsibilities. Temperance, he said, was a moral virtue and it was along the lines of moral reform that drunkenness could be made to disappear.

He then outlined the operation of the prohibition law as it had existed for a period of twenty years in the State of Vermont. The application

of this law by ill-disposed persons had led to one of the greatest public disgraces ever known in the country. The sale of liquor went on as before. Father Sullivan quoted the instance of a town numbering 900 inhabitants where forty saloons had dispensed intoxicants in violation of the law. This was due to the fact that officials appointed to supervise the liquor traffic allowed themselves to be bribed. Some of those even depended on those who carried on this illicit trade for their appointment. Thus prohibition far from effecting its purpose, had served to induce perjury and bribery in addition to inebriety, and soon became the laughing stock of everybody.

Such was the deplorable state of affairs in Vermont when the Legislature decided to inaugurate reforms, which led to the establishment of the present licensing system, which had produced better results. Father Sullivan related how he had been requested to take part in the framing of these laws. He said that when he found himself in the Legislature for the first time he felt much like a phenomenon, but he had, nevertheless, done his share of the work.

The present licensing law was submitted each year to the citizens for approval, and was not enforced unless a majority of votes was returned. According to the law, the barroom had to occupy the ground floor. It was forbidden to provide seats and private apartments inside or make use of screens or decorations in the doors and windows. Everything had to be done openly.

In conclusion Father Sullivan observed it was not the purpose of civil laws to make men perfectly sober, but they, nevertheless, served to diminish the number of misdeeds. Drunkards, he said, were not always the most vicious kind of people, and he recommended that they be dealt with charitably.

Father Sullivan was followed by Mr. Eugene Lafontaine, who explained the purposes of the Societe Canadienne Economie Sociale, under whose auspices the present meeting was held. Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux then spoke in the absence of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and finally His Grace Archbishop Bruchesi made an ardent appeal for temperance. He related the appalling story of a young man who had died at the hospital, the victim of the liquor habit and calling for his "petit coup" till the last moment. The Archbishop saw no reason why professors of priests should not step down from their accustomed places and initiate temperance reforms, as in Vermont.

Among those present were: Archbishop Bruchesi, Bishop Racicot, Canon Lapalliere, Hon. F. L. Belue, Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux, Hon. Alphonse Desjardins, J. G. H. Bergeron, Senator Dandurand, Hon. L. P. Brodeur, Judge Taschereau, Judge Brodeur, Judge Lafontaine, L. O. Davie, Judge Mathieu, C. H. Catell, J. A. Beaubien, and A. Desrosiers.

Pastoral Visit of Archbishop Bruchesi to the Town of St. Paul.

On Sunday last His Grace the Archbishop paid his first pastoral visit to the flourishing municipality of the town of St. Paul. The rubrics for such occasions were followed out to the letter. His Grace was received at the main entrance of the church by the pastor, Rev. H. Brisset, assisted by many members of the clergy. On arriving in the centre of the sanctuary His Grace, after a few minutes of silent prayer, explained in a few words the object of his visit and gave out the programme to be followed. The customary prayers for the deceased former pastors and members of the congregation were recited. His Grace next visited the relics deposited in the five altars of the Church. This was followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The musical portion of the service was in strict accordance with the wishes lately expressed by His Grace, the Roman pronunciation being used for the Latin hymns. After Benediction His Grace mounted the throne and spoke most eloquently in both French and English. He paid a gracious compliment to the rev. pastor for the able manner in which the parish was administered. He referred to the trials to which the parish had been subjected during the past six years, but owing to the zeal of the pastor and the generosity of the faithful they could now boast of a beautiful church. His Grace assured those present that they would not suffer by the recent dismemberment of their parish. St. Paul's Church had already grown beyond all proportions, so that in recent years it had given a large portion to St. Elizabeth Church, then the parish of Our Lady of the Seven Dolours at Verdun, and finally two weeks ago, the

new parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. He had divided the revenues of his diocese, and he assured them that the diocese of Montreal did not suffer. As with a diocese, so with a parish. Souls had to be cared for and so the labor had to be divided.

His Grace made an eloquent appeal to the men to live up to all the teachings of our holy faith, to educate their children. He dwelt considerably upon the importance of giving higher education to the children who showed aptitude for the more serious studies. He felt the need of priests of both languages. The city gave few, so few that they were easily counted.

His Grace then spoke upon the temperance campaign and outlined it in detail. He spoke of a parish where \$50,000 had been spent in a year for liquor, and still these people were discouraged when a \$30,000 church was proposed. The austere wooden cross was to be placed in every house. He had already placed it in the parlor of the Palace. He afterwards spoke at length in English. He received all the parishioners at the balustrade and gave to each a special blessing. The churchwardens, ancient and acting, accompanied him to the presbytery.

There were present Rev. H. Brisset, parish priest of St. Paul; Rev. Fathers Richard, cure at Verdun, Our Lady of Seven Dolours; Jolicœur, cure of Our Lady of Perpetual Help; James S. McCrory, curate Ville St. Paul; F. M. Elliott, curate at Verdun, and Rev. Father Demers, secretary to His Grace, who afterwards accompanied His Grace on a visit to the convent and Brothers' school.

The convent has seventy-boarders and fifty day scholars; the teachers number fourteen. In the Brothers' School there are six teachers.

The Toilers in the Vatican.

Pius X. has from the beginning of his Pontificate continued the splendid policy inaugurated by Leo XIII. over twenty years ago of allowing scholars from all nations free access to the treasury of historical documents which the Vatican contains. England, Germany, Austria, Spain, Switzerland, Portugal, have each a select body of workers engaged on the Bulls, Briefs, Apostolic Constitutions, State documents, etc., which serve to throw light on the history of those countries. The labors of the Prussian delegation alone already amount to seventeen octavo volumes of 500 pages each. The Gorres-Gesellschaft has published the first two volumes of its monumental work on the Council of Trent. The French School of Rome has issued fourteen quarto volumes of the "Acts of the Popes." The French priests attached to San Luigi dei Francesi are working hard on the Nunciature of France. England is represented officially in the Archives by Mr. Bliss and Mr. Twemlow, while Mr. Rushforth, of Oriel College, Oxford, has published his first volume of Papers of the British School at Rome, on behalf of the society founded in 1901 to study the historical relations between the Holy See and England.

There is a Belgian commission working the Archives under Dom Berliere. Holland has Dr. Bron and Prof. Orban; Norway and Sweden are represented by Dr. Bergstrand; Finland by Drs. Blaudet and Thorne; Poland by Ptasnik and Zahrowski; Russia by Pierling and Scherzow. Mr. Fraknoi, titular Bishop of Aphia, is at the head of a Hungarian commission appointed to study the "Monumenta Hungarica Vaticana." Last year one of the most assiduous of the workers was Horvat, who was engaged on the relations of the Croats with the Holy See. Profs. Krofta and Krejlik were studying Bohemian history. Even Japan was represented by Jaefiro Murakami, and Turkey sent Chahk Farol el Kazen to study the relations of the Ottoman Empire with the Grand Duchy of Tuscany in the seventeenth century. Pastor, the German historian, and Duchene, President of the French School, might be seen sitting side by side together in the archives any morning. Other well known names of laborers in the Vatican this year are Prof. Denzel, of the University of Innsbruck; Dr. Kehr, of the Prussian Institute; Dr. Chabot and the Abbe Constans, Mgr. Ehes, head of the Goerresian Society; Father Costello, Sub-Prior of San Clemente; Dr. William J. D. Croke, Father Eubel, and the Marquis MacSwiney of Mashonaglass. Besides these, many of the religious orders—Benedictines, Franciscans, Dominicans, Carthusians, and Jesuits—have some of their picked men engaged in ferreting out historical documents and data about their own institutions. Italy is the only one of the great European powers which is not represented in the Vatican archives.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AFTER THE BATTLE.

To the Editor of the True Witness:

Sir,—Now that the campaign is over and the just cause of the Irish Catholic population of Montreal has been turned down and frowned upon by the majority of our fellow-citizens both Protestant and French-Canadian, it is time to ask ourselves just where we stand. When the municipal campaign of 1900 was being waged by Mr. Doran, and the "equal rights" question was then, as it was last week, such a prominent factor of his platform, he had the support of many who refused him that support last week. Mr. Doran was deemed worthy of nomination in 1900 to contest the mayoral office against the late B. Prefontaine by the Montreal Daily Star and a vast portion of our Protestant fellow-citizens. But times have changed, and so had Mr. Doran's opponent. Last week it was not a Prefontaine but an Ekers who saw fit to challenge the right of the English Catholic minority to representation in the office of Chief Magistrate, and his challenge met with the approbation of the Daily Star as well as of the majority of the Protestant and French-Canadian people of our city. Now this is certainly a lesson which, though severe and humiliating, must nevertheless prove salutary. We can to-day readv understand our position in this, the metropolis of the Dominion.

That the Irish Catholics have done much to promote the interests of Montreal during the past sixty years no one will deny. Yet, because we are in the minority, we are treated at times in what I must declare to be an unjust and dishonorable manner.

Many were the excuses put forth by those who opposed the election of our candidate. But all were flimsy and unworthy of an honest and far-sighted man. What was good enough in 1900 was certainly not inferior five years later.

It is now the duty of every English-speaking Catholic of Montreal to stop to ask himself if he is not deserving of a certain amount of blame which attaches itself to a large portion of our people who refuse to acknowledge the need of an English Catholic paper in Montreal, which would be a tower of strength in safeguarding our interests. We must now begin to understand the absurdity of being a silent partner in everything in this town. The time is now opportune for our people to unite in a common cause and better their position by employing every honest effort to obtain justice and equality in municipal and other affairs amongst which might be mentioned educational matters.

It is a fact which cannot be questioned that our school affairs leave much to be desired and demand immediate and stringent attention. The dual system of languages in so many of our schools is a serious drawback, proving itself a nuisance, as many of our people can to-day bear witness.

I shall not trespass on your kindness further, Mr. Editor, to enter into any detail of our educational disadvantages, but in some future issue of your paper I hope to treat of this important question at some length, besides pointing out the many other drawbacks with which the Irish Catholic people of Montreal are at present obliged to contend, which seem to run down the whole line of both our private and public life. That a remedy must soon be applied is becoming daily more apparent. Mr. Ekers is now Mayor, and it remains to be seen what he will do to rid our city of a curse that is ever on the increase and making of the Sabbath a day of sinful carousing instead of a day of quiet and peace.

FAIR PLAY.

THE POOL ROOM EVIL.

To the Editor of the True Witness:

Sir,—Now that the temperance crusade inaugurated by the Archbishop is about to be vigorously pushed forward, it will not be amiss to say a few words of another increasing evil which is the very stepping stone to intemperance and almost invariably leads the young man who follows it into the deeper abyss of inebriety and its kindred vices—I mean the pool room evil.

How many of the criminals who to-day occupy a felon's cell in our jails and penitentiaries could trace their downward course to the pool room which they frequented in their youth and where they imbibed the germs of vice which grew with their growth and wrought havoc with their after life in both body and soul. It is a fact not to be questioned that the pool room evil is on the increase in Montreal. We have to-day

a vast number of such places where young men of tender years congregate nightly and there, in an atmosphere which is anything but wholesome for either soul or body, are their characters and morals formed. Those places are also to be found open from early morning to late every Sunday of the year and always have a "filled house." In all large cities where we are constantly thrown in contact with every shade and class of society, from the saint who strives to follow in the steps of the Master even to the human brute who glories in his villainous and shame, it behooves the Christian soul to be ever on guard, knowing the cunning ways of the enemy and how he thirsts for man's destruction.

But how often is the innocent and unwary youth caught within the toils set for him, and even before he fully recognizes his position and the extent of his danger, he is bound with the cords of passion which he finds so hard to break. In the face of this, it becomes the duty of parents to be ever vigilant and know where their children resort and with whom they associate. Moreover, it is the duty of fathers and tax payers to demand protection for their children from the civil law authorities and see that all places of sinful or questionable character, which are nothing less than schools of vice where the heart of youth is being poisoned, be driven from our city.

It is our duty as Catholics to do all in our power to assist our Archbishop in his noble work of temperance and one way of doing so is to start a crusade against the vice of inebriety as well as against the many sinful occasions which lead to it.

Feb. 6, 1906.

THAT ENDLESS CHAIN PRAYER.

To the Editor of the True Witness: I am in receipt of a prayer sent me by some unknown, but, I suppose, good-intentioned friend, who takes the pains to inform me of the dire consequences that will result from my omission to make three copies of same and mail them to three of my acquaintances deserving of such consideration. I am, in my turn, to make known to them the awful calamities that will befall them if they neglect to do likewise, etc. Now this fad is becoming a little stale, and I consider has done evil enough during the past few years and it is high time to put a stop to all such frauds, the work of avicious and unscrupulous firms who consider nothing too sacred for their thieving and fraudulent practices.

The prayer in question, which is known by the novel name of "Endless Chain," is the composition of some unauthorized person, and on the face bears deception.

It is a notorious fact that the author of such so-called prayers, who try to impose upon the faith of Christians, are, in nine cases out of ten, themselves infidels, and their only desire in flooding the country with these bits of paper is to reap a rich harvest in shillings and pence. I advise all who chance to read these lines to burn, without a moment's hesitation, all such unauthorized forms of prayer, which happens to come into their hands.

All prayers not bearing the "Imprimatur" of a Catholic Bishop are, to say the least, suspicious, and should be treated accordingly.

F. L.

CORONATION OATH.

To the Editor of the True Witness:

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly state through the columns of your valuable paper if any other reigning European monarch, with the exception of Edward Seventh of England, takes any oath at his coronation and accession to power, derogatory, offensive or insulting to any class or section of his subjects. Also please give the particulars, if any, of the coronation oath and declaration at accession of power of Alfonso Thirteenth of Spain.

Is it not a fact that no other European sovereign, with the exception of the British King, not even the Czar of Russia, at their coronation, takes any oath, or utters any declaration insulting to their Catholic subjects, or to their subjects of any other denomination.

I understand that the King of Spain takes no oath at his accession to power, but does he, in any declaration, either religious or civil, swear or affirm anything that would be offensive to any class of his subjects. I have contended that it is only the Catholics of the British empire that are especially singled out for gratuitous insult by their sovereign. Does any Catholic monarch take any oath offensive to his Protestant subjects?

By deciding the above, you would greatly oblige.

Yours truly,

DEFENSOR.

Buckingham, Jan. 30, 1906.

("Defensor" is entirely correct—Ed. T. W.)

ST. BRIDGET'S NIGHT REFUGE.

Report for the week ending Sunday, 4th Feb., 1906.

The following people had a night's lodging and breakfast: Irish, 108; French, 43; English, 7; other nationalities, 10. Total, 168.

AN IRISH PEARL.

One of the last things one might expect Ireland to produce are pearls, but the truth is Irish pearls have come greatly into vogue within a year or so in England, being of rare purity and coloring, so it is said. Queen Alexandra wears a pearl from the oyster beds at Commemara set as a brooch in great enamel, which was given her by Lady Dudley.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM

Bishop Bernard's Consecration

AT ST. HYACINTHE, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1906.

FARE FROM MONTREAL \$1.20

GOING DATES—All trains February 14 and 15. RETURN LIMIT—February 16, 1906. SPECIAL TRAIN will leave Montreal at 7.15 a.m. Thursday, February 15. Returning leave St. Hyacinthe after the close of the ceremony.

Reduced Fares.

Feb. 15 to April 7, inclusive.

Second Class Colonist Fares from Montreal to SEATTLE, VICTORIA, VANCOUVER and PORTLAND \$48.30
ROSELAND, NELSON, TRAIL, ROSSO, SPOKANE \$46.40
ANACONDA, BUTTE, Helena, SALT LAKE \$45.90
COLORADO SPRINGS, DENVER, PUEBLO \$45.50
SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES \$49.00
Low Rates to many other points.

TOURIST SLEEPING CARS

Leave Montreal Mondays and Wednesdays at 10.30 a.m. for the accommodation of passengers holding first or second class tickets to Chicago and West (there as far as the Pacific Coast)—nominal charge is made for berths which may be reserved in advance.

FOR COMFORT TRAVEL by the GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM

CITY TICKET OFFICES

137 St. James Street, Telephone Main 460 & 461, or Bonaventure Station

CANADIAN PACIFIC

CHEAP RATES.

Second class from Montreal commencing February 15th and daily until April 7th, 1906.

\$48.90—Vancouver, Victoria, Seattle, Tacoma, Wash., and Portland, Ore.
\$46.40—Spokane, Wash.; Nelson, Rossland, Midway, B.C.
\$45.90—Missoula, Mont.; Salt Lake, Utah, Helena, Butte and Anaconda
\$49.00—San Francisco, Los Angeles; a Chicago only.
Proportionately 19th rates to other points.

Daily Tourist Car to North West and Pacific Coast.

Leaves Montreal on Sunday, Monday and Thursday, at 9.40 a.m. and from North Bay connecting with trains from Montreal Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Cars are fully equipped with bedding, cooking range, etc. Moderate berth rate.

For the accommodation of passengers Chicago and West leave Windsor Station every Tuesday at 10.00 p.m.

TICKET OFFICE: 129 St. James Street Next Post Office.

BUILDING ASSOCIATION IN AID OF

St. Michael's Parish, Montreal.

By a resolution passed at a meeting of the Fabrique of St. Michael's, dated the 3rd of January, 1904, and with the approval of His Grace the Archbishop, the Fabrique binds itself to cause to have said in St. Michael's during four years two masses a month according to the intention of those who contribute 50 cents yearly. Help yourselves, help your deceased friends and help the new church by joining this Association.

The two masses in favor of contributors to St. Michael's Building Association, are said towards the end of every month. They are said with the intentions of those who contribute fifty cents a year. Contributors may have any intentions they please, they alone need know what their intentions are, they may change their intentions from month to month—they may have a different intention for each of the two masses in every month, they may have several intentions for the same Mass, they may apply the benefit of the contribution to the soul of a deceased friend.

Contributions for the year 1906 (50 cents) may be addressed to

REV. JOHN P. KIERNAN P.P., 1003 St. Denis Street, MONTREAL, P.Q.

(All contributions acknowledged.)