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LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1915

FATHER WHELAN'S OPEN LETTER

Born in Ottawa and educated in Ottawa schools, Father Whelan was ordained there, and there during the early years of zealous priesthood he assiduously visited the classes and served on the school board. His close connection with and intimate knowledge of the hard realities of school management and maintenance resulted in a clear cut presentation of difficulties unprovided for in the Act of '63. The Ontario Legislature, composed largely at that time of man who looked with disfavor on Separate Schools, and with still greater disfavor on their unsatis. factory results, was always reason able enough to recognize that since they were specifically guaranteed by the British North America Act the educational interests of the Province demanded that Separate Schools should be permitted to do their work efficiently. Hence the saveral amend ments to the Separate Schools Act due to Father Whelan's initiative. Throughout the whole province Separate Schools, wherever unhampered by impossible bilingual conditions, have admittedly achieved the distinction of doing their work equally as well as, often better than the best Public schools. This happy result disarmed our enemies and what is of perhaps greater importance secured the contented and enthusiastic loyalty of our friends. It was, moreover, not without its good effect on the educational progress of the Province as a whole. In spite of the bilingual incubus, and in spite of the fact that the National idea and Quebec educational ideals long prevented the acceptance of the common and impartial test of the En trance examination, the English Separate Schools of Ottawa kept pace with the general progress. How this seeming impossibility was accomplished is indicated in the Open Letter. There was always, until recently, separation more or less complete between the English and French schools. By the way we dis-

and Prussianism a little light from an authoritative source on the other side of the question was much needed. Father Whelen was the man pre eminently qualified in every respect to state the English side of the the case for the Ottawa Separate Schools Father Whelan's Open Letter leaves little to be said and less to which exception can reasonably be

taken. While not subscribing to every statement we shall add a word that may strengthen his position and prevent a possible wrong inference from the Letter on the part of the less well-informed. . Though Le Droit is edited by

priests who have received the approval and encouragement of the same authority which banished English speaking priests for daring to hold different views on the school question, its utterances may be re pudiated. Such things have happened before. Even if it be, its arrogant claims and even the terms in which the National policy is defined, are neither new nor extravagant though they may be considered indiscreet in the public discussion of

a question to which general atten tion is directed. Hence it may not be out of place to add some corroborative docu mentary evidence.

Following is an extract from L'Eglise Catholique au Canada" by Father Alexis, O. F. M., cap ; Quebec l'Action Sociale ; page 27.

"The Diocese of Ottawa, to-day, is without question, after Quebec and Montreal, the most important in the Dominion.

"This ecclesiastical province i established astride of the Ottawa River, extending into the two civil provinces of Quebec and Ontario. At first sight such an arrangement tators. may seem strange; but it becomes plain, and seems providential, when we consider the needs to which it responds. In order to foster the pacific invasion of Catholic (French) Canadians into Protestant Ontario. was it not essential to have unity of view in its guidance, and abundance of instruments in carrying it out The wisdom of the plan has been proved by its success, since, to day the counties of Prescott and Russell

the county of Nipissing, and the territories of New Ontario are com pletely conquered to our faith, or are in a fair way of becoming so." L'Association Catholique de la Jennesse Canadienne-Francaise (L'A.-C. J. C.) which is now conducting an active campaign for funds to finance the cause of the Ontario belligerents

or if you will, to relieve the suffering of 'the Ontario martyrs, was founded in 1904. Making allowance for the perfervid eloquence of the present time of war we shall quote from the official Report of its proceedings at the Congress held in 1908 on the occasion of the Laval bicentenary. (Published by Le Semeur, P. O. Box 2183. Montreal. \$1.00.)

The grand outline of their scheme of colonization is given very frankly, testants as well as Catholics and in a paper read at l' A. C. J. C. Congress, by Amedee Denault, editor of ants are driven out of the Le Pionnier of Nominingue, and cretary of the Co-operative Society | kept out of the "conquered" dis-

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of the counties of Port Arthur, Fort William and Kenora, which are also developing normally, we shall suc-ceed, according to the prevision of the clear-seeing Curé Labelle, in giving the hand to our French-Canalian settlers in Manitoba and the lian West. "To propare for this great future, and to realize all that it promises, we must think seriously of renewed

action, colonizing activity co-ordained, disciplined, and systema-tized, but above all determined to lose no ground already gained. "We must organize a crusade of colonization, active and permanent—

which will recall the glorious epoc when we undertook the conquest of the Eastern Townships.

'We must have an organization definite, and permanent, that will enable us to fill up the ranks of our colonizing army in the field; to reinforce and make assured our present positions in Ontario, in Manitoba and even in the west ; and to proceed to new conquests necessary to prevent the stranger from despoiling us of the best part of a patrimony, reserved by its very nature. to the sons of the family." (Applause There is some exaggeration in the statement of what has been

accomplished : there is nothing im possible, nothing even difficult in the programme outlined for the future, provided always that the so-called bilingual school system is main tained and extended to suit the " invaders " whose rights as belligerents are now recognized by the civil and ecclesiastical powers of Quebec ; and

are receiving the benevolent consid eration of some senators not other wise overworked. It will be seen from the foregoing extracts, which might he multiplied

indefinitely, that the language quoted by Father Whelan from Le Droit is not that of a few irresponsible agi

As in the great world.struggle now going on many Canadians do not realize that the existence of the British Empire is menaced; so in this so-called bilingual question many easy-going Ontario people, far removed from the bilingual zone, see nothing but local squabbles between French and Irish Catholics. They for get if they ever knew that the 'invasion and conquest" of the eastern counties of Ontario was carried on successfully through the Public not the Separate schools; that the Commissions of 1889 and 1893 Jealt exclusively with the Public Schools of Prescott and Russell; that in North ern Ontario the English-French schools are chiefly Public Schools, the official list, " Public and Separate schools and teachers in

Ontario." gives forty eight English-French Public schools in Nipissing and Algoma); that though where there is "an abundance of instruments " to carry out the National policy the trouble may become more acute in Separate Schools, it is not confined to them. The school

is the weapon by which Pro-Catholics as well as Protest-" invaded " territory and effectively

THE MEXICAN MUDDLE The course of events since General Huerta was eliminated last July, chiefly because Mr. Wilson insisted upon his withdrawal, has not yet thoroughly broken down the patience of the American extension between of the American authorities, but it must have considerably shaken their optimism. They could hardly have expected that the attainment of almost the only definite object they have yet avowed as the aim of their diplomacy would lead, not to the appearsement, but to the intensification of Mexican ills. Huerta's fall, so far from simplyfying anything, complicated everything. — London (Eng.) Times.

This " one definite object schieved. President Wilson at Indian apolis thus delivers himself :

Have not European nations taken as long as they wanted and spilt as much blood as they pleased in settl-ing their affairs, and shall we deny that to Mexico because she is weak? No.I say. I am proud to elong to a great nation that says This country which we could crush shall have just as much freedom in her own affairs as we have.' anxious to learn how "Prodigious !"

If the American President had only got that far in his thinking before he arbitrarily and unwarrantably interfered to eliminate Huerta whom the rest of the civilized world had recognized as the de facto presi dent of Mexico, he would occupy an unassailably consistent position so far as he personally is concerned. But now-well we can only echo the elaculation of Dominie Sampson for whom by the way President Wilson should have a fellow feeling rondrone kind .

" Pro-digious ! !" And if Mexico, why not Cuba and the Philippines ?

AN ELOQUENT IRISH LAD In another column we publish the

Tablet's comments on extracts from for its success. Midshipman Esmonde's graphic de scription of the battle of the Falk land Islands. Speaking of the eloquence of this lad of sixteen an Irish. man might say that " he came by it honestly." for young Esmonde is the great great grandson of the Irish patriot, orator and statesman, Henry Grattan. His father. Sir Thomas Grattan Esmondo, is the eldest son by the 10th baronet by Louisa, daughter of Henry Grattan of Tinnehinch Co. Wicklow, and grand-daughter of the Right Hon. Henry Grattan. Sir Thomas, a veteran Nationalist M. P., has now had nearly the longest unbroken Parliamentary career of any man of his years in the House of Commons. On behalf of the Irish Parliamentary party he presented Leo XIII. with an address of congratulation on the occasion of his Silver Jubilee in 1902; he also represented the Irish Party at the funeral of Leo XIII. and at the Cor-

onation of Pius X. While a good deal of attention has been given to the part taken by the Irish in the Army it is not so well known that in the Navy they have proportionally an even greater representation. down upon them the imputation of

see how, under present conditions the university library he came upon we could benefit thereby. Of what practical use would it be to have a paper controlled and edited by Cath. olics the while it depends for its news service upon the present biassed read it with great delight." channels? A recent lawsuit in the

American courts supplies an ex. Now THIS is one of the oldes ample. The Rev. F. P. Rossman, a Catholic priset of Wheeling, Va, took D'Aubigne, the "historian of the action against the unspeakable Menace for damages for libel, that "polecat of the press " having published repeated and fairly definite charges reflecting on his character. The case came up for trial in the Federal Court at Joplin, Missouri, with the result that Father Rossman was acquitted by a jury exclusively Protestant, the Menace being mulcted in damages to the extent of \$1,500. Now here was a matter of real live news. Not only was the outcome of this trial of interest to one fifth of the total population of the United States, but all Americans were the terbury.

bitter campaign of the Menace and its confederates was faring. And yet MAITLAND QUOTES both D'Aubigne not one word about the trial and verdict was sent out by the Associated Press. If the Menace had won it is safe to gamble that the result would have been wired to every newspaper | Psalms ?"-and adds : "but there is on the continent. This is only one instance of how the news syndicates are being manipulated adversely to the Catholic Church. Hardly a day passes that we do not discover evidences of their hostility to things Catholic. A Catholic daily is not the remedy for this state of things. A Catholic daily would be helpless in their hands. So long as a bigoted syndicate controls the news channels a Catholic daily is worse than useless. An international Catholic news service is an absolute essential knew anything about the Bible." COLUMBA.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

AT THE annual meeting of the Toronto Bible Training School last week, Rev. Dr. Griffith Thomas of Wycliffe College, was unsparing in his denunciation of German theology and expressed himself as quite convinced that the foundation of the present war was to be found in the German view of the Bible." What constitutes this "view " he did not leave in doubt, and in reprobating it he bracketed with its German formulators all those who " in the sphere of religion, of theology, and criticism in England, Scotland, Cnnada and the United States, have been worshippers at the shrine of a German idol for a long time."

FOR HIS honest admission as to the widespread following of the German critics and iconoclasts amongst his clerical brethren Dr. Thomas is certainly entitled to some degree of credit. It is better to have spoken now than not to have spoken at all. And if, in the past, the bearing of those who think with him on these subjects has been such as to bring

a copy of the Bible. This was to him an altogether new book ; he was surprised to find in it much not contained in the Church lessons and he

stock fictions of Protestantism. Reformation " dwells upon it with great unctuousness, and Milner, from whom better things might have been expected, repeats the absurd tale. There was, then, a time when the fable passed current but we had thought that in recent years no one with any pretence to scholarship would have the hardihood to repeat it. We have no intention of contro verting the statement, but wish simp ly to place in contrast the judgment upon it of so same and philosophical anhistorian as Dean Maitland, author of "The Dark Ages," and sometime librarian to the Archbishop of Can-

and Milne on Luther's achievements as a Bible discoverer, and then asks "Is it not odd that Luther had not by some chance or other heard of the no use in criticising such nonsense Such it must appear to every moder ately informed reader, but he will not appreciate its absurdity until he is informed that on the same page this precious historian (D'Aubigne) has informed his readers that in the course of the two preceding years Luther had 'applied himself to learn the philosophy of the middle ages in the writings of Occam. Scot. Bonaventure and Thomas Aquinas.'-of course none of these poor creatures

AND THEN HE goes on to speak of the place of the Bible in the ages beford printing was invented, saying "The writings of the dark ages are, if I may use the expression, made of

the Scriptures. I do not merely mean that the writers constantly quoted the Scriptures, and appealed to them as authorities on all occa sions, as other writers have done since their day-though they did this, and it is a strong proof of their familiarity with them-but I mean that they thought and spoke and wrote the thoughts and words and phrases of the Bible, and that they did this constantly and habitually as the natural mode of expressing them. selves. They did it, too, not ex clusively in theological or ecclesias. tical matters, but in histories, bio

graphies, familiar letters, legal instruments and documents of every description." And yet the age be fore Luther "knew nothing of the Bible !"

> WE MIGHT go on to quote Maitland on the Bible's place in the Church after the invention of printing and

WITHDREW TO SHORTEN LINE before Luther had come upon the scene, but we forbear. Suffice it to say ins. over

FEBRUARY 27, 1915

Nish to the Havas news agency says that that the following statement was given out by the Serbian Government

Yesterday large numbers of Alban ians broke through our lines, cross-ing the frontier in the department of Prisrend. Before superior forces of rend. Before superior forces of the enemy our troops, as well as the municipal authorities were forced to retreat.

BUSSIAN OFFICIAL REPORT

Petrograd, Feb. 15.—The following communication from the General Staff of the Russian Commander inchief was made public to night : "On the front of the Niemen and

Vistula Rivers some encounters took place on February 13 at about the same places as on the day before. On the left bank of the Vistula the

customary cannonading occurred. "In the Carpathians we repulsed stubborn attacks by the Austrians at Svidnik. We had some progress on he left bank of the upper San, and captured more than one thousand prisoners, five machine guns and a gun.

Germans who attacked the heights near Myto Koziourka, between the Beskid and Wyszkow Passes, were repulsed. They suffered heavy losses Our troops, starting a counter-attack from Dukls and Wyszkow, dislodged the Germans from the heights fortified by them.

Strong Austrian forces are advanc ing along the roads leading to Nad-worna and to Bukowina.

DROPPED 240 BOMBS

London, Feb. 17 .- The Daily Mail has the following despatch from its Dunkirk correspondent :

"This afternoon (Tuesday), between tour and six o'clock, a number of British and French aeroplanes and water planes left for the Belgian coast to carry out combined opera tions.

"They dropped 240 hombs on the German aerodrome at Ghistelle, on Zeeburgge, and on Ostend. The British bombs were of 85 pounds weight each."

FRESH GERMAN DRIVE AGAINST WARSAW

(Special Cable Despatch to The Globe)

London, Feb. 18 .- According to a Central News despatch from Petro-grad, Russian military critics believe operations of great magnitude are under way. There are indications that the Germans are moving their whole front against the Russians. The Invalid, the official organ in Petrograd, says :

e are on the eve of prolonged operations which will finally decide the position in East Prussia. Fortunately the recent German operations were forseen by the Russian General Staff."

While heavy Russian losses are conceded here, military experts hold that the German double flanking movement has failed.

HAS 120 SUBMARINES!

London, Feb. 18 .- A despatch to The London Daily Mail from Copen hagen repeats the story that the Kaiser is going to Heligolan d to direct the attacks on Britain, and adds : "It is reported that the Germans have built 120 big mine laving submarines during the last six months, each with a carrying capacity of over 100 mines

OFFICIAL STATEMENTS

London, Feb. 19.-A Petrograd despatch to The London Times says: West of the Niemen operation have not yet gone beyond prelimin. ary skirmishes, while in Bukowina the Russians simply have withdrawn comparatively small forces in order to shorten their line."

tinctly remember when the term bi lingual was unheard of ; the French schools of Ottawa with equal candor and propriety were called French schools tout court.

Father O'Gorman was also born in Ottawa and educated in the Ottawa schools ; and though he reads, speaks and writes several languages,

tioned.

on the occasion of his public pronouncement on the question some unilingual bilingualists read him some profound pedagogical lessons on the way, the only way, of acquiring a knowledge of a language of a century it has conquered defin other than the mother tongue. But the all-sufficient and irrefutable argument on which the changes were rung was Father O'Gorman's unpardonable and undeniable youth. Of this sin Father Whelan is not guilty.

Moreover the whole thirty five years of his priesthood were spent in Ottawa. His is no second hand or book knowledge; he has lived what he writes. It is not derogating from the dignity of that eminent church. man to state the fact that Cardinal Begin has lived in an entirely different atmosphere and is dependent for they form important groups. his knowledge of the situation on At the same time since the con very different sources of information. struction of the Canadian Pacific Likewise Sir Lomer Gouin. The opened up to their colonizing ambi-tion the northern part of the Provpronouncements of His Eminence the ince of Ontario, the French Canadian Quebec Cardinal, and of Sir Lomer, pioneers came quickly, and in force the Quebec Premier, were the occato this fertile region, which they call New Ontario, and established themsion and necessarily circumscribed the scope of Father Whelan's Open selves permanently. Already two counties, Niplesing and Sturgeon Falls, elect our compatriots as their members at Toronto, and in at least Very properly he confines himself to the Ottawa situation which for some years past has been a fester. hree others, Temiskaming, Sudbury and Algoma, we form important minorities, which will become, if we ing sore on the body educational of this province. But though that partake the trouble, the majority before cular sore is local, the interest is province-wide ; and amid the bilingual din and clamor about persecution

of the Settlers of the North. Scheme tricts. No one can convince English endorsed by the Association in Resospeaking parents whether Protestant lution XI. See Report above menor Catholic who have had experience of such schools, (call them French, bilingual, or English-French or what

Boasting of the capture of the you will) that they afford decent fac-Anglo . Protestant fortress of the ilities for the education in English of Eastern Townships, and the Norththeir children. Hence they move ern Counties, Ottawa, Argenteuil and out and give place to French Cana-Pontiac, he goes on :

dians. Father Whelan very appro-"After having assured its position in the Province of Quebec, our colon izing advance-guard did not rest satisfied. It invaded the English Province of Ontario, and in the priately points out to Cardinal Begin that those who now complain of religious persecution always regarded English speaking Catholics Eastern peninsula alone, in a quarter as "usurpers " quite as much as if they were "Orangistes." Bat Proitely two counties: Prescott and Russell, or rather three, with the new testants and Catholics alike were eastern division of the City of Ottawa and are still being driven out with it has succeeded in acquiring a con the strictest impartiality on the part trolling majority in a fourth, Glen of the "peaceful invaders." Those garry, and has seriously cut into a fifth, with a double electoral conpapers which profess to regard stituency, Renfrew. the bilingual difficulty as a Sep

"While thus taking possession of the extreme east of Ontario, the arate School affair are either will fully dishonest or woefully incom-French-Canadian colonizers have not petent to inform public opinion on a tailed to maintain and strengther question one of whose obvious conthe settlements which our fathere had already planted in the wester sequences is the practical shifting of neninsula bordering on the Detroit the boundary line between Ontario colony. In the County of Essex and Quebec. they are, to day, in control, and in several neighboring counties, also, Father Whelan's Open Letter should

be read as throwing much-needed light on a local phase of a question which is of vital and practical interest to every part, indeed to every citizen, of Ontario.

To forestall misrepresentation it

welcome French-Canadian immigration into the Province of Ontario if these immigrants instead of destroy. ing the schools, so far as their usefulness to English-speaking people is concerned, would use them to acquire a working knowledge of the lan-

many years. (Applause) "By means of these groups of our people in New Ontario, and of those guage of the province to which they come to better their condition. A CATHOLIC DAILY

The oft mocted question of a Cathgrace is not past, and there is still

time to reform their ranks and preolic daily is again engaging the attensent a new front to the enemy. In tion of our American contemporaries. this respect Dr. Griffith Thomas and All are at one in establishing the necessity of this forward step, but it his brethren might well take pattern requires something more than a from the heroic little Belgian Army lavish expenditure of ink to render which has known how to maintain without flinching consistent resistthe project feasible.

At first sight it seems utterly inance to a cruel and powerful antag comprehensible that whereas a hand. onist. ful of Catholics in, say, Holland, can

THE WEAKNESS in Dr. Thomas and do support more than one Cathcase is that his admissions do not go olicdaily paper.the multitude of American Catholics are unable to point to far enough. He denounces unspareven one successfully established and ingly the work of recent German critics forgetful of the fact that to maintained in their midst. It is forgotten that Holland is a little coun get at the root of the trouble it is try, and that therefore a paper pubnecessary to go back some centuries lished in Amsterdam is local enough to a period of German history which Protestants generally and, not the for any part of the country, whereas least, Dr. Griffith Thomas, are in the a paper published in New York would be ancient history when it reached habit of glorifying beyond measure. Chicago. The fact that the millions Profound students of humanity are of American Catholics are scattered coming more and more to realize that to the Lutheran revolt of the over an immense tract of territory sixteenth century the whole process renders the establishment and mainof disintegration which non-Catholic tenance of a Catholic daily a matter Christianity has been undergoing is of peculiar difficulty. The obvious objection to this argument will occur due. To bark therefore at modern to the reader, namely, that every critics while fawning upon their large Catholic centre should have its lineal progenitors is surely the very own daily paper. But this solution quintessence of fatuousness and in consistency. In the matter of disin is open to the counter objection that tegration German theology is just a in limiting the territory appealed to

we limit the circulation, and if we little in advance of his own-that is may be as well to add that we should can estimate the support likely to be all. accorded such ventures from the amount of support at present ex-

> tended to the Catholic weeklies. it is greatly to be feared that the ian contemporary must measure up much desired dailies would prove to be still born.

But even if it were otherwise quite possible to establish and endow a Martin Luther." "One day when he Catholic daily or dailies, we fail to [Luther] was rummaging through

itland ernla different editions of the whole Latin ous cowardice " or both, the day of Bible, to say nothing of Pealters. New Testaments, or other parts, has issued from the press before Luther was born-and yet, he adds, "more than twenty years after we find a

young man who had received a 'very liberal education,' who 'had made great proficiency in his studies at Magdeburg, Eisenach, and Erfurt,' and who, nevertheless, did not know what a Bible was, simply because

the Bible was unknown in those days.'" Well may Maitland ejacu. late : "Really, one hardly knows how to meet such statements." The Presbyterian is getting reckless.

ON THE BATTLE LINE RUSSIAN STAFF CAPTURED?

Special to the Evening N

Berlin, Feb. 15 .- (By wireless to Sayville)-The whole Russian General Staff in Bukowina has been captured and the commanding gen-eral has committed suicide, accord-ing to despatches printed in the Budapest Daily Azest to-day.

The despatch says : When the com-manding general, whose name is not known, saw capture was inevitable, he killed himself.

SAY SERBIAN FORTRESS BLOWN UP

Berlin, Feb. 15.— (By wireless to Sayville)—The Overseas News Agency says that, according to tele-grams printed in Italian newspapers, the Serbian fortress of Semendria has been blown up by the explosion of its powder magazines after being shelled by Austro-Hungarianartillery Semendria is on the Danube twenty

four miles south east of Belgrade. ALBANIANS PIERCE SERBIAN

Paris, Feb. 15.-A telegram from

The Russians have now evacuated all of Bukowina, according to a de spatch to The Times from Bucharest.

BIG RUSSIAN LOSSES

Berlin (via Sayville), Feb. 19 .---Swiss newspapers which have been received here estimate the Russian losses in recent fighting in East Prussia at more than 150,000. They de-clare that the German victory proves that the German offensive spirit is still very active."

STEAMERS TORPEDOED

London, Feb. 19.- An official state ment issued by the Admiralty to-night says the Norwegian tank steamer Belridge was struck by a toroedo fired by a German submarine to lay near Folkestona.

This is the first occasion on which a neutral ship has been deliberately destroyed by a German submarine, although since the war began almost 50 neutral ships have been sunk by mines in the North Sea.

FRENCH STEAMER TORPEDOED

Paris reports that a German submarine torpedced this morning with-out warning the French steamer Dinorah, from Havre for Dunkirk, at

a point 16 miles off Dieppe. The presence of a German submar-ine off Cape Ailly was reported four

days ago. The daily steam traffic service be-tween Dieppe and England has been suspended.

"TRAVEL" SUSPENDED

Washington, Feb. 19.-The State Department announced to-day that Great Britain has suspended "travel" between British ports and the con-tinent. Secretary Bryan understands that this means passenger traffic. The British order evidently will not interfere with British ships and American ships travelling to and from the United States.

may be interred from the following extract from an article antitled "The Sixteenth Century : the Century of

THE STANDARD of scholarship to which contributors to our Presbyter.

LINES